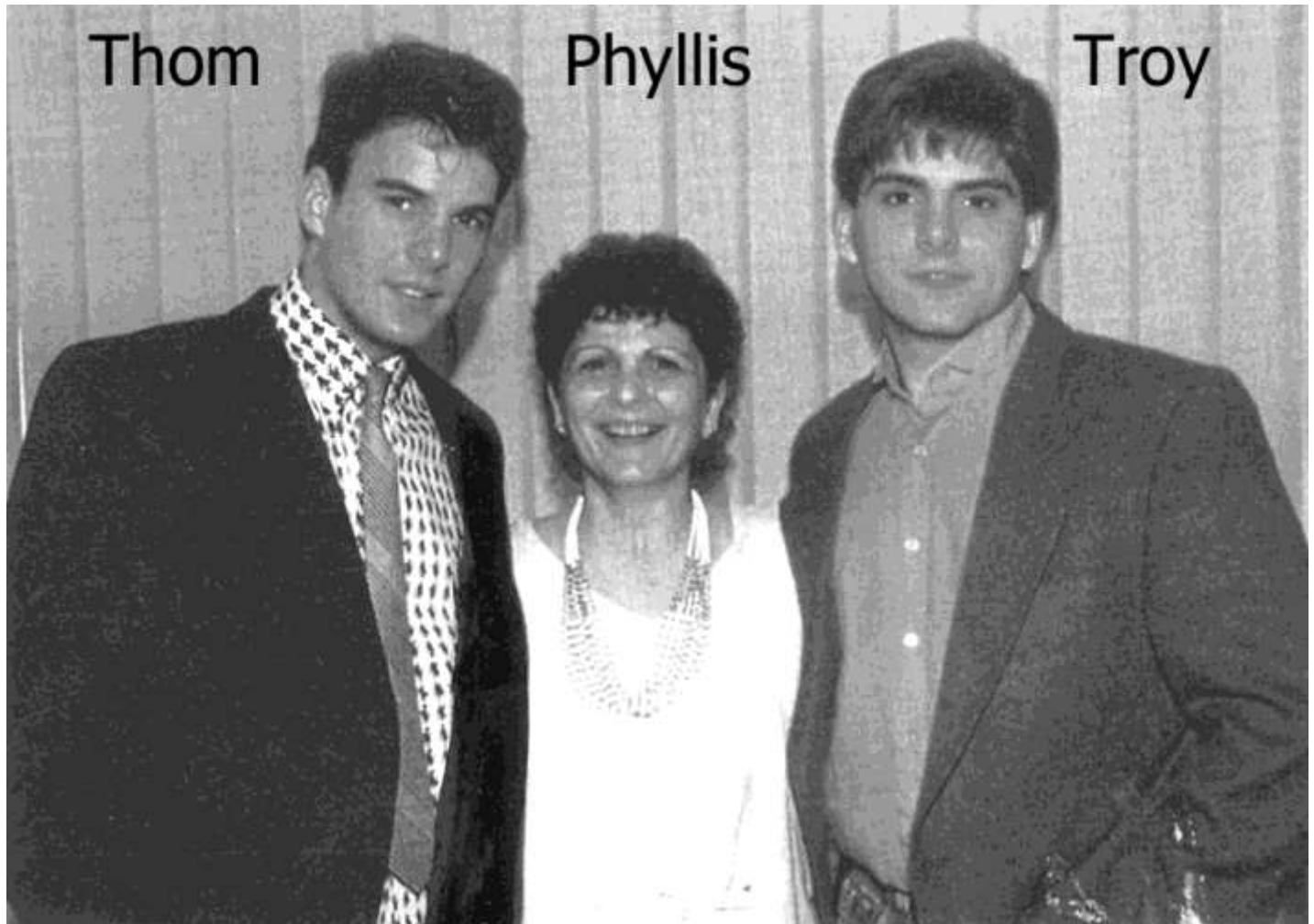


What Do You Do When Your Brother Kills Your Mother ?

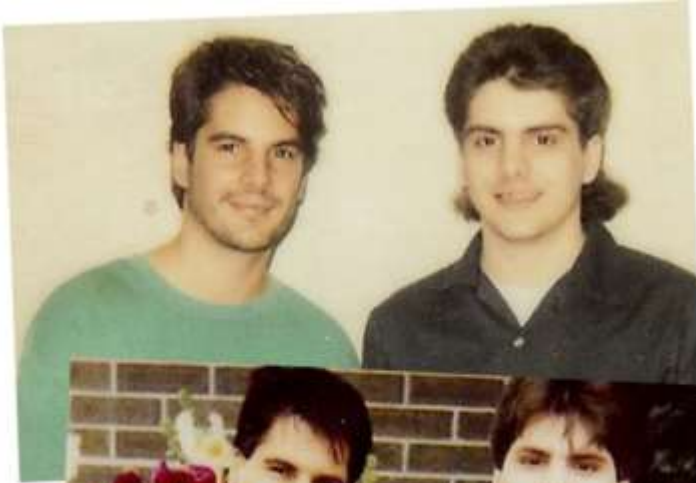
Screenplay available: thombierdz@aol.com 909.436.9242



A month before Troy killed her.

Thom Bierdz, a closeted soap opera star and expressionism painter, struggles to get his brother Troy from incarcerated babbling schizophrenic, to lucid, to remorseful for killing their mother. Thom also seeks to prove the afterlife exists and to contact his dead mother to heal his grieving sister, estranged psychotherapist father and another brother spiraling out of control.

This tragedy-to-triumph uplifting TRUE STORY is also an ARTIST BIOPIC and a spiritual adventure. **Huge box office potential** with elements of A BEAUTIFUL MIND / RAINMAN / THE SIXTH SENSE / DEAD MAN WALKING / OUT ON A LIMB (SHIRLEY MACLAINE) / GIRL WITH A PEARL EARRING / LOVING VINCENT / POLLOCK / FRIDA / MR. TURNER.





Investigation Discovery's #1 show, Evil Lives Here, interviewed Thom recently for the episode The Soap Star's Secret on this material (maybe 50 million views so far?: fans' favorite because it's uplifting).



SCREENPLAY ANALYSIS FROM INDUSTRY SCRIPT EXPERTS

Recommend. Highly recommended.

The first ten pages pull you in, particularly the part where Troy (the youngest brother), consumed with anger, confronts his mother with the disturbing question, "Do I kill them first, Mom? So you suffer, seeing them all cut up?"

The hook effectively grabs readers' attention, throwing them into a high-stakes, high-energy depiction of Troy's escape and Phyllis' murder.

Dialogue is a strength in your script, with characters speaking in ways that feel distinct and themselves. You do a great job capturing authenticity in conversations.

A marketable premise that studios would find attractive. The true crime element along with themes of life after death, family, and forgiveness, means that there is a specific audience that would be well served by this material. The budget is also quite attractive for potential investors, and would easily fall into the low-to-midrange category in terms of feasibility, especially with its character-driven narrative. The tone of the script also fits in well with its audience, focusing less on the horrifying murder and more on the aftermath, meaning that this is a story that could potentially have a wider audience than if it simply focused on one aspect over another.

To build on an analogy: if a script is a house, the characters, plot, structure and dialogue are all bricks but it's the concept that is the foundation. Fortunately, the foundation just so happens to also be it's biggest strength. It's very clear you have a strong story with great talents in writing.

The script does a superb job at carrying Thom's challenges side by side.

All of the characters in this script are well-described and differentiated. In particular, Thom and Hope's contrasting energies comprise one of the most compelling aspects of this project.

The other family members were all distinct, with Hope being a lot more scared of Troy, Billy being avoidant and their father Al being ambivalent. This myriad of responses help make for some extremely dynamic interactions, such as when Hope confronts Thom to stop talking to Troy and Thom ultimately winning Hope over.

Troy is not painted as a villain and it's believable how the others would come to sympathize with his struggle despite his horrendous actions. The script also handles Thom's beliefs in spirituality with sensitivity and this gives the story genuine stakes.

Thom's story is classically American - small town kid, misunderstood but ambitious, sets out into the world and makes something of himself.

The script is immediately notable for its compelling premise and, though it's based on a true story, it avoids the common pitfalls of historical dramas by keeping the action fairly focused on the personal stakes as Thom tries to reach out to Troy. The script also offers a unique look at faith and concentrates on how this becomes meaningful to the characters and how the characters incorporate it into their lives.

The four Bierdz siblings form the core of the piece, though the influence of parents Phyllis and, to a lesser extent, Al, is felt throughout. Thom, the main, goes on a circuitous hero's journey through his acceptance of his gayness, his quest to become a Hollywood actor and his continuing efforts to help the brother who murdered his mother. His career has the expected ups and downs, but his connections with his siblings and, later, father, are the constants. His search for spiritual guidance and the afterlife and even his attention to a voice who seems to guide him are mirror images of Troy's disordered relationship with reality. There's a fine line separating madness from creativity and Thom is lucky to have ended up on the functional side.

It's immediately evident that Troy suffers from schizophrenia as is seen through his POV's and the voices that haunt him, and after he murders their mother, we see how the rest of the Bierdz family reacts to that in their own ways. With Thom, we understand that he's drawn to justice and is able to communicate with higher level beings. Although this may make it hard for audiences to resonate with him, it gives him a quality that feels entertaining albeit sometimes a little socially awkward.

The emphasis on spirituality bestsellers like The Celestine Prophecy and Out on a Limb taps into their large audience.

This multi-layered family odyssey does not restrain from its unpleasant emotions and difficult truths, all of which makes this portrayal feel honest. Our protagonist's mission of empathizing with his brother is heartfelt yet packed with a complexity that pushes the narrative to embrace its untidy conflict.

The script has an inherently dramatic premise and the scenes between Thom and Troy are highly compelling because of the strong conflict in their interactions.

The writer does a good job in adding a touch of humor to an otherwise dark and sad story.

...this project features a fresh take on the idea of forgiveness. The family's path toward forgiveness does not solely focus on Troy but on their absent father and their own personal imperfections. This comprises a strong and unique thematic base. The manner in which all three siblings struggle to move forward with their lives after a series of tragedies is both empathetic and compelling, with the project's personal nature comprising a key strength.

The structure worked well. You have a strong eye for storytelling, especially with the creative visual POV's that occur throughout the script. This can mostly be seen through the horrific visions of Troy, but it's also clear in the more blissful and optimistic visions shown through Thom's perspective.

There's nothing forgettable about this life story and there is a consistent theme of making peace with a painful past. The hero's path is both unique in the entertainment industry and universal in his desire to correct for family trauma.

The premise (which is based on a true story) is thought-provoking and strikes you deep in the core. It revolves around a soap opera heartthrob (Thom) from "The Young and the Restless" whose life is forever changed after his youngest brother, a schizophrenic, tragically kills their mother. The story starts out in the 1970s and gradually moves forward into the 1990s. We see how Thom's young mother is left to raise her four children on her own after their father divorced their mom – and how that takes a toll on their family emotionally, not just financially. Despite knowing that her youngest son (Troy) has expressed his desire to kill his siblings and his mom, Phyllis (their mother) continues to allow him to live with her and gives him unconditional love. Until one day, after committing various crimes, Troy escapes from detention center, returns to his mom's home only to end up killing her in a fit of rage.

The story examines the hardships that Thom had to go through in a time where an actor's open homosexuality could have severe consequences for their professional trajectory. There are also moments where Troy, the youngest brother, would make offensive remarks about Thom being gay, yet Thom continues to be there for Troy.

Furthermore, it sheds light on the way prisoners with schizophrenia were treated within the prison system during that time period.

WHY THIS FAMILY DRAMA WILL WIN MOVIE AWARDS

Initially this 10X award-winning book (and screenplay) were written because Thom felt an obligation to share his miraculous bigger-than-life journey. Looking for the silver lining, he discovered gold: a renewed relationship with his brother, an elevated heart, plus many spiritual miracles. Through the roller-coaster events, Thom spilled his emotions on canvas, so hundreds of his artworks can be incorporated into the movie. (Thom is an award-winning painter, and president of American Art Awards and World Art Awards.)

The true hero of the story is Phyllis (the mother) who sacrificed her life to be killed by Troy to prevent Troy from killing her three other children. Furthermore, five years later, from the other side, dead Phyllis gets her message to a trusted medium pleading that Thom must go to Troy's prison and "save Troy's soul." Reluctantly, Thom eventually agrees, and seeing no partitions separating the visitors from inmates, Thom risks his life to be in the same room with Troy, because Troy was a blackbelt who wanted to kill Thom and threatened to rip out his heart in six seconds and show it to him before he died. Thom discovers his little brother is no longer a murderous animal-killing Satanic worshipper, but now a babbling schizophrenic inmate, practically lifeless, soulless, barely existent. Because of dead Phyllis's insistence that Thom see Troy, Thom asks the prison (that prefers to ignore Troy) to put Troy on medication, which had to be requested by the family. Pills and Thom's love bring Troy to lucidity, then infantilism, then denial, then accountability, then remorse, which the prison doctors say never happens.

Much of Troy's real dialogue is in the screenplay, from his flippant murder confession at his court hearing, to his medicated rebirth unaware of his crime. His letters to Thom become childlike and innocent: "Have I left you with enuff feelings?" "So many voices tell me what to do. How do I no which one to listen to?" "Don't you think brothers should be torchured together?" "You are my big brother and I am lucky you protect me from Hell."

When Thom gets their father, Al, to finally visit Troy's prison, Troy is overwhelmed, listing reasons why all his family members are going to Hell.

5 pages of the script

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT/INT. BASEMENT CLOSET - HOPE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Thom reads Troy's animal-killing diaries.

THOM (V.O.)

"Roaches. Tore legs and heads off."

FLASH-FORWARD TO:

INT. VISITING ROOM - PRISON - DAY

Instead of killing the roach, Troy slowly lowers the wrapper onto the floor and lets the bug scurry away. Thom wipes a tear of pride for Troy. Al approaches.

TROY

Dad?

THOM

Yeah, Troy, I told you Dad was coming.

TROY

I thought you were kidding.

THOM

I wouldn't kid you like that.

TROY

I thought it was one of the voices.

AL

Hello, Troy.

Al awkwardly attempts to hug a still-seated Troy. Troy tenses. Al sits facing Thom and Troy who is now angry.

TROY

I'm going to Hell, but so are you for being late on child-support! And all fags like Thom go to Hell.

Troy stands abruptly, making a fist.

AL

There is no Hell, no Heaven. This is all there is. Troy, sit down.

THOM

If he wants to stand, he can stand. You had plenty of years to tell him what to do. You only used four. In case you lost count.

AL
I didn't lose count.

TROY
Mom went to Hell! Mom went to Hell 'cause she said goddamn it. Billy's going to Hell because he fucked all the neighbor girls. And Hope... I don't know why, but Hope is going to Hell.

AL
Can you sit down, Troy?

THOM
He can stand. Don't boss him around in his own home.

AL
I'm not bossing anybody.

TROY
Thom, if you want to kill yourself, I'll do it, too, so we can be together.

Nancy walks over, coaxes Troy into his chair.

NANCY
Nobody's killing themselves.

THOM
Nancy, will you tell Doctor Green I need to talk to her about adjusting Troy's medication?

NANCY
I certainly will.

She leaves. Al stands.

AL
I'll go get my sons another candy bar.

THOM
No! He hasn't eaten any meals. All that sugar will make him more jittery. Do you want popcorn, Troy?

TROY
I told you I don't want popcorn.

THOM
I gave him some popcorn before and he wouldn't eat it. Something's wrong with his appetite.

TROY

Nothing's wrong with my appetite.

AL

I'll get you another Kit Kat. How often
do I get to see you?

TROY

I want a Kit Kat.

THOM

Dad, it's Ten-Thirty. We're here until Two.
He can have sugar at Eleven and One and
only healthy food in-between.

AL

You're being a bit ridiculous.

THOM

Tell Dad you want a sandwich.

AL

Salami?

TROY

I'm not hungry.

AL

I'll get you something.

THOM

He can't have candy.

Defeated, Al walks to the vending machines.

TROY

They'll rip my heart apart in Hell 'cause
of the paper route -- they chainsaw your
brain in Hell.

THOM

What paper route?

TROY

Route Seventy-One hasn't been delivered
since I stopped the route so I'm going to
Hell.

THOM

The "Kenosha Tribune"?

TROY

I never told them I quit. You have to
move back to Kenosha and do my route.

THOM
Hm, I don't think so.

TROY
You have to.

THOM
I don't want to be a paperboy.

TROY
You have to save me from Hell and
chainsaws!

Troy is terrified. Al returns with a sandwich, hands it to Troy.
Troy drops it, GROANS. Al sits.

THOM
Tell you what, I'll go to the "Kenosha
Tribune" and find out who's doing the route.

TROY
Nobody's doing it! I told you!

Troy takes a crayon and scribbles on paper.

ON THE PAPER: "Route 71 hasent been done in 12 years. Im
quitting my rute."

TROY (cont'd)
Here's my two-week notice for you to take
to the newspaper. Or we know I go to Hell!
Are you going to let them chainsaw me?

TROY'S HALLUCINATION: DEMONS with chainsaws eat his flesh.

THOM
No, no, I won't.

EXT/INT. RENT-A-CAR - KENOSHA STREETS - DAY

Al drives as Thom studies Troy's note.

THOM
Fearing Hell takes up his whole mind. When
I get him past that, you'll see how sweet he
can be. I know we can get him to remorse.

AL
He is unable to feel for others. Doctor
Green explained matricide perpetrators never
get to remorse. You expect too much. Like
your mother. Nagging. I see a tavern. I'm
overdue for a scotch.

THOM

I could use one, too, but just drive straight to the "Kenosha Tribune" before they close.

AL

Don't be ridiculous.

THOM

Drive me there, Dad. I know what it's like to be damned to Hell. Growing up gay and Catholic. In Wisconsin in the Nineteen-Sixties and Seventies.

EXT. KENOSHA TRIBUNE BUILDING - DAY

Thom jumps out before Al parks the car.

AL

If the newspaper prints a story about this, it'll humiliate your sister. She has to live here.

INT. KENOSHA TRIBUNE BUILDING - DAY

Mr. Brandt (70) takes Troy's note from Thom.

MR. BRANDT

(sarcastic)

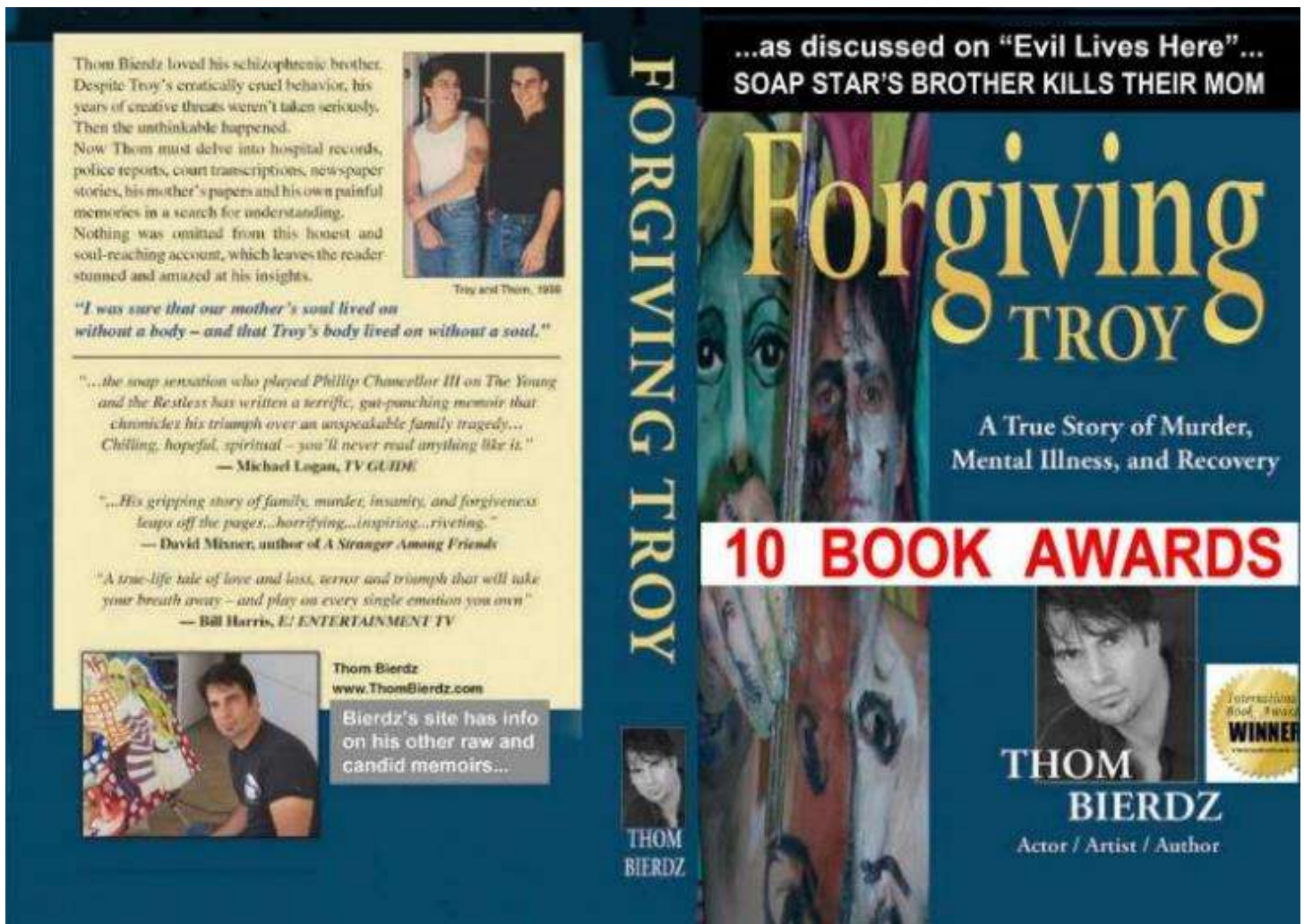
Of course. Our readers wouldn't possibly be interested in a famous hometown TV actor barging in news offices at the request of his Hell-fearing incarcerated schizophrenic brother, the first person in Wisconsin history sentenced to Life Meaning Life -- for killing his mother. Why would I think readers would want an in-depth interview, on your family and career updates?... Giving you editing approval, of course.

THOM

I can't. It would hurt my sister.

Lawyer RORY enters, examines the note Mr. Brandt hands him. Silence.

BASED ON THE BOOK



The International Book Awards

GRAND PRIZE: Spirituality "Sacred Light" Award

WINNER: Autobiography/Memoir category

WINNER: Gay & Lesbian: Non-Fiction category

WINNER: Non-Fiction Narrative category

WINNER: True Crime: Non-Fiction category

The National Best Books Awards

WINNER: Autobiography/Memoir category

WINNER: True Crime category

WINNER: Audio-book Non-fiction Unabridged category

Indie Excellence Book Awards

WINNER: Autobiography category

LAMBDA Awards

FINALIST: Autobiography

BOOK REVIEWS

"...gut-punching memoir that chronicles his triumph over an unspeakable family tragedy...Chilling, hopeful, spiritual." Michael Logan, TV GUIDE

"Hi there, My name is Don Lewis and I am the Chief of Psychiatry for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in the U.S.. I picked up your book and read it on my last trip I took. I could not put it down and had to write you and say what a fantastic portrayal of mental illness it was. Troy sounds like many of our inmates. I am so glad you could forgive him! I am also gay, so your book was fascinating on many levels. Again, thank you for this book, I wish you the very best!..."

"...universal themes of love, forgiveness and redemption...even in the most tragic situations, hope abides and family triumphs. Being likened to *A BEAUTIFUL MIND* and *RAINMAN*, his story will both break your heart and heal your spirit." Nicholas Snow, *NOTES FROM HOLLYWOOD*

"An epic, raw and overwhelming story of tragedy, chaos, humanity, and ultimately compassion. A rare book that dives, unapologetically and uncensored, into the workings of an American family... Highly recommended!" Jeffrey Keen, *USABOOKNEWS.COM*

"A different kind of psychic message from a mom figures prominently in Thom Bierdz' inspirational memoir...fascinating, profoundly moving stuff...It is so worth your while!" M. Logan, *SOAP OPERA DIGEST*

"A true-life tale of love and loss, terror and triumph that will take your breath away - and play on every single emotion you own." Bill Harris, E! ENTERTAINMENT TV, *NATIONAL ENQUIRER*

"...not as much about forgiveness as it is about the kind of strength and spiritual carpentry necessary to repair the disengaging structure of one American family." Lucian K. Truscott, author of *DRESS GRAY*

"Matricide! Suicide! Paranoid schizophrenia! Sound like elements of a juicy soap opera? Not to former *The Young and the Restless* hunk Thom Bierdz - those horrors are part of his true family story..." Gil Kaan, *NATIONAL ENQUIRER*

"True story of fame found and lost, murder, mental illness, mysticism, emotional dysfunction and soap opera..." Olivier Bjorksater-Bleylock, *DNA MAGAZINE*

"I am amazed at how many people come to me and say their story is interesting enough for a memoir...On the other hand, Thom Bierdz's book had to be written. His gripping story of family, murder, insanity, and forgiveness leaps off the pages... horrifying... inspiring... riveting." David Mixner, author of *A STRANGER AMONG FRIENDS*

"Shakespearean in its tragic underpinnings, *FORGIVING TROY* fearlessly tackles a litany of societal ills that ostensibly seem insurmountable, yet the book reverberates with the clear ring of redemption..." Michael Kearns, *IN MAGAZINE*

"Millions of viewers fell in love with Thom Bierdz on *The Young and the Restless* unaware that his real life was more dramatic than any soap opera. This book proves he is not just another pretty face- but an artist of substance, power and talent." Daniel R. Coleridge, *TVGUIDE.COM*

"Very special... it's a really engrossing and deeply personal read." Brian Hernandez, *DAILY NEWS.COM, FRONTIERS*

"Bierdz has the courage to be truthful about his own erratic behavior in the aftermath of this terrible tragedy. But he came to recognize that we all have the power to control our destinies... Thom Bierdz, a proud gay man, is now one of Los Angeles' most successful and in-demand artists. His journey from darkness into the light is one of the year's most illuminating and inspirational reads...the sublime, haunting *FORGIVING TROY* will stay with you long after you finish reading it." David Alexander Nahmod, *EXPRESSGAYNEWS.COM*

"It's been said that the greatest mark of the human spirit is its ability to overcome impossible personal tragedy, and no one exemplifies that statement more than artist Thom Bierdz." Joe Thompson, *IN MAGAZINE*

"A truly amazing and intriguing book....you will want to call your family and tell them how much you love them.....my glass will be half full for the rest of my life." Dana Caprina, *GAY CHICAGO MAGAZINE*

NEWSPAPERS WHEN TROY KILLED HIS MOTHER



YOUNG & RESTLESS STAR'S MOM MURDERED — AND YOUNGER BROTHER IS PRIME SUSPECT

SOAP star Thom Bierdz has been caught up in a real-life horror story — his mother was murdered, and he thought he was next. Phyllis Bierdz was found dead on the kitchen floor of her home in Kenosha, Wis., the weapon — an aluminum baseball bat — nearby. She'd been bludgeoned savagely, and police think his brother, 18-year-old Troy Bierdz, did it. They warned The Young & Restless star that his younger brother was at large and he could be next.

"I talked to Thom in California the day after the murder, and warned him that his brother might be heading that way," says Kenosha Police Lt. Dennis Conrad. "He was scared, because Troy had threatened him and another brother, Craig, in the past."

Bierdz, 24, left Y&R just three weeks ago after playing the alcoholic Philip Chancellor for two years. His parents — Thomas Sr. and Phyllis — divorced when he was 12, and the split had a devastating effect, as the children bounced from mother to father and back again. "I couldn't get along with either of them for awhile," Bierdz says. "None of my brothers could."

But while Bierdz and his mom eventually became close, kid brother Troy got into more and more scrapes with the law.

"He was a bad one," says Lt. Conrad. "The last time he was up on charges, in April, everyone — except his mother — argued for a prison sentence. But the judge gave him probation and time in a halfway house."

In fact, Troy was on a "weekend pass" from the halfway house when the murder took place. He'd been charged with stealing his mother's car, but she'd pleaded with the judge to spare him any prison time.

"The other family members and friends wanted to lock him up, and the assistant district attorney wanted to lock him up, too," says Lt. Conrad. "Exactly one"

Thom Bierdz feared he would be the next target



Phyllis Bierdz, above, told friends she was afraid son Troy (center) would kill her someday. Friends say he was jealous of brother Thom (right).



brother. "Thom got all the attention," says Conrad. "and from where the call was made, it seemed that Troy was heading for California. So we called Thom and warned him."

Bierdz immediately left his Los Angeles home to stay with friends. When he arrived home for the funeral, he hired two bodyguards and the police provided additional protection for him and the family.

The Kenosha police put out an all-points bulletin for Troy Bierdz, an expert with knives and karate.

"He's told people he'd like to kill someone just to see what it's like," says Conrad.

The First Gold & Crystal Christmas Bell

"Christmas Cake"

THE NATIONAL ENQUIRER

friend of Phyllis. As police closed in, Phillips sprayed his truck with lubricant and set it afire — then aimed the gun at his chest and pulled the trigger. He died instantly. After the incident, Kercheval issued a statement in which he said, "Information that we have received indicates that we have received indi-



"YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS" hunk Thom Bierdz and his mother, Phyllis. Police fear he'll be next victim

Soap Star Gets Death Threat From Brother Charged in Mom's Mur

In one of the most chilling star-stalker cases, top soap opera hunk Thom Bierdz of "The Young and the Restless" was forced to spend a week in hiding — because his own brother had threatened to kill him! What's more, the actor — best known to fans as the character Phil Chancellor — had a good reason to be worried: His brother charged with beating him to death with a bat on just a week after threat "Thom was very concerned for his safety and was in hiding," Robert Young, who murdered that took place in Kenosha, Wis.

Troy, 19, has a with the law at

POLICE have thrown a tight security blanket around terrified and grief-stricken soap star Thom Bierdz, after his 19-year-old brother allegedly bludgeoned their mother to death with a baseball bat.

The brutal killing of Phyllis Bierdz, 49, has forced the 23-year-old actor, who played Philip Chancellor on the Young and the Restless, into hiding. Police fear he could be his brother's next victim.

"Thom's brother Troy has threatened to kill him in the past," says a source close to the family. "just like he threatened their mother. Troy had told her that he might enjoy the sounds of her bones breaking."

The horrifying crime has rocked Thom's peaceful hometown of Kenosha, Wisconsin — but the grisly murder didn't shock people who knew Troy Bierdz.

TIMOTHY KINNEY, the murder suspect's childhood friend, says Troy...



Soaper's agony as his brother sought after mother's murder

tain Robert Young confirms that there is good reason to believe Troy is a walking time bomb. "He's unstable," says Young. "He's capable of anything."

Chillingly, another insider reveals that Phyllis Bierdz had handed over to authorities "poems, notes and drawings that Troy did."



Thom Bierdz & mom, Phyllis. Police fear he'll be next victim

depicting bloodbaths, killings and knifings." Last December, Troy was charged with trying to choke a nurse at a mental health facility. Eerily, the nurse bore a striking resemblance to his 4-ft. 11-in., 90-lb. mother. Thom...

OPPERS

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Bierdz awaits extradition hearing

If extradition waived, suspect could

prisoner transportation firm the who had given

By Barbara H.
Staff Writer

An extradition
murder suspect T.

KENOSHA NEWS

Kenosha, Wis. Tuesday, August 15, 1989

1¢ 1989 The Kenosha News

35¢ a copy — Home delivered \$2.70 weekly

Bond for Bierdz set at \$1 million

By Don Jensen
Staff Writer

A \$1 million cash bond was ordered Monday afternoon for 36-year-old Troy L. Bierdz, charged with first-degree murder, homicide in the July 14 slaying of his mother.

Bierdz, who was returned to Kenosha Friday from Texas, where he was arrested July 22, made his initial court appearance before Commissioner Frank Varney.

Varney scheduled Bierdz's preliminary hearing for Thursday, Aug. 24.

Bierdz charged with beating his mother, Phyllis Bierdz, 46, with a baseball bat in her home, 6100 Ave. "B" was heard July 15 by the relatives.

Varney set the high cash bond and ordered it held.



without bond, as the state requested, indicating he questioned whether he had the authority to order pretrial detention.

American District Attorney Shelly Rusch said she may press the extradition without bond issue with Judge Michael Fisher, chief judge of the judicial district.

Even though it is unlikely that Bierdz would be able to post \$1 million.

The prosecutor's motion for pretrial detention without bond asked the defendant was dangerous and had previously threatened to kill a mental hospital nurse and another member of his family, whom Rusch identified as his brother, Tim, 27, a soap sales agent.

After the slaying, Bierdz fled from Wisconsin, getting to a 20-year-old brother, John A. Mankowski, Arlington, Va.

The two eventually made their journey to Laredo, Texas, where they were picked up by police.

Mankowski earlier was returned to Kenosha as a material witness and is expected to testify at Bierdz's trial concerning what the defendant told him about the incident.

The case has been assigned to Judge Jerald Blumenthal, 46, trial.

Bierdz is being represented by Assistant Public Defender Eric Binski.

Varney, over Binski's objection, granted a pretrial motion requesting Bierdz to remain in the taking of a blood sample.

Rusch informed authorities want to compare Bierdz's blood type to blood found at the murder scene.

EW

35¢ a copy —

To
Judge Frank J. Porzio

I hope you find Bierdz. Am

would like to plead guilty

at the death of my mother

Bierdz would simply like to walk out

plead guilty and be sentenced the same

I want a fairly sentence!

Witness by Judge V. H. W.

8/16/89 1250

Copy of Troy Bierdz's letter to the court

Bierdz notes confesses to murder

By Don Jensen
Staff Writer

In a letter to the court, murder suspect Troy Bierdz Wednesday afternoon declared himself mentally competent and guilty of the slaying death of his mother.

The confession, which was filed in court, was made after Bierdz had been in jail since his arrest.

JOEL DRESANG
The Journal staff

Kenosha, Wis. — After her son stole her telephone lines last October, Phyllis Bierdz told police that she feared for her life. The young man had "threatened to kill me, and his actions toward me meant I'd be that someone," the terrified mother said.

On Tuesday, Kenosha County authorities filed a criminal warrant accusing Troy A. Bierdz, 19, of having used a baseball bat to kill his mother to death over the weekend.

dealt with this individual. His violent behavior was predictable."

Court documents and police reports reviewed Tuesday suggest Bierdz was on the verge of violence.

In October, after stealing his mother's car and leading authorities on a chase to Racine County and back to Kenosha, Bierdz let himself in the car and let his wrists after cutting them with knives, according to police reports.

Bierdz's mother had found poems, drawings from Bierdz that depicted Satan worship, the reports say.

Shelly Rusch, Kenosha County attorney, said the district attorney would file an ad for a

Man held in slaying of mother

Collect call leads Texas police to suspect in Kenosha case

By DAVE STEIN

Bierdz convicted for choking nurse

Murder suspect had tried

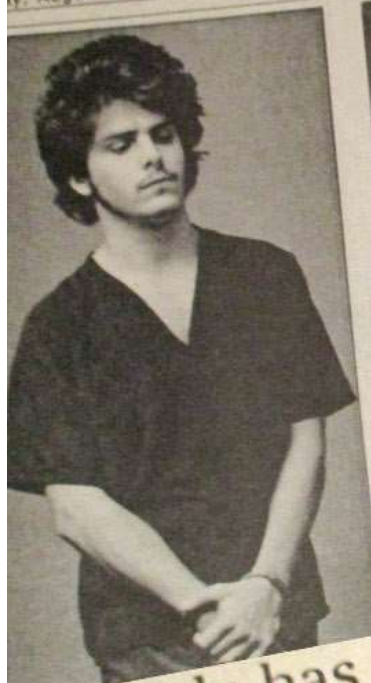
that was later found at the murder scene. Bierdz was awaiting sentence.

examined Troy Bierdz there and at Mendota Mental Health Institute, Madison, diagnosed the

the bizarre statement that he had been hearing voices since a — this is nonsense."

KENOSHA

August 24, 1989



KENOSHA NEWS

July 19, 1989

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Warrant sought for woman's son

By Barbara Henkel
Staff Writer

Troy Bierdz, 19, the youngest son of murder victim Phyllis Bierdz, 40, is being sought by police for questioning in his mother's death. He also is wanted on a warrant charging he caused death of another person in April.

The victim, 888 47th Ave., was found in her home by a neighbor about 1:30 p.m. Saturday. She had been blindfolded to death. Although officials would not comment, it was reported that she had been struck with a hammer but she and her son were last seen together about 8 p.m. Friday.



Phyllis Bierdz

Bierdz has personality disorder: Therapist

Murder suspect's diagnosis makes him very dangerous

Kenosha woman feared son in months before her death

By JOEL DRESANG
of The Journal staff

her son stole her car, broke into her house and cut off her hair in October, Phyllis Bierdz feared for her life. "He threatened to kill me," she said. "I was terrified."

County authorities are accusing Bierdz of a baseball bat murder. The woman was still at the time of the murder.

of people, including his mother, Phyllis Bierdz, who was killed. He was also accused of threatening to kill anyone who came to anyone.

IA NEWS

The Kenosha News

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Bierdz caught near Mexico

Murder suspect nabbed in Texas

By Debbie Metro
Staff Writer

A Kenosha man wanted in the baseball bat bludgeoning death of his mother has been arrested in Texas.

Police in Laredo, Texas, Friday arrested a man they identified as Troy Bierdz, 19, sought in the death of his mother Phyllis Bierdz, at their Kenosha home on Friday, July 14. Bierdz is being held in the Laredo County Jail in Laredo, Texas.

go to Laredo this morning to begin the extradition process to Wisconsin, Assistant Police Chief Robert Carney said Friday night.

The Bierdz case received nationwide publicity because his brother Thom, 27, until recently played Phillip Chancellor on CBS-TV's soap opera "The Young and the Restless." His other brother, Craig, 25, also lives in California.

Laredo police received...



Thursday, August 10,

Bierdz on way back

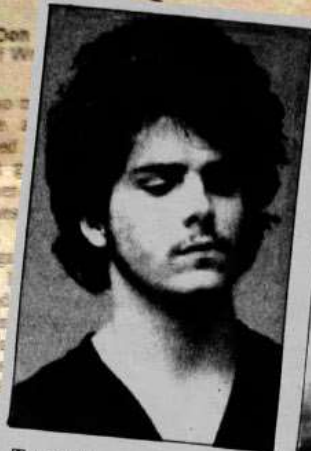
Extradition from Texas approved

By Barbara Henkel
Staff Writer

Troy L. Bierdz, accused of murder in the bludge-

Bierdz pleads guilty to mother's murder

By Don
Staff Writer



Troy Bierdz, sentenced in his mother's murder in 1989, is fifth

Dean Sabin, sentenced for two murders in 1986, is fourth

Longest prison sentences

The 10 longest prison sentences imposed in Kenosha courts are:

Community news

MILWAUKEE SENTINEL Friday, November 17, 1989 / PAGE

Teen gets life in prison for killing mother

By GINA RARICK
Sentinel staff writer

Kenosha — Troy A. Bierdz, who killed his mother with a baseball bat and showed no remorse for the crime, was sentenced Thursday to life in prison with no eligibility for parole for 50 years.

in Troy Bierdz's life. He is morally dead," said Asst. Dist. Atty. Bruce W. Becker.

Don Bielski, Bierdz's defense attorney, contended that his client was not morally dead, but morally bankrupt.

"What does Troy Bierdz want now? He wants his cigarettes and his TV. He is not interested in this court proceeding," Bielski said. "But perhaps even in the lowest form of human spirit, a spark can be rekindled."

Schroeder said Bierdz was a threat to society.

"If he was willing to kill his mother, it seems a far easier thing to kill a brother or a cousin or a stranger," Schroeder said.

About 40 people attended the sentencing, and Bierdz said nothing on his own behalf. He will receive credit toward his parole eligibility date for the time he has served since his arrest.

...rms of crimes that have no lon, this is a classic," Circuit uce E. Schroeder said before the sentence.

19, beat his mother, Phyllis, to death with a baseball bat in the family's Kenosha home.

ig to police reports, after of his mother he stole her ove to Texas, where he 1 July 21.

aded guilty to the charge re intentional homicide, al previous convictions, rail and theft.

no redeeming qualities

NEWS

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Life means life for Troy Bierdz

No parole for 50 years, judge says

By Don Jensen
Staff Writer

For Troy Bierdz there's the barest chance that, a half century from now, he could be paroled from a life sentence for murdering his mother.

But at his sentencing Thursday, the 19-year-old murderer showed no indication that he even cares.

Judge Bruce E. Schroeder ordered the mandatory life sentence, adding the proviso, as a new Wisconsin law permits, that Bierdz not be eligible for parole consideration for 50 years.

He will be nearly 70 before he can even apply for release. The odds are great that Bierdz will never leave prison during his lifetime.

"Troy Bierdz is morally dead," wrote Assistant District Attorney Bruce Becker in a memo filed with Schroeder before the sentencing. "He shows no sense of conscience or guilt — (he has) an attitude of supreme indifference to the



Bierdz sentenced

Troy Bierdz stands as Judge Bruce E. Schroeder pronounces sentence Thursday in Kenosha Circuit Court. Convicted of killing his mother on July 14, Bierdz, 19, was sentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole for 50 years.

"He shows nothing. He is a shell, a void, a slate wiped clean by his actions..."

Don Bielski,
public defender

tencing Thursday afternoon.

In his presentence memo, Becker outlined the defendant's history of uncontrollable and violent behavior dating to his childhood. He said Bierdz murdered the only person who, in the past, had tried to protect him from the consequences of those acts.

Assistant Public Defender Don Bielski said there was nothing he could say about his client in mitigation which would not be insulting to the victim or her family.

Bierdz today is "morally bankrupt," Bielski said. He not only shows no remorse, "he shows nothing. He is a shell, a void, a slate wiped clean by his actions..."

Bielski distinguished moral bankruptcy from Becker's morally dead characterization, saying that dead is forever and he felt there was a chance his

Murder 'witness' returned

Police detectives returned Kenosha late Wednesday afternoon from Texas with one of men wanted on warrants in connection with the murder of Phyllis Bierdz, 49, found beaten to death in her home, 6349 4 Ave., July 15.

Her son, Troy A., 19, remains in custody in Laredo, Tex.

BIO OF THOM BIERDZ



President of American Art Awards, World Art Awards & Art Collectors Choice Awards. Bierdz is a fine artist and 12x author, but best known for his portrayal of legacy character Phillip Chancellor III on the daytime drama *The Young and the Restless*, recurring from 1986. He was a repeat guest star on *Melrose Place*, guest starred twice on *Murder She Wrote* and once on *Matlock* and *Robin's Hoods*. Other TV and movie roles include *Highway To Heaven*, *St. ire*, *The Last Place On Earth*, *The Gladiator*, *Warm Texas Rain*, *Hungry For Love*, *The Cavanaughs*, *The Takedown*, *Win Lose Or Draw* and *The New Hollywood Squares*, Bierdz played Bobby Burton on the web series *Old Dogs New Tricks*.

Filmmaker Bierdz's film, *Heart Of The Oak*, won Best Experimental Film at Philadelphia International Film Festival and Best Experimental Film at University of California Davis snagging the coveted Golden Calf Award.

His memoir, *Forgiving Troy*, gained 10 book awards.

Being the first openly gay soap actor with a principle role, he was honored by the *Human Rights Campaign*.

He has won the *Out Magazine Best Emerging Artist of Los Angeles* and in for raising a great deal of money for charities through his paintings, was awarded the *Key to the Light Award* from *The Thaliens*.



SOME OF THE 100 BLUE X PAINTINGS AVAILABLE FOR THE MOVIE



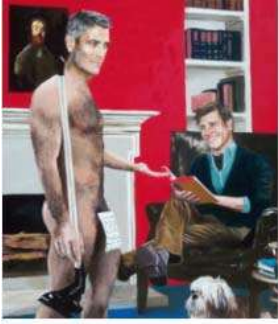
Current fine art sensation, Thom Bierdz, has been world-renown for playing Phillip Chancellor III on *Th* *Young & The Restless* off and on since 1988. But for decades the general public did not know that painting was Bierdz's first love and primal passion. As a child in Kenosha, Wisconsin, Bierdz's talent lived from deep within his soul off coloring books and onto canvas. His innate sense of composition



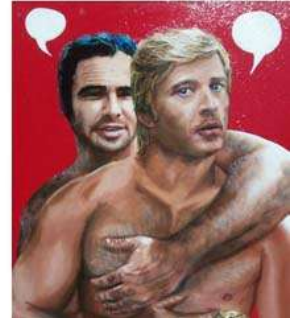




OTHER BIERDZ PAINTING STYLES AVAILABLE FOR MOVIE



The Marriage Equality Series



The Tree House Series







10 minute video: photos, documents, art, news, talk shows
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7hfZJGZGO4&t=4s>

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