

[BACKGROUND INFORMATION]

Before delving into the strategy itself, it's optimal to cover the context behind the scheme itself. Before Halloween night, Myers had broken out of the mental institution and had been stalking four notable characters for around a day —>

1. Laurie Strode
2. Annie Brackett
3. Lynda Van Der Klok
4. Bob Simms
5. Tommy Doyle (the boy Laurie was assigned to babysit during Halloween)
6. Lindsey Wallace (the girl Annie was assigned to babysit during Halloween)

It's worth noting that Michael's psychiatrist, Doctor Samuel Loomis, is also now looking for him in Haddonfield (which is another adversity Myers must overcome and account for).

On Halloween, Laurie will babysit Tommy at the Doyle house - While Annie will babysit Lindsey at the Wallace house (which are conveniently nearby). Myers builds his strategy around these facts, accounting for almost every risk (including Loomis) and crafting a nearly invincible plan of action.

[THE DATE]

Notably, Michael's scheme occurred on Halloween. This specific date benefits his strategy greatly, as it introduces a layer of assurance in the strategy (all of which act as natural micro-contingencies for Michael's scheme) —>

1. Any calls made to law enforcement about overly violent action (especially in such a small town) may simply be casted away as pranks within the inevitable sea of prank calls the station will receive at this time of year, concealing any real violent actions entirely.
2. Any calls made to friends will also inevitably look as though they are simply playful pranks, making the action of actively calling the police as a result of any of these calls seem completely illogical.
3. Even if someone did call the police due to a friend's call, it defaults back to the first point - The station likely gets these calls all night, and hence will discard it.
4. Neighbors likely won't take any plea for help at their door seriously (especially from a teenager). Why is this? Well, Halloween itself has a plethora of teenagers playing pranks (especially in such a small town), it only stands to reason that many incidents will go ignored.
5. Even if the neighbors did believe what they are seeing is true and called the police, it again defaults to the first point - The station simply has no way of confirming the story and is forced to write it off as a prank, especially if a teenager is involved somehow.
6. Naturally, plenty of individuals will be out and dressed in costumes. This conceals Michael's odd outfit and appearance, completely obscuring him from the public eye while he enacts his plan.

[LOOMIS SHIELDING]

- Myers steals Judith's tombstone, influencing Loomis into believing Myers is simply planning on returning to his original home as a result.

- Myers abandons the stolen car near the original Myers house, furthering his misdirection.
- Myers kills two dogs (one of which being the Wallace's pet), each serving two purposes —> 1) It grants him a tool of misdirection to use against Loomis and 2) It causes Lindsey (the little girl Annie is babysitting) to become increasingly concerned and possibly hectic, ensuring Annie relocates her to the Doyle house where Laurie is babysitting Tommy.
- Myers places the stray dog's corpse in the original Myers' home (and ate a part of it - Which establishes an action that is needed for survival, planting the idea in Loomis that Myers utilizes the house as a base of sorts), manipulating Loomis into believing the house is Michael's base for the night and that he will inevitably return with the tombstone (misdirecting him into believing his original prediction was completely accurate).

The end result of this portion of the strategy contains multiple purposes & elements, all crucial aspects Myers utilizes later on within the scheme.

1. By fabricating a false plan of action concerning Michael's childhood home, Loomis (and any other bodies of law enforcement accompanying him) is misdirected into staying at the Myers house, looking out for Michael's eventual return. This naturally works in Michael's favor, as it shields Laurie or the other victims from receiving aid at any point in the strategy - Scattering law enforcement's time and resources via misdirection, layering his scheme with a fabricated strategy to ensure his main strategy goes unhindered.
2. This misdirection notably spreads law movement's resources thin, forcing Loomis and likely other officers to keep watch over the Myers house. This spread of resources compliments the aforementioned factor the date - The station itself already is unlikely to dispatch resources on any calls revolving around teenagers, this outcome is further strengthened by Myers indirectly spreading their already conservative resources across town.
3. By specifically killing the Wallace's dog, it may result in Lindsey becoming discomforted with the dog's disappearance. This heavily increases the likelihood of Lindsey arguing with Annie, which strengthens Annie's decision to inevitably relocate Annie to her nearest friend, who is also babysitting (Laurie). This leaves the Wallace house empty, granting Michael the perfect opportunity to continue his strategy - As well as building the Doyle house (where Laurie is babysitting) as an area of high value to protect due to the fact there are now two children present (which will become important for the strategy overall). [NOTE — Annie's

primary reason for abandoning Lindsey in the film is wanting to see her boyfriend, Michael simply has this tactic prepared to ensure these events would play out with higher likelihood].

[WALLACE HOUSE MURDERS]

Now that Myers had enacted his first act of strategic shielding and had granted himself the necessary opportunity to further his actions (via killing the Wallace's dog), he enacts the main murders that take place —>

- Annie returns to the Wallace house after dropping Lindsey at the Doyle house, where she is ambushed and killed by Myers before she can make contact with anyone.
- Laurie's friends, Lynda and Bob, arrive at the Wallace house knowing their close friend (Annie) is there (Myers ensured they would still hold this notion until they arrived there, by swiftly eliminating Annie before she could make contact). They enter the house but can't see to locate Lindsey, so they decide to play around for a little. Myers ambushes Bob and kills him, before draping a sheet over himself and wearing Bob's glasses to disguise himself as him. He goes back over to Lynda in the disguise, causing her discomfort by staying silent. She calls Laurie as a result (as Myers had anticipated) and Myers swiftly kills her as well, over the phone.
- A bit after this, Myers cuts the phone line to the Doyle house (likely directly after the call - To ensure any calls being made from the Doyle house as a result would be cut off).

These three murders all served strategic purposes, mainly revolving around a double-layered trap complete with a contingency Myers had implemented into the events to lure Laurie to the Wallace house.

1. From Laurie's perspective, her friend had called her and suddenly disappeared from the call - Appearing to have been physically forced away from the phone. However, it could easily be a Halloween prank, so calling the police would be a complete overreaction. This naturally establishes a sense of worry into Laurie (without compromising the strategy), encouraging her to investigate the house.
2. If Laurie simply assumes it's a Halloween prank or decides to not investigate given the circumstances, she'll inevitably realize the phone line has been cut. She will recall, however, that Lynda had called her from the Wallace house - Implying the phone there is still functional. This is the trap's second layer, ensuring Lourie

must still enter the Wallace house due to the fact that the Doyle house isn't able to make or receive calls (a huge negative impact for Laurie, as she is currently babysitting two children at the Doyle house - Indirectly orchestrated by Myers, ensuring she has a high-priority area to protect).

3. If Laurie does call law enforcement and is genuinely concerned by the phone call, she will discover the line had been cut. This fundamentally acts as a contingency to ensure Michael's strategy isn't hindered, trapping Laurie further (which even if the call does go through, even for a little, the likelihood it's simply written off as a prank call is extremely high given the aforementioned date contingencies and the law enforcement resource spreading, all calculated by Myers).
4. By ensuring Lynda and Bob arrive at the Wallace house, it allows for the neighbors surrounding the house to witness two teenagers walk into the building. This plants the idea in their heads that a prank could be in play, a crucial contingency Myers naturally implements his strategy once Laurie is successfully lured into the house.
5. By attacking the Wallace house instead of the Doyle house (where Laurie is staying) or the Strode's official residence, it ensures that even if Loomis sees through the initial misdirection and somehow knows about Laurie's connection to Michael (them being siblings) and thus locates her to preclude Michael, he finds no trace of Michael due to him precisely targeting an area (the Wallace house) that would bypass any reasoning process Loomis would generate.

[LAURIE TRAP]

Inevitably, Laurie is forced to investigate the Wallace house. As she walks in, the house is completely devoid of lighting. She eventually stumbles upon a bed, with a body resting on it complete with Judith's tombstone. From here, we see Michael had implemented several immaculate forecasts and micro-contingencies —>

1. As Laurie stands back in shock, she comes into immediate contact with another body. Laurie runs through the house and each way she turns she finds another body, until she has discovered each and every one of her friend's corpses. This implies Myers had predicted her precise pathway and movements throughout the house, and had prepared the bodies in such a manner to align with her actions.
2. When she reaches the hallway, Myers is there standing waiting for her - He slashes her, which causes her to fall off the balcony and onto the lower level of the floor. Michael had purposefully waited in this area of the house, anticipating they'd eventually cross paths here and ensured they would via scattering the bodies in

precise locations that would result in Laurie turning away from them (in this case, each body's position can be counted as a micro-contingency to ensure this alignment).

3. Laurie observes a nearby door and attempts to open it, only to discover it's been locked by Myers beforehand (showcasing a micro-contingency he had prepared in foresight of his initial attack failing).
4. Then, Laurie attempts to flee to the back door - Where she notices it's been jammed shut via a rake. Myers had enacted this micro-contingency as well, anticipating her actions perfectly.
5. Eventually, Laurie still manages to escape the house via breaking the door's window. She runs over to the nearest neighbor's house first, but the neighbor refuses to open the door in face of Laurie's pleas. Myers had predicted this outcome and accounted for it as a contingency, given the aforementioned assurances of the date (Halloween night obviously makes these types of pranks more abundant, making neighbors untrusting of such events). This contingency is strengthened by the fact Lynda and Bob had been publicly lured to the Wallace house beforehand, allowing any nearby neighbor to witness two teenagers enter the house - Increasing the likelihood they'd simply discard Laurie's pleas as a simple prank. Even if the neighbors did let Laurie in, they knew the likelihood of the police actually responding was low due to the fact it's Halloween and plenty of prank calls are made - In this case, they'd rather not put themselves in the line of fire, the danger would far outweigh the reward (if they take Laurie's words as true).

With this, Laurie returns to the Doyle house. This finalizes Michael's strategy, as it focuses the trio (Laurie, Tommy, & Lindsey) into one location that notably doesn't have any form of communication (due to the phone line being cut) with law enforcement, as well as misdirecting Loomis from investigating any time soon due to Michael's fabrication plan of action revolving around his childhood home. These shieldings converge into Michael having the perfect opportunity to eliminate all three, successfully completing his goal with no method of being counteracted.

[ADAPTABILITIES]

Despite Michael's strategy having numerous micro-contingencies, assurances, and shielding tactics - It still, notably, had immaculate potential for adaptation —>

1. If the Wallace's neighbor was to let Laurie in, it would leave Tommy and Lindsey isolated in the Doyle home without phone line communication. This grants Myers the perfect opportunity to eliminate them, as all parties (including Laurie) will have been removed from the equation. Not only this, the timeframe he'd have to complete this would be sizable due to him indirectly spreading law enforcement resources thin - Prolonging the time in which it'd take them to arrive at the Wallace house, which is near the Doyle house, in the first place. If Laurie noticed this, she'd have to return to the Doyle house regardless as to save Tommy and Lindsey - If not, they'd both be killed and it'd be her own fault.
2. Even if Lynda and Bob never arrived at the Wallace house, Michael's strategy would be unhindered. He could simply make the phone call himself, not saying a word - Which would cause intrigue in Laurie regardless due to the fact she believes Annie is still at the Wallace house by this time.
3. If Annie never chooses to bring Lindsey to the Doyle house, Myers could simply kill them both and make the phone call himself as well. This would still leave at least one child in the hands of Laurie's care whilst luring her, keeping the overall value of the strategy intact.
4. On the same note as point three, Myers could simply kill Annie and allow Lindsey to flee. Here, there's two outcomes —> 1) If Lindsey flees to the Doyle house, she'd alert Laurie of Annie's murder. Upon attempting to call law enforcement, Myers would've already or be in the process of cutting the phone line, intercepting her entirely. This would force her into investigating the Wallace house, resulting in the same outcome of her being lured. 2) Lindsey runs to a neighbor's house and alerts them of Annie's death (if the neighbor doesn't listen to Lindsey and assumes it's a prank, she'd eventually end up at the Doyle house and it defaults to the first outcome). Given law enforcement having spread resources due to Michael's indirect manipulation, it would likely take them a while to approach the Wallace house in the first place (assuming it isn't taken as a prank call, in which case it'd prolong the timeframe even more). Now, with the Wallace house under focus, it leaves the Doyle house completely isolated. In this outcome, Michael would have completely shifted the focus from the Doyle house to the Wallace house, isolating Laurie and Tommy. With this, Myers has the opportunity to kill both Laurie and Tommy.

[SUMMARY]

Michael's rampage in Halloween (1978) is not a random killing spree, but a meticulously engineered tactical operation aimed at isolating and eliminating his final victim, Laurie Strode.

The entire scheme is built upon three strategic pillars:

1. **SHIELDING**: Myers neutralized all external threats. He implemented six natural micro-contingencies of Halloween night to render police and neighbor responses ineffective, and executed three deceptive actions (e.g., dog corpse, stolen tombstone, the car, etc) to misdirect Dr. Loomis (by fabricating a false plan of action) and spread law enforcement resources across town (acting as a strategic shield).
2. **LURING & ISOLATION**: He first grouped his targets by orchestrating the relocation of children to the Doyle house. He then employed a double-layered trap (complete with a contingency) using an interrupted phone call and a cut phone line to strategically force Laurie to abandon her post and enter the Wallace house.
3. **INVINCIBILITY**: Myers demonstrated an immaculate level of planning by preparing five micro-contingencies within the Wallace house (e.g., locked doors, calculated body placement) to ensure Laurie could not escape or receive help. Crucially, the plan also contains four innate adaptabilities to ensure the outcome remains successful even if major steps, like the neighbors' refusal to open the door, fail.

In total, Myers' actions function as a nearly impenetrable strategy, allowing him to pray on the uncommunicative Doyle house for the final confrontation, perfectly isolating his targets from any chance of counteraction. Myers had executed this brilliant strategy with zero resources (that had roughly **20+ assurances** in the form of shields, micro-contingencies, or adaptations), combatting against forces with great amounts of influence (such as law enforcement or Loomis, who also had the advantage of having analyzed Myers for over a decade by this point) with such a massive resource disadvantage - Yet completely outstrategized and counteracted them from all angles.

[**NOTE —>** In a novelization for the film, it was stated Myers had foreseen the events of 1978 around 15 years in advance. Whether this means he had been simply formulating this plan in advance and had predicted only a few general steps OR he fully predicted everything more than a decade into the future is up to your interpretation. In addition to

this, **it has been stated Myers had prepared/fabricated fake IDs and escape plans prior to his murder spree here - Meaning he had multiple contingency methods and a contingency false identity to lean back on after the scheme's enactment**)