

AFI CONSERVATORY PRESENTS

THEY WON'T LAST



SYNOPSIS



LOGLINE

After attending a friend's perfect wedding, commitment-averse Christine is forced to make a life-changing decision when her boyfriend Alex proposes to her.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

After attending their friends' perfect wedding, Christine is forced to consider the future of her own relationship when her hopeless romantic boyfriend Alex proposes. When Christine is unable to say yes, Alex makes it worse by giving her an ultimatum: either get engaged or break up right now.

LONG SYNOPSIS

After attending a friend's perfect wedding, Christine, a commitment-averse 30-year-old, finds herself in a much avoided situation when Alex, her hopeless-romantic boyfriend of 2 years, proposes to her. Unable to give an answer, Christine is forced into a tough position when Alex starts packing his bags. Trying to stop him from leaving, Christine has an emotional breakdown that inevitably leads to the two of them finally being honest about how they really feel about the other. As their pointed insults become more personal it is clear that either this is going to end in a real break up or possibly the best sex of their lives.





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

One of the biggest reasons why I love this idea is that the story was born out of my first year living alone in LA next door to two extremely broken and co-dependent people. They were in a relationship so dysfunctional that the only thing keeping them together was loud post-argument sex at three in the morning. Having just gotten out of my first real relationship, I could see myself in them, but as if they were a funhouse mirror of what my relationship could have looked like. I was so inspired by them that I wrote 2 songs, transcribed their arguments, and chose them to base my thesis film off of.

One of the reasons why I want to tell this story is because I struggle with the concept of true love. Finding "the one" is the one thing that every little girl feels is promised to her as a kid, but when you enter the real world you realize that life is full of fear, loneliness, and people settling. I myself struggle with my own idealistic hopes of true love and how they conflict with my cynicism and my career path and again, my fear of settling. I feel that most of us buy into soulmates and marriage even when we know there's a huge possibility that our relationship won't work out, but for some reason we allow ourselves to be vulnerable and invest so much time in a "one" as a way to reject time spent alone. This story is about two people who have two very different concepts of what a loving relationship is and despite their best efforts to try to take a stance in what they want for their own future they just end up doing what most people do when they don't want to be alone... they have sex.

ACTOR BIOS



JACK DE SENA

Jack De Sena got his start on Nickelodeon as a cast member on All That and the voice of Sokka on Avatar: The Last Airbender. He currently voices Callum on Netflix's The Dragon Prince. Other credits include Hulu's Battleground, Veep, 100 Things To Do Before High School. He is the Jack half of the sketch comedy duo Chris & Jack.

BRITTANY RENEE FINAMORE

Brittany Renée Finamore is an American actress from Los Angeles California. She began her career on hit TV shows like Malcolm in the Middle, Gilmore Girls, and Glee. You can see her as the lead in the horror films Pulse 2 and Forget Me Not. Go Back to China is her latest supporting role and will be available soon on Amazon Prime. In her spare time Brittany loves to travel, cook, and hang out at Disneyland. She adopted a cat named Figaro who pees in the toilet and she loves all things cat related.



TEAM BIOS



Director

PORTLYNN TAGAVI

Portlynn is a recent graduate of the AFI Masters Directing Program where she developed her skills as a writer and director for narrative film. Originally from Houston Texas, Portlynn moved out to California in 2010 to study Character Animation at the California Institute of the Arts. During her studies, she interned with Pixar Studios where she developing her skills in visual language and narrative structure. Before attending AFI she spent three years working professionally as a Character and Story Artist for Fox, Paramount, Psyop, the Jim Henson Company (SPLASH AND BUBBLES) and DreamWorks (TROLLS: THE BEAT GOES ON!) before making the jump to live action directing.



Co-Writer

BRANDON GALE

Brandon Gale is a native of Los Angeles and a graduate of Brandeis University, where he majored in both International & Global Studies and Film, Television & Media Studies. At Brandeis, he wrote, produced and directed a short film called LIFE IN THE WOOD. He also produced and co-wrote another short film, ABSTRACT. Since graduation, he has been working as a paralegal in New York while moonlighting as a screenwriter and script doctor. He has worked closely with writers from various countries on their work and served as an editor and script supervisor on the set of the short film DERELICT in Baltimore.



Producer

RICHARD BAILEY

Richard Bailey is a graduate of the American Film Institute (AFI) with a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree in Producing. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Communication Studies, Screen Arts & Culture from the University of Michigan. Bailey produced three cycle projects (*Ghosts, That Far, and Baked*), and one MOS (*My Man*) at the American Film Institute (AFI). Bailey interned in feature development at Blumhouse Productions, and 42 Management and Productions (2018-2019). He also interned in post-production at Intersport, a sports media company in Chicago. Bailey also worked at the University of Michigan's WOLV-TV as a producer & director for the sports comedy show ULTIMATE SPORTS SHOW, which won best show of the year (2017). He also produced & performed in a documentary parody, 17 For 38: *The Dorm Basketball Duel*.



Cinematographer

DELANEY O'BRIEN

Delaney O'Brien is an American Film Institute (AFI) graduate with an MFA in Cinematography. She also holds a BFA in Film and Digital Media from Baylor University. Delaney had the opportunity to work on several feature films while at Baylor before moving to New York to complete her degree and intern at a post production house. She worked in New York for five years at both a mixed media production company and an advertising agency. She now lives in Los Angeles and her work has been in the camera department for a number of music videos for artists DNCE, Sum 41, Kris Wu, Megan Trainor and Skip Marley. She recently worked as one of the camera operators for a piece with Lena Dunham and Miranda July. She lensed several short films prior to attending AFI including WESTERN WAGONS and DISHES. While at AFI she lensed four narrative short films and two films on 35mm. She was able to develop her skills for underwater filming for her AFI short, WHEN WE SWIM. Delaney is also an avid stills photographer, working mostly in medium format. Her work as an artist and cinematographer is featured on VoyageLA.



Editor

FARZAD KIYAFAR

Farzad Kiyafar is an Iranian filmmaker and editor who lives in Los Angeles & Seattle and earned his BA in Film and his MFA in Theatre from University of Art, Tehran. He also studied filmmaking and Television at Sheridan College in Canada. He directed and edited a few short films in Iran and Canada. His 35-minute film SOMEONE'S GOT TO TALK won the best film in FCI in Montreal and the student award in Tehran. He also worked as a videographer and editor at the Toronto International Film Festival.



BEHIND THE SCENES



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BEHIND THE SCENES



STILLS



STILLS



STILLS



CREDITS



AFI Conservatory Presents

THEY WON'T LAST

DIRECTOR & WRITER

PORTLYN TAGAVI

SCREENPLAY BY

PORTLYNN TAGAVI & BRANDON GALE

STORY BY

PORTLYNN TAGAVI

PRODUCED BY

RICHARD BAILEY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

MAOR AZRAN & SERA CHANG

CINEMATOGRAPHY BY

DELANEY O'BRIEN

EDITED BY

FARZAD KIYAFAR

CASTS

CHRISTINE	BRITTANY FINAMORE
ALEX	JACK DE SENA
THALIA	RYAN LEE
JONATHAN	GARY B. CURTIS
BRIDESMAID 1	SYMONE HOLMES
BRIDESMAID 2	SHAE WILSON
BRIDESMAID 3	NIKEYLA JOHNSON
BRIDESMAID 4	SARAH OH
GROOMSMAN 1	NEAL KUMAR
GROOMSMAN 2	JASPER SALON
GROOMSMAN 3	S.K. WONG
GROOMSMAN 4	NEIL CHARLES

EXTRAS

Amanda Duran	Kyle Kim
Evan Anderson	Lauren Knipper
Charis Arakaki	Tatyana Komachuchi
Mia Calderone	Angel Ladao
Camille Griffith	Larry Gordon
Camisha Loper	Catherine Lei
Denise Carrasco	Leni Irizarry
Catherine Chapman	Marilyn Lucea
Sam Clauder	Heidi Luo
David Hoffman	Jeremiah Lyles
Jasmin De Loa	Cory Manning
Deeq Adan	Brian G. McKenna
Derek Dees	Melissa Montgomery
Sofia Di Biasio	Myles Cunningham
Elyse Filigheri-Flores	Asteria Nox
Paul Flores	Paul Richard Mackey
Tahnee Gehm	Raymond Perez
Laurie Gordon	Murdock Piozzini
Raymond Gordon	Jim Raver
Jeniffer Gordon	Alejandro Rivera
Michael Gordon	Shah Anushu
Karen Gordon	Shane Johnson
Charles Hawkins Jr.	Edward Stasik
Erika Hayden	Anylah Taft
Tracina Holliday	Yonatan Tal
Kylie Lynn Holliman	Nicholas Tuback
Max Holt	Elizabeth Wheeler
Rosalinda Jaymilex	Whitney Kennedy
Joon Paul Kim	Rigel Yaluk
Justice Rankins	Jonathan Clyde Ying
Kate Petersen	Monica Zhang

CREW

Line Producer	Maor Azran
First Assistant Director	Taylor Maxwell
Second Assistant Director	Justin Daering
Music	Ying-Ling Dang
Casting	Becky Silverman, CSA Lisa Zambetti, CSA
Steadicam Operator	Derrick Axtell
First Assistant Camera	Riley Shen
Second Assistants Camera	Tessa Kier Richard Yang Conner Daniels
Camera Intern	Kimisha Renee Davis
DIT	Mark Davis
Still Photographer	Heather Gordon
Script Supervisor	Jennifer Heins
Production Coordinator	Greg Schroeder
Accountant	Elizabeth Glass
Gaffer	Melisse Riahi
Best Boy Electric	Beth Michalski
Electricians	Sam Pemberton Matt Kleppner Kishan Patel Jack Stoll Aakash Raj
Key Grip	Guido Raimondo
Best Boy Grip	Antoine Combelles
Grips	Neal Kumar Rachel Beede Nick St. George Mathieu Seguin
2nd Second Assistant Director	Darius Dawson
Assistant Editor	Bri Chmielewski
Story Consultant	Mia Calderone
Production Sound Mixer	Stephen Halbert
Boom Operator	Christian Lainez
Art Director	Aaron Meritt
Set Dec. Buyer	Beatrice Cerezo
Costume Designer	Giselle Carrillo
Wardrobe Assistant	Jose Ignacio Bustamante
Make-up	Nazia Athar
Hair Stylists	Desiree Mojica Erika La Brie Amanda Thorsson

Post Sound Services	MelodyGun
Sound Supervisor	Hamed Hokamzadeh
Supervising Sound Editor	Thomas Ouziel
Re-recording Mixer	Thomas Ouziel
Mix Stage	Anarchy Post
DI Producer	Jenn Razon
Colorist	Ethan Schwartz
Visual Effects Artist	Justin Chandra
Drivers	Joel Manning
	Alex Valentin
	Enrique Reyes
Extras Casting	Skyler Barrett
Key Production Assistant	Saleh Alem
Production Assistants	Ed Delacruz
	Peter Alvarado
	Ines Delleville
	Ethan Ravens
	Joshua Guesford
	Alexia Strong
Catering	Embassy Suites Hotel
Craft Service	IT Catering

Why Do I Cry?

Written by: Bobby Weinstein and Lou Stallman

Performed By: Margo Guryan

Published by: EMI Blackwood Music Inc.

Courtesy of: Oglio Entertainment LLC

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Produced at the AFI Conservatory in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree or Certificate of Completion.

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Farzad Kiyarfar, AFI Editing Fellow
Delaney O'Brien, AFI Cinematography Fellow
Portlynn Tagavi, AFI Directing Fellow

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