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Local Father-Daughter Collaboration Produces Feature Film, Paid For in Part by Lemonade Stand



L TO R: SAM (ESTHER JANE POPE), EVAN (ASHER TROSDAL) AND LINK (TY TROSDAL) PREPARE TO FIGHT MONSTERS IN "THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE LAKE"

Franklin, TN: Local acting talent Esther Jane Pope (14) is the star of a new feature film, "There's Something in the Lake," a fantasy/sci fi thriller which was shot locally this past summer. The movie is currently available to stream on Amazon Prime and will make it's west coast premiere at the Summer 2022 Comic-Con International Film Festival in San Diego, CA. The production was paid for in part, with money she raised selling lemonade on a street corner in Franklin TN.

Ms. Pope has been active in community theatre and film for several years (appearing most recently in Off the Square Theatre Company's production of "Matilda" at the Williamson County Performing Arts Center) so when her dad, freelance filmmaker Greg Pope began working on a feature length screen-play she showed a keen interest. "My original story idea featured an all male cast. It was like "Stand By Me" meets "Jaws," explained Mr. Pope. "As E.J. began to bloom as an actress I realized I might be passing up an opportunity for a pretty amazing father-daughter collaboration. So I changed the main character to a girl and rewrote the story to accommodate that."

The movie, a nostalgic throwback to "creature features" of the 1960s and 70s, concerns a 13-year-old girl and her two friends who fall asleep watching a monster movie and are literally sucked into its world. As dark forces close in, the kids formulate a plan to destroy a horrific lake dwelling creature in order to end the movie and return to reality.

Once the script was finished Mr. Pope began the process of raising money for the film. He set up a donation page on the film's website which brought in a trickle of funds. Meanwhile Esther Jane started her own fund raising operation. She and her younger sister and brothers set up a lemonade stand on Adams Street in the downtown Franklin area for several days. Within a few weeks she had raised







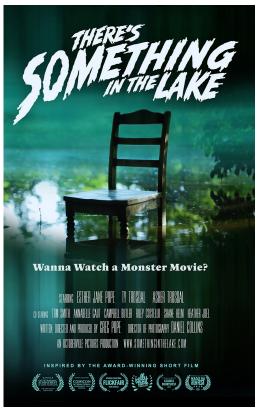


SAM (ESTHER JANE POPE) TAKES AIM AT THE THING IN THE LAKE.

several hundred dollars, which covered the rental of one of the cinema cameras used in the production.

Shot in 10 days in and around Franklin TN this past Summer, "There's Something in the Lake" premiered this past October at a venue in the Cool Springs area to a sold out, enthusiastic audience and is currently available to stream on Amazon Prime and Vimeo on Demand. It is also an official selection of the Comic-Con International Independent Film Festival in San Diego, CA and will screen there Summer 2022. A second local screening event is planned for January 2022.

More information is available on the film's website: www.somethinginthelake.com



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