

# QLH-S2E11: Season 2 Review & Season 3 Preview

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## SPEAKERS

Jessi Chartier, Jen Myers

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**J** Jen Myers 00:04

Welcome to Quiet Little Horrors. Here we talk about the films that creep under your skin and take up residence in the dark. Before we get started, as a reminder, when we talk about movies, we need to talk about everything in the movie. So there will be spoilers involved. If you haven't seen the movie or want to refresh your memory before you listen, you can stop now and do that before coming back. Let's talk about season two. And what we're going to see in season three. See you season two is on the books. Yeah, excited about that. I'm looking forward to season three to Jen, what were some of what were some of the things that you liked about season two?

**J** Jessi Chartier 00:48

Well, I mean, we tried some new things. And I think that we were mostly successful with those things. The first being that we added mini episodes in. I liked that, I think that was good. So we also like effectively doubled the number of episodes that we did this year, which is not too shabby is pretty cool. And it also like doing more covering more films, it gave us more opportunities to explore different types of films, one of the things we wanted to do this year was try to make sure we are getting a little bit more of diversity in terms of filmmakers and film origins and different eras and things like that. And I think we there's a lot more I think we could do there. But I think we made some solid first steps towards that. So overall, I just feel like we did a pretty good job of moving forward.

**J** Jen Myers 01:35

Yeah, I think, yeah, there's a lot that happened in season two, like that you mentioned, I really like how we started to explore. I think we were just starting together a rhythm a little bit better. And defining what a quiet little horror is became, we're able to really kind of identify what that looks like and what that that doesn't. And then I think I'm looking forward to season three,

because we can carry that forward, we can actually get better about refining our list of recommendations for people if they liked the more subtle horrors, the more quiet little horrors, right? So I'm really looking forward to season three, two, let's talk about some of the stuff in season two that were our favorites. What did we love? What did we hate? What were some of the themes that we enjoyed or that we exposed and how that's going to frame out for season three. So I'll start I loved so there are a handful of films, specifically this year that I will love to highlight. And I discovered I started getting drawn more to the older films, like *Repulsion* and *Images* and *Suspiria*. Like all of those earlier forms of filmmaking I really enjoyed because they were much more subtle. In their horror, and in the scare factor. You know, it was a little bit more thriller based, but also very haunting. You know, I think that those are the kind of the movies that I enjoyed. What about you?

**J** Jessi Chartier 03:02

Yeah, I mean, I think I'm a little bit of the same that I think my favorites this year, I will also put like *Images* on my list really like talking about *Repulsion*, I think, in the in this one is not an older film, but I also really enjoy and discussing *The Wailing*. But I think I enjoy discussing it for exactly the same reasons where there's a lot going on under the surface in that film. And it was fun to you know, peel back the layers and talk about everything that was going on there.

**J** Jen Myers 03:30

Yeah, I've really liked *The Wailing* to the, you know, I feel like for some reason, the Shudder's *The Medium* reminded me a lot of *The Wailing* in regards to just intimate family, interacting with something that is a threat that is coming from some other worldly situation, and just kind of how that destroys a family from within. You know, I really liked that theory, or not that theory, that theme between the two, and we didn't really talk about *The Medium*. But we're I guess we're talking about it now. Like if you like *The Wailing* watch *The Medium*?

**J** Jessi Chartier 04:09

Yeah. I think we might talk about it next year, because it's, yeah, there's a lot going on there too. But yeah, and it's what was the Oh, and I think also just if I can, you know, kind of generalize a little bit to beyond just individual favorites. But the fact that we did more episodes covered more films, and we're expanding our focus meant that we could talk about films that we didn't necessarily love, which is actually more interesting. Or at least it was to me, you know, I feel like for me, we definitely ran the whole gamut in terms of how much I like to film like, I think that there were some that I absolutely loved. I mentioned it like *Images* and the whaling and I mean, most of the films you know, we're usually pretty positive on but I know for example, I talked about in *Crimson Peak*, why I liked that film a lot, I didn't love it. So it was, you know, kind of one of these middle films for me. And then there were ones that I absolutely didn't like very much when it came down to it, which is like *Last Night* and so. So I think that it was interesting for me to be able to dig into films that we didn't, you know, completely love and talk about why and why not. And some things, you know, gave me some new perspectives. I know, like, I didn't come into our discussion on the new *Candyman* super positive about that one. And you definitely pointed out some things that I hadn't thought about. So that was really

valuable. So I just really liked that we were able to have some conversations that dug into things, and that weren't necessarily always positive, but also kind of opened up new new areas for me to think about.

**J** Jen Myers 05:40

Yeah, I agree. The balancing act between identifying films that we we liked or loved and films that we didn't like or hated was really useful, because it helped, at least for me, it helped me really nail down like, more of an understanding of what kind of films fall into this category of quiet little horror. Like *The Babadook*, oh, man, that was just a great film. And I liked it because it was so heavy handed in regards to this as a metaphor for grief, as opposed to just a scary film that does not often get pulled off very well, when you are doing something that heavy handed, but it did it works. And then same thing, there were other movies that I just didn't like, like *Last Night*. And so *Whoa*, that just didn't. It just didn't work for me. So it's I agree, I think that we did a really good exploration of different types of movies in different years and different genres to see what a little bit more of this quiet little horrors is really, really like. And I think we also did a pretty good job. I like the fact that we were very intentional to try and ensure that we got a variety of filmmakers involved as well, like we wanted to make sure we watched films by women directors, we wanted to make sure we got foreign films in there this year, we wanted to make sure we got people of color, like there was just a lot of different we were trying to not only explore and identify what this particular sub genre is, but also make sure that we try to include a variety of inputs into that definition. And I think that's only going to get better as we move into season three, where we're really kind of we created pockets, some Jen and I were working on our schedule a couple weeks ago, where we have these empty pockets that we're hoping to fill with either new releases, or depending on where what we find at international film festivals and things like that. So I think our definition is only going to get better.

**J** Jessi Chartier 07:40

I think that, you know, our main theme, obviously, is this idea of quiet little horrors, and what kind of fits into this categorization. But I think we're starting to pick out some other themes, which we kind of did that when we introduce mini so I don't even know if we ever officially stated those but the minis are almost always thematically connected to the full length episodes. And so we designed that so we can, you know, kind of figure out what some of the the film's themes are and see how they might show up in a different film. And so I think that that's something that it would be fun to push a little bit more in exploring different themes, or some exploring like sub genres, almost I know one of the things that we just barely got into this past season was we watched *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane* and got into the whole concept of hag horror, hagspolitation, whatever you'd like to call it. And I think that's something that we can explore in the future, because I love those types of films.

**J** Jen Myers 08:36

Mm hmm. Yeah, when, from what our early ideas are for season three, we don't want to be too committal about this. So but we were talking about exploring much more around hag horror and then additionally, noir horror, which is a sub genre as well, I really would love to talk about,

like full core versus modern like where you have old traditions conflicting with new traditions like the medium, for example. Also, isolation, psychosis, or prairie horror is a form of a sub sub genre. There is a lot of opportunity for us to dive into different areas and really kind of talk about the themes in our season three, and that's one of our focal points is that instead of having just two movies that are connected, either by genre or connected by protagonist or something, we've made a conscious decision to move into season three, where every month we'll have a mini episode and a main episode that focuses around a theme. So we're still ironing out what some of those themes should be. So if you want to feel free to reach out to us and let us know, a theme to look into to see if we should add it to the repertoire for next season. And we'll definitely take a peek at that. We have a lot of possible movies that are on our list to watch to see if they should make it into the season. So if you have a movie that you want us to review, or not even it's not we're not even reviewers. We're more just discussions.

**J** Jessi Chartier 10:09

We just say things about movies. If there's a movie you want us to blab about then yeah, let us know.

**J** Jen Myers 10:16

Exactly. Let us know for sure. So some of the movies that we're going to be exploring on whether or not we even want to bring it in are some things are a little bit off the beaten path, like Dave makes amaze. Some older ones, like The Mephisto Waltz, the Golden Glove, some ones that came out during pandemic like She Dies Tomorrow, we're also looking at perhaps some South America, we're trying to get more South American films in so if you have a recommendation, the two that are on our list to review are the silent house and the wolf house. We're also looking at things like people under the stairs, the dark side. So if you have movies that you're interested in us reviewing, please let us know. I'm super excited about the list that we have for next year. There's there's a handful that I'm really looking forward to us talking about. Yeah,

**J** Jessi Chartier 11:03

I think another thing that's going to be cool is I think we've hit a lot of the kind of classics of the genre, so to speak, especially like you know, when we first started, and I think it is kind of important to run through like we watch the witch and we watch hereditary and this season. First off, we knew we had to hit The Babadook, because I feel like those are all like the modern classics of the genre that we're talking about psychological horror and things like that. And then I think we also started hitting some of the things like like Carnival of Souls, and The Haunting, and yeah, stuff like that. And I think it was that it was all great to do that. But I feel like now that we have done those, we get to move on into some things that maybe are lesser known, there's a lot more like our list that we're putting together for season three, there's a lot more on it that I have never even seen. So I'm looking forward to the opportunity, being able to explore more, and, you know, get into some of those nooks and crannies that aren't necessarily kind of the acknowledged classics.



**J** Jen Myers 12:01

Mm hmm, exactly, exactly. We also did leave some room as well, as I was mentioning earlier, to be a little bit more flexible. So like, we've got pockets where are open. And our goal is to like I was saying trying to get newer films or films from festivals in there, too. I'm I am very much looking forward to, to season three. I think also, you know, this podcast is was birthed during the pandemic. And I think it was a perfect time for this to kind of come together. Because we were all stuck at home, which you know, the pandemic is kind of its own quiet little horror, right, you were stuck in your house, you couldn't go anywhere, there was always a looming threat, that you never knew where it was going to come from or how it was going to affect you. But you just knew it was going to be bad. So I'm excited to see how this podcast evolves, as we come out of pandemic a little bit more. And return to I don't want to say normal, but the new normal, where we start to just kind of live in that system, and how that might actually affect some of the movies that are currently coming out. That are horror related. You know, there was a lot of, at least from what I saw, during the pandemic, certain shows and movies that were just going amazing that just did a boatload of money. We're the antithesis of that they were the feel goods, right? It was the Ted Lassos of the worlds that were making a ton of money as well, they should have because we needed that we needed that sense. As a culture and society, we needed that sense of grounding and hopefulness. As we return to normal, I'm very interested to see how that affects the storytelling in this genre, I think we're going to see a lot less slashers I think we're going to see a lot more of these subtle horror films that are creepy. And I think they're going to get a lot more airtime just because they are we've had a shared collective trauma experience with a quiet little horror. So it'll be interesting to see how it affects. So again, this is why we're leaving some open ended spots because we know that new films are going to come out and hopefully fit into our category.

**J** Jessi Chartier 14:15

Yeah, that's that's a really great parallel to draw. I think that I know for me personally, these type of film tend to be how I process feelings or thoughts about trauma, grief, you know, kind of the creeping fear that is not necessarily present in front of you more of the abstract type fear. And so yeah, I think and it also I guess, it must be said we're recording this towards the end of December 2021. We're not sure if we're totally out of that all of that yet. You know, so but then that's a whole nother thing of you're right though it is evolving. It's it's not quite staying the same, but it's also not completely dissipating. So it's going to be interesting to see how that impacts the storytelling. I think that there's there's definitely room to tell stories are going to help us process this stuff. And I don't think that that's a completely different thing than the comfort, feel good stories, which I like and are great. And I watch a lot of that stuff, too. But yeah, this is more about like dealing with things and processing things on different levels. And so I think you're right, I think there's going to be I don't know, I think it'll be some interesting films along those lines as we move along with this, and that people might feel more drawn to watching even older films like this, like the ones that we've just discussed, because they're, they're processing too. And I think that even if it isn't specifically like it doesn't have the story doesn't need to be specifically about the situation you're going through in order for you to feel like it might have some sort of catharsis or help process things, because it just is about working on a different level. And you don't necessarily like, yeah, like you mentioned, it's not a slasher where you just kill the villain. And it's kind of straightforward what the danger is and what the fear is, and then you dissipate the fear, you defeat it, and it's gone. None of the films we talk

about are like that. They're all much, much more complicated. So I think that it could be a useful tool for people learning how to deal with the complexity of, you know, a world that doesn't quite work very simply.

**J** Jen Myers 16:15

Mm hmm. I agree. I agree. And, you know, we're late, as you mentioned, we're at the end of December. And we've already got plans for when we're going to record our next meeting. But I'm curious, you know, the holiday season for me, is always a time of like movie watching, because I have no Yeah. So do you have any movies on your list over the holidays that you're gonna plan on watching?

**J** Jessi Chartier 16:38

That's a great question. Yeah, no, I'm exactly the same way where, especially for me personally, the past few months, I've been exceptionally busy. And I have a lot, especially now I feel like at the end of the year, there's like a list of films that I never did watch. So I want to catch up on so I actually just watched malignant, which I hadn't seen when it came out. And so I caught up on that. And I never did see Saint Maude.

**J** Jen Myers 17:03

So I think they've heard good things about Saint Maude

**J** Jessi Chartier 17:05

Yeah, I actually had a ticket, not this past, yeah, well, gosh, I don't know is the last march like March 2020. To see that film at the Music Box with the director in attendance. And it was like March and it got canceled with the first wave of the pandemic. And then I never watched the film. It's been on Hulu for a long time, and I just haven't got to see it. So that's on my list. This is not 100% horror, but this weekend and Nightmare Alley comes out. So I'm really excited about that.

**J** Jen Myers 17:42

I just watched the first one about two weeks ago and not realizing that a new one was coming out. I just Oh wow. And I thought to myself, I was never watching and I was thinking this is perfect. We need we definitely need. This is almost like a it's a blend of like a heist horror film. Yes. It's very cool. So yes, I'm very

**J** Jessi Chartier 18:11

But I think nightmare alley specifically we mentioned we kind of want to talk about horror noir. But I think Nightmare Alley is something we might need to dig into next year. I had seen the

original one, I actually just rewatched the original this morning, because I want to go see the new one. I also recommend anybody else out there. First of all, see the original Nightmare Alley. I haven't seen the new one. But you know, go see that. So you know what's going on there. It also was originally a novel, which I also recommend reading because it's very, very good. But yeah, I am excited to go see it. Check it out. How about you

**J** Jen Myers 18:41

A 1932 film called The Old Dark House? Oh, I have seen that.

**J** Jessi Chartier 18:48

And I feel like first off I love it. I think it's great. I also would I would love to see this as a stage play. Hmm. Because I feel like it's a parlor horror. Everybody comes together. So don't tell me the ending because I haven't figured it out. I haven't gotten all the way. Yeah, but I just I like it. I like it so far, because it's not quite new AR But it's shot like new AR like it's very strange angles and lots of sharp Angular colors. But that also might have just been like the style of horror at the time. Enough about that era. So I'm watching that. And then I'm watching the upon your recommendation, the documentary on is it iTunes or Netflix? It's on iTunes, right? The folk horror one?

**J** Jen Myers 19:39

Yes.

**J** Jessi Chartier 19:40

So it is Woodland Dark and Days Bewitched: A History of Folklore.

**J** Jen Myers 19:44

Yes, that one that well, I'm going to be watching that one. And then there's also an AMC visionary series called Eli Roth's history of horror that came out in 2018. And there's two seasons to it. And I may pick an choose what I want to watch because like each episode is focused on like, zombies or killer creatures, etc. But there's one called the demons inside, there is another one called Nine Nightmares, which I really actually very interested in which other description is a deep dive into nine films that defy categorization. And like they talk about Midsommar, and they talk about what are some of the other films they talk in there? I don't actually, I have to watch it. This is why I need to watch it. So but I want to kind of dive into those. I'm also going to try and get through the movies that we were talking about earlier in the podcast, like the ones that we're possibly looking at, including, like, Dave makes a Maze. I don't know how much I'm actually gonna be able to walk or watch. But I for sure need to watch the first episode for season three, because we have to we have identified what movies we're doing for that. Do we want to reveal them? Or not? I think we should. Yeah, let's do you want to do the reveal? Yeah.

**J** Jessi Chartier 21:00

So we're going to for January, our mini episode is going to be Wake in Fright, which is Australian film from the 70s, I believe. And then the full length episode will be on The Wind, which is from 2018.

**J** Jen Myers 21:17

They are both considered prairie horror or isolationist horror.

**J** Jessi Chartier 21:20

Yeah, people out in the middle of nowhere, going nuts.

**J** Jen Myers 21:27

Yeah, I'm very excited about that. So I got to watch those two before we actually record. Well, I'm glad that we had such a great season two, and I'm really looking forward to season three, I think we have a great lineup, a really good focus an ear to the ground of what's coming out. I'm just looking forward to it. It's gonna be great.

**J** Jessi Chartier 21:46

Yeah, I'm, you know, I'm just thinking a little bit of how you have characterize, we know this whole podcast, this whole experiment. And it kind of has been an experiment, like you mentioned, how we are getting a better idea of what a quiet little horror is. And I think that's what's so fun about this whole thing is we didn't start it necessarily, with this really rigid definition. And and, you know, it wasn't like we were just gonna go through this list of what other people have decided is part of this definition. It's, it's entirely been this exploration about figuring out what films resonate with us and why and how those are connected to other films that do or don't resonate. And I like the fact that this continues to be an experiment and an exploration of that I just really want to keep doing that and the next season.

**J** Jen Myers 22:32

I agree. And that's one of the things that this podcast is such a joy to have is we're learning along the way as well. So thank you everyone for joining us on this journey. We hope that you have enjoyed season two. We hope you join us again for season three. And Jen if they want to learn more about us where can they go? We have a website at [quietlittlehorror.com](http://quietlittlehorror.com) and we post all our episodes on there to stream and we also have links to find us on iTunes and Spotify and all of those good places. We can also find us on Twitter at [quiethorror](https://twitter.com/quiethorror) and on Instagram at



quietlittlehorrors and if you want to email us, like we mentioned are very open for suggestions of films to watch so you can send us an email at hello at quietlittlehorrors.com. Well, Jen, have a great rest of your holiday. We'll see you in season three Happy New Year.