+ intro and Q&A with Tom Palmer and Tom Stourton

Just because you're paranoid, Joseph Heller noted, doesn't mean they aren't after you. This is birthday boy Pete's own Catch-22: invited by his old university crew to a country mansion celebration, from the outset something feels off. He's constantly the butt of strangely pointed jokes. And what about the local chancer who has latched onto the group and seems to be studying him rather too closely?

Andrew Gaynord's feature debut, scripted by lead actor Tom Stourton and Tom Palmer, is a stiletto-sharp comedy nightmare. There's misunderstandings, micro-aggressions and the fear that our youthful friendships aren't – or maybe never were – what we thought. Imagine *The Big Chill* as a psychological horror, with an expert ensemble of rising British talent making us squirm with dread and laughter.

Leigh Singer, BFI London Film Festival

# **Director's statement**

Have you ever read a script that has as much tension and hard laughs as this does? If so, can you send it to me?

I've been on the prowl reading feature scripts sent to me by my reps at CAA for a few years now, and I haven't come across a script that is as funny, alluring, and unsettling as this one. I've been an admirer of both Toms for over a decade, and I'm chuffed that this has come my way.

My ambition is for this film to be gut punch funny but with a palpable dramatic tension that pulls you deeper throughout – I want the audience to be constantly guessing, as I was when I read it, is Pete paranoid? Or is he truly unravelling something more nefarious? I want all the performances to be next level REAL... I don't want to see people 'movie acting' or scripted lines to sound like lines – I want to see how this would genuinely play out in real life. And in fact, we will be genuinely shooting in sequence. It won't add any real amount of time, but will add to the close tracking of Pete's psychological breakdown throughout the course of the film.

We'll also be occasionally harnessing film's powers to slowly induce paranoia, claustrophobia, disorientation... we'll also use film's strength to seep an unsettling atmosphere, and crank the laughter to 11. Through Pete's POV we'll feel his psychological state deteriorate to breaking point.

Our audience will be completely in sync with Pete's desperation to be liked. Pete feels alone, lost, and wanting to connect. He just wants to have a good birthday party, guys! To me, this is funny.

**Production notes** 

### **ALL MY FRIENDS HATE ME**

Directed by: Andrew Gaynord

Presented by: Ravanburn, Totally Tom Films

Executive Producers: Jon Plowman, George Cave, P.K. Fellowes

Produced by: Tom Palmer Co-producer: Esme Hicks Casting: Lucy Rands

Location Manager: George Cave Script Supervisor: Linda Gibson Written by: Tom Palmer, Tom Stourton Director of Photography: Ben Moulden

Edited by: Saam Hodivala

Production Designer: Frederick Allsop
Costume Designer: Helen Bolter
Make-up Designer: Sarah Jane Marks
Composer: Will Lowes, Joe Robbins
Sound Recordist: Blai Escayola Bosch
Re-recording Mixer: Christopher Swaine

Dialogue Editor, ADR Supervisor, Sound Effects Editor: Tim Bamber

Stunt Co-ordinator: Dan 'DJ' Johnson

#### Cast

Tom Stourton (Pete)
Charly Clive (Sonia)
Georgina Campbell (Fig)
Antonia Clarke (Claire)
Joshua McGuire (George)
Graham Dickson (Archie)
Christopher Fairbank (Norman)
Dustin Demri-Burns (Harry)
Kieran Hodgson (Graham)

UK 2021 94 mins

Courtesy of BFI Distribution

### **IN PERSON & PREVIEWS**

Kermode Live in 3D at the BFI

Mon 18 Oct 18:15; Mon 8 Nov 18:10

**Preview: Last Night in Soho** 

Thu 21 Oct 17:50; 31 Oct 17:40 (+ Q&A with Edgar Wright)

Screen Epiphany: Adjoa Andoh introduces Mandabi

Sun 24 Oct 18:30

Mike Leigh in Conversation

Thu 28 Oct 20:40

**Doctor Who: Galaxy 4 (animated)** 

Sun 7 Nov 12:00

Preview: Drive My Car (Doraibu mai kâ)

Mon 15 Nov 19:40

Preview: The Hand of God (È stata la mano di Dio)

Thu 18 Nov 18:30

TV Preview: The Amazing Mr Blunden + Q&A with writer-director-

actor Mark Gatiss and actor Tamsin Greig

Mon 29 Nov 18:15

#### **EDGAR WRIGHT'S LONDON AFTER DARK**

Passport to Shame (AKA Room 43)

Mon 18 Oct 20:50; Sat 13 Nov 18:10

**Peeping Tom** 

Tue 19 Oct 20:30; Sat 6 Nov 18:20

**Beat Girl** 

Fri 22 Oct 20:40; Sun 31 Oct 16:20

West End Jungle + Look at Life: Market Place

+ Look at Life: Rising to High Office Sat 23 Oct 20:40; Sat 20 Nov 14:40

The Pleasure Girls + Look at Life: Members Only

Mon 25 Oct 20:50; Mon 29 Nov 18:20

Frenzy

Wed 27 Oct 20:45; Fri 19 Nov 18:30

Darling

Thu 28 Oct 20:30; Sat 20 Nov 13:20

Bitter Harvest + Look at Life: Coffee Bar

Fri 29 Oct 18:00; Tue 9 Nov 20:45

The Small World of Sammy Lee + Look at Life: In Gear Sat 30 Oct 20:30; Sat 6 Nov 20:45; Tue 23 Nov 14:30 Primitive London + Look at Life: Goodbye Piccadilly

Mon 1 Nov 20:50; Thu 25 Nov 20:50

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