

Title: Abolition of the Senses

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Logline: A lighthouse keeper searching for answers about her childhood abduction discovers that the past is haunted by more than just memories.

Synopsis: YOUNG OLGA, 10, huddles against a wall, a chain and a metal collar around her neck holding her in place. While having memory flashes about her abduction, she manages to remove the collar and reaches a high window. A noise of chains is heard. She slowly turns around to look with anxiety at something unseen...

Twenty years later. OLGA, 30, stands on the balcony of a lighthouse on an island off the coast of Massachusetts, chatting with BRIAN, 60, the lighthouse keeper she is replacing. After visiting the keeper's house, Brian points out a locked storehouse, telling her that it contains years of accumulated junk and not to bother about it. He departs, leaving Olga alone.

The next day, Olga is puzzled when the ancient TV switches on, showing a clip from "Captains Courageous". It turns itself off and the VCR ejects an old video tape. Later, she decides to examine the storehouse, but the lock is secure and all she can see through the window is old furniture. Then she sees a dark figure standing in a boat off-shore and staring at her. The figure rows away from the island. That night she begins to hear noises but it turns out only to be Brian, playing a joke on her. He gives her a cat and they spend some time drinking and talking.

While in the lighthouse watch room the next night, Olga hears loud moans coming from the storehouse. When Brian returns, she tells him about it and he shows her an old weathervane behind the storehouse, demonstrating the loud noise it makes when the wind hits it just right. He bars it in place, but that night Olga hears screaming and discovers that the restraints have been removed. When she returns to the house, the TV again comes on, playing the same movie clip. Then the lighthouse lantern begins to turn itself on and off in rapid succession...

Pitch: "Abolition of the Senses" is a supernatural horror script (like a blend of "The Changeling" and "Cold Skin"), an original, scary and very disturbing ghost story that appeal to a wide audience. It creates a terrifying and tense situation that plays on universal fears. I believe that, in the hands of a capable director, this could be a very haunting movie.