

**DETECTIVE AGATHA CATSY IN...**



**WRITTEN BY ERIKA JUNE SMITH**

**Detective Agatha Catsby**  
**By Erika June Smith**  
**An Adult Animated Comedy Noir**

**LOGLINE**

A cat burglar turned cat detective solves crime in the grim city of Big Milk.

**SYNOPSIS**

Humanoid animals and humans live side-by-side in the crime-ridden city of **Big Milk** where milk is every bartender's drink of choice. **Detective Agatha Catsby** always has a glass in her hand, but she hides a dark secret behind her milk mustache. Before she was Agatha Catsby – the most clever cat detective Big Milk has ever seen – she was **Elizabeth Tabby** – the most notorious cat burglar Big Milk has ever known.

When Tabby was a teenager, her parents were killed in a car crash, and she was sent to live in an abusive foster home. She escaped with her young foster siblings **Jo** and **Constance**, but she turned to a life of crime to support them. Tabby fell in love with **The Raven** - a sleek, sexy, female crime boss - and she pulled Jo and Constance into The Raven's gang. Then Tabby's house of cards came tumbling down. Constance was killed by a rival gang, and The Raven framed Tabby and Jo for her crimes.

Seven years after her arrest, Elizabeth Tabby has been released from prison on one condition – she must serve out her parole as a detective at Big Milk P.D ("BMPD"). Tabby lives with a new identity: Detective Agatha Catsby. On the surface, Catsby is quick-witted, determined, and confident. Under the surface, she is fighting recurring nightmares, panic attacks, and a worsening dairy addiction.

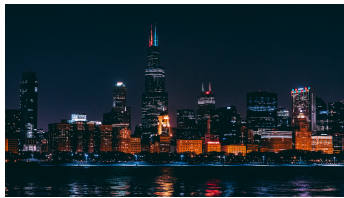
Catsy is a well-respected detective with friends at BMPD like **Officer Charlotte Monroe** (a seductive lemur with the potential to become a love interest), **Officer Henry Armstrong** (a sensitive hammerhead shark), and **Officer Gary Garrison** (a lanky mongoose who calls himself "The Goose"). **Police Chief Grumbles** (a gruff and tuff bulldog) is the only one who knows Catsby's secret identity. As far as everyone else knows, Tabby is still in prison.

Catsy makes headline news when she catches a street rat with plans to assassinate Big Milk's **Mayor Pearl Utter** (a cow who also owns Big Milk's largest dairy). After years of living under the radar, Catsby is suddenly in the spotlight. Although her resemblance to Tabby doesn't go unnoticed, the only person who knows Catsby well enough to recognize her is her old flame – The Raven. That is, until Chief Grumbles orders Catsby to train his adopted human son **Junior** as a detective.

Catsy pushes Junior away, but it isn't long before he discovers Catsby's secret identity. Together, they uncover The Raven and Mayor Pearl Utter's plan to tamper with all the milk in Big Milk. **Catsy must confront her past if she is going to stop The Raven from destroying the lives of everyone in Big Milk.** Luckily, Catsby has Junior to help, and Junior is equipped with everything he can remember from the one psychodynamic therapy course he took in college.

## INSPIRATION & THEMES

- *Detective Agatha Catsby* is inspired by my own struggles with **post-traumatic stress disorder** and the years I spent confronting my past in psychodynamic therapy.
- There are **trippy dream sequences** inspired by the vivid nightmares I've experienced.
- I explored my bisexuality through writing the love story of Agatha Catsby and The Raven.
- It is a silly world similar to *Bojack Horseman* and *Tuca and Bertie* where one minute you are laughing, and the next you are crying.
- *Detective Agatha Catsby* showcases how humor can be used to deflect pain, but **humor can also be used to express our pain to others.**
- **"Laughter is a social emotion**, occurring most often in interactions, where it is associated with bonding, agreement, affection and emotional regulation." -National Library of Medicine
- "Had I known just how wildly popular **trauma** was going to be **in the context of comedy**, I might have budgeted my shit a bit better." -Hannah Gadsby
- *Detective Agatha Catsby* mixes the genres of old-school noirs, modern adult animated comedies, and heart-wrenching dramas for a fine **balance of style, comedy, and heart.**
- It explores themes of **chosen family and conflict in unhealthy relationships** that are relatable to people with difficult family relationships.
- It questions "Is unhealthy love still love?" through Catsby and The Raven's toxic romance.
- Catsby will **confront her guilt and forgive herself** for her past mistakes.
- Catsby will learn to accept and love herself.
- Watching *Detective Agatha Catsby* will be a cathartic experience that encourages viewers to address their own mental health challenges.
- **On the surface, *Detective Agatha Catsby* is a silly story about a cat solving crime, but at its core, it's a story of healing.**



The architecture and tone of Big Milk is inspired by Chicago, Tim Burton's *Batman* (1989), and *Chinatown* (1974).

**"Forget it, Junior. It's Big Milk."**

- Detective Agatha Catsby, probably.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Erika June Smith is a bisexual, female comedy writer with a love for all things silly and meaningful. She is a record coordinator on the upcoming FOX animated series *Grimsburg*. She is also credited on *Steven Universe* and *Bless the Harts*. Her short screenplay for *Tommy Super Sniffer: Protector of Glendale* was a semi-finalist in the Hollywood International Diversity Film Festival 2023, and she worked on the NAACP-award nominated documentary *Making the Five Heartbeats*. Erika hopes her work can bring more joy and empathy into the world.