

STUDIO VALDIVIESO

CARMINE

(TV PILOT)

Written by Eric Valdivieso

In a fog-drenched town where loyalty runs deeper than blood, a jaded detective's hunt for missing bodies unravels a chilling conspiracy surrounding a revered butcher and his legendary "secret blend."

Synopsis

Fog-drenched nights. Bone chips drifting like gnats in the dark. *Carmine* plunges us into the underbelly of a tight-knit New Jersey community, where a beloved delicatessen hides secrets carved into every slab of meat. Chief Vincent Morelli, a weary cop with too many ghosts, follows a trail of vanishing bodies that all lead back to Carmine Esposito—an enigmatic butcher whose charm and craft seduce the very town that protects him.

Tone & Style

- Prestige crime thriller with horror-noir edges
- Atmospheric slow burn with bursts of shocking violence
- Lyrical realism infused with claustrophobic dread
- Characters caught between loyalty and moral collapse

Why Now / Market Appeal

- Audiences remain hungry for prestige thrillers with genre weight (*Prisoners*, *Nightcrawler*, *Silence of the Lambs*).
- Combines the crime-thriller commercial appeal with arthouse horror's growing cultural footprint (*Hereditary*, *The Witch*).
- Carmine's blend of family, food, and fear creates a fresh allegory about how small communities normalize corruption until it devours them.
- Positioned for festival attention and crossover box-office success: tense, atmospheric, and hauntingly memorable.

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