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ONLY ON EW

Hudson Williams says he's writing a film but 'getting tripped up' over a *Heated Rivalry* parallel (exclusive)

The actor, who's written multiple short films, talks about getting in his head about a character who's an ex-hockey player.

By **Nick Romano** | October 21, 2026 9:00 a.m. ET

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Hudson Williams writing new film with a character who's an ex-hockey player.
Credit: Gilbert Flores/Getty

KEY POINTS

Hudson Williams says he's writing a film that features a character who's an ex-hockey player.

The *Heated Rivalry* actor talks about "getting tripped up" over the parallel to his hit hockey romance series.

"You have to bust through the prison of your own mind," he says.

Prior to joining *Heated Rivalry*, star Hudson Williams wrote and directed various short films, including *Soakers*, *Buttons*, and *Inside Augustine Mendoza's Quotidian Apartment*. Now post-steamy hockey romance, Williams is back at it.

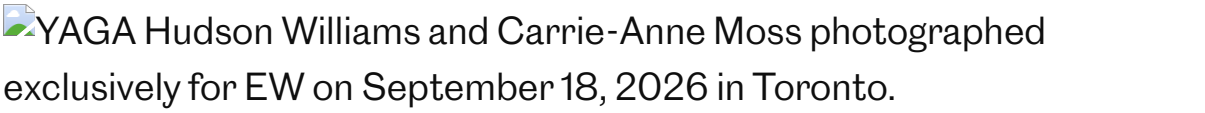
The actor says he's working on a new movie where one character is, funny enough, an ex-hockey player.

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AMC+ in the U.S. and Crave in Canada on Oct. 23.

The TV series reinterprets the myth of the witch Baba Yaga, which is also the name of Keanu Reeves' storied hitman in the action franchise – a parallel made apparent when Moss' character, Katherine Hargrove, brings up *John Wick*.


YAGA Hudson Williams and Carrie-Anne Moss photographed exclusively for EW on September 18, 2026 in Toronto.

Hudson Williams and Carrie-Anne Moss exclusively photographed for EW's 'Yaga' digital cover shoot.
Credit: Caitlin Cronenberg

"My intuition in the first moment was, 'That's my friend's movie and that's not my movie,' but then I understood it from the world of play versus Carrie-Anne and her friend," the actress says, referring to her *Matrix* costar.

In response, Williams shares, "I'm writing a movie right now, but one n ex-hockey player. We were like, 'But if we have this

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almost like you have to bust through the prison of your own mind or construct of your own mind."

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When asked to elaborate on this project he's writing, his team kindly shot down the question.

Williams has multiple irons in the fire, including *Heated Rivalry* season 2, which continues filming the next six episodes in Canada. *Yaga* will be the very next thing to feature the rising star on screen.

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Hudson Williams as hockey player Shane Hollander in 'Heated Rivalry' season 1.
Credit: Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

He plays two roles. One is Henry Park, the heir to a fishery empire in an isolated fishing town who mysteriously goes missing. Private investigator Rapp (Noah Reid) partners with local law enforcement, including Detective Carson (Clark Backo), to figure out what happened.

Williams' other role in the half-hour drama series is Logan Casey, Henry's roommate who [illegible] Sandler says she wanted a lookalike character to help expand the list of potential suspects. Plus, she told EW, "We wanted to blow out the dark academia vibe of the school and [illegible] poor mouse.'"

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The fictional town of Whittock includes a prestigious university attended by Henry and Logan, and where Moss' Katherine Hargrove works as a professor.

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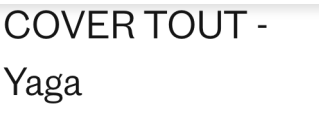
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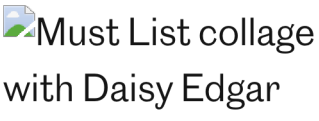
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By Nick Romano



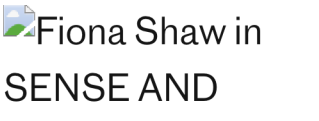


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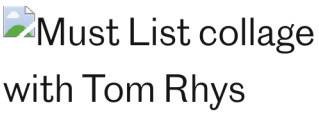


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By Shelby Stivale


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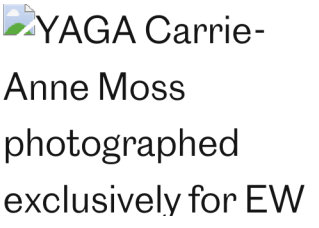


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as Kyle in Ghosts,

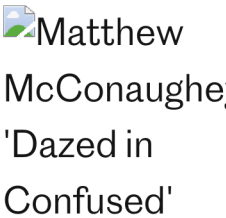
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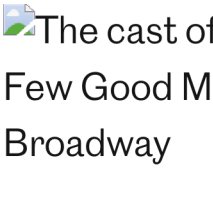
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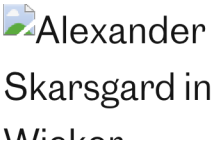
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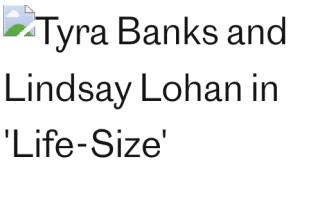
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Dale as Det. Rob Calvino on 'Law & Order'

room in sneak peek of his *Law & Order* debut (exclusive)

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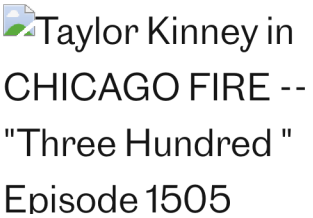


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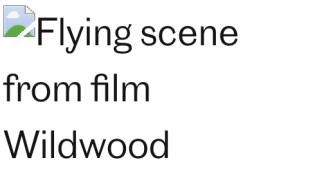


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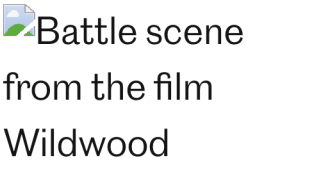


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