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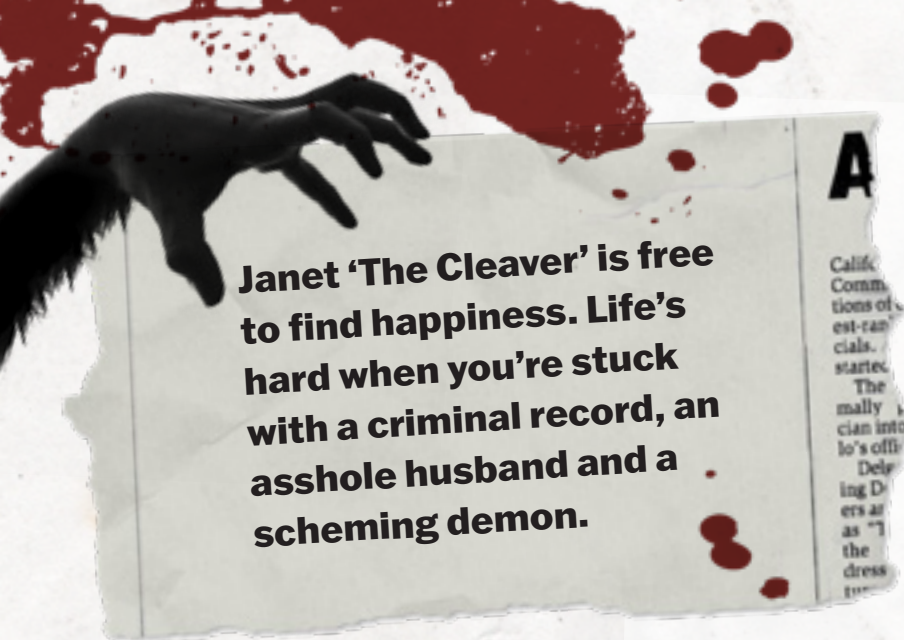


LIVING WITH

ABADDON

He's not just in her head.

SHOWBIBLE



Janet ‘The Cleaver’ is free to find happiness. Life’s hard when you’re stuck with a criminal record, an asshole husband and a scheming demon.

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‘Living with Abaddon’ is a dark-comedy series set in present-day British suburbia. This feisty story explores themes of mental health, ageing and sexual uniformity, with fantasy and horror elements weaved throughout.

This pilot was short-listed for interview by the BBC Writersroom Open Call 2021, gaining the writer’s entry to BBC Writersroom 2022.

Where it began...

SUPER: JUNE 5TH 1994: NIGHT.
Heavy rain. Officers TURNBULL and CRISP arrive at a clearing.

Blue flashing lights pick out a disorientated young woman – it’s Janet. Her white dress soaked in blood.

Officer Crisp peers around the scene with a torch a beat-up car and white van are parked. He steps in a muddied pool of bloody water. Turnbull follows the stream of blood to its source.

On the car bonnet Crisp sees what remains of a body. A meat cleaver buried into the metalwork. A severed penis passes lazily between bloodied wipers.

The officers look at Janet. Crisp shines a light on her face.



Now - JANET WHEELER (59) believes she is controlled by ABADDON (1500), a medieval demon posing as her protector. The gruesome murder of JIM BLAND was the demons’ finest work - and Janet’s ultimate downfall. But as we meet Janet, she’s about to be released...

On the eve of her release from prison Janet can’t sleep. A shadow crawls the walls casting shapes around the cell. She squeezes her eyes shut holds her breath. A demonic entity unfurls high in a corner. It descends shrouding her in its’ darkness. Janet’s BFF is back!

BARBARA:
“Mum says she’s no good never was never will be. You can’t chop someone up into mince and still be normal. She’s not right in the head that one.”

Returning to cheating husband DON she meets JOAN his gold digger mistress and BARBARA, their overbearing daughter.

The Cleavers’ return opens up painful wounds in the community. Prepare yourself to meet BRENDA, the aggrieved widow of Jim, who immediately launches a witch-hunt against her nemesis.

Nets are twitching and as the media descends, it’s pitch-forks at dawn. Everyone has their say – but be careful about acting on what you hear Janet... you might be hearing it from the problem.

Pressure soon mounts, cash is king, and Janet is soon lured back into crime. Everything’s at stake, but she’s older now, and ‘less-fuck’s-given Janet’ decides to rid herself of the two dominant males (the dead one and the living one) and take control of her own future. How hard can it be, right?

CLEAVER MINCED MY MAN!

Death by a thousand cuts...

Sex-craved woman chops up local man beyond recognition - but saves his c*ck.



MAIN CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS:

JANET WHEELER

Janet is compassionate and follows her heart. She’s insecure but more resilient than she realises.

DON WHEELER

A self-styled ladies man who puts his own needs very much front and centre. Don splashes the cash and lives the high life, but he’s past his prime.

DEMON ABADDON

(previously Audley Winstone)
In life, Audley was the son of a powerful medieval lord. As a demon, immature Abaddon failed to thrive in ‘The Demon Realm’. He is visible only to Janet and has some cool powers.

JOAN STAPLE

Joan is determined. Sharply dressed, immaculate, with loose morals. Joan controls the people around her to get what she wants.

BARBARA STAPLE

Barbara hides her a natural beauty with too much make-up. Insecure and over excited, she lives her life on social media.

BRENDA BLAND

Brenda is wiry and independent. She’s tough and compulsive, she’ll will do anything to avenge her husbands’ murder.

JIM BLAND

He’s God’s gift. Perfect in every way - until he opens his mouth. Right up until his murder, he was the life and soul of the party.

Series 1-3 Overview

The Back Story:

Human 'candidates' are targeted by demons to do their foul bidding. Mostly, we're oblivious to their antics, but JANET WHEELER is unusual - she can see and speak to hers. Starting out as an easy candidate for ABADDON, the demon soon manipulated Janet into committing a string of crimes. Making the town a playground for their covert mischief and money-making, the pair became unlikely soul-mates. Abaddon promised Janet a life she yearned for, but what she got was life in prison, for murder.

Series 1:

We catch up with Janet just before her release. She returns to cheating husband, DON, their home is now cheap and sleazy man-cave. Janet hopes to rewrite the lost years of their marriage, but there's a problem: her demon is back and he's crass and medieval, and his attitude is not helping the situation. Even worse, Janet is hunted down by Jim's widow Brenda who paints her as a witch. There's financial pressure, and the door is open for Janet to return to crime - Abaddon's thrilled to be back in action!

Series 2:

Leaving her past behind isn't going to be easy. Janet hits rock bottom when she discovers her nest eggs have been plundered by Don, and the murdered man's widow vows revenge. Amid plots to keep her downtrodden, Janet learns she was a candidate for Abaddon - a terrible truth which sends her reeling.

Series 3:

Unlikely alliances blossom, and Janet discovers her own inner strength. She vows to break the cycle and escape the influences of Abaddon and Don, both selfishly fighting to keep her exactly where they want her. The series ends with a heavy dose of karma. Janet finally ditches Don and learns how to pass her demon onto a more deserving candidate - and this time, it's a marriage made in Heaven.



DON WHEELER



FUTURE SERIES TEASER!

THE DEMON REALM

In the original script - Abaddon is spied on by a ruthless little creature from Hell - a Wardleminch called CONNIE. This causes Abaddon to (reluctantly) return to the Demon Realm where his is chastised by his Supervisor - HARLEY COLEE, who insists he gets to work on his candidate (Janet) and finish the job. The more crimes Janet commits with Abaddon, the more points he scores and can rise up in the ranks. The door to the Demon Realm can be opened at any time to meet.....

SUPERVISOR HARLEY COLEE

Harley is Hell's sassy supervisor to 'The Demon Realm'. Ancient and pragmatic, she won't tolerate any nonsense.

CONNIE THE WARDLEMINCH

Connie is Harley Colee's trusted spy and personal assistant. A ruthless and savage teacher's pet. Annoying as Hell.



Brenda Bland's shrine to murdered husband Jim.

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