



We're Gonna die ALONE

A FILM BY PORTLYNN TAGAVI

ECHOBEND PICTURES PRESENTS

STARRING JETTA JURIANSH ANNA GARCIA ALEX VAUGHAN & ANDY HERNANDEZ

CASTING BY KASIA SZAREK PRODUCTION DESIGN BY KELLY STARK RECKERT COSTUME DESIGNER GISELLE CARRILLO

CINEMATOGRAPHY BY TJ THICKETT EDITED BY CAMILLA BARTOLI MUSIC BY ALEXANDER ARNTZEN

EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY ZUBIN ASARIA • RYAN TURNER • SOFIA PADOVANI • SUNMIN INN • TREVOR KNAPP JONES

PRODUCED BY GREG SCHROEDER

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY PORTLYNN TAGAVI





Logline

On the night before she's set to move in with her boyfriend, Rudy throws her recently dumped roommate and best friend one last wild night, hoping to soften the blow of her big news. But as dawn approaches, she realizes that saying goodbye may not be so easy.

Synopsis

In *We're Gonna Die Alone*, Rudy faces a tough choice when her boyfriend, Zane, asks her to move in together. There's just one problem: her best friend and roommate, Sofia, is devastated by a brutal breakup, and breaking the news feels impossible. Hoping to ease the blow, Rudy plans a tequila-fueled night of heartbreak recovery, but as the night unfolds, she starts to question where her true home lies—with Zane or with the friend who needs her the most.



Director's Statement

With this film, I wanted to explore the messy, and incredibly meaningful nature of intimate, platonic female friendships, highlighting how they can sometimes hold even more emotional weight than romantic relationships. Rudy and Sofia are two women nearing their 30s who, despite societal pressure to "grow up" and move on, continue to share a life together. Directing this film solidified my own belief, inspired by my relationship with my best friend, that sometimes your best friend really can be "the one," and there's something genuinely beautiful in recognizing and celebrating that.

While making this film, I became even more aware of the constant societal pressure placed on women to find a romantic partner, settle down, and follow a traditional path. I've seen firsthand how relationships built out of obligation rather than genuine connection can fall apart. Throughout the process, it felt crucial to emphasize an alternate perspective—one where friendships offer profound joy, comfort, and fulfillment. It's something I rarely see authentically represented on screen, and it's a narrative I'm passionate about pushing further into the spotlight.

Inspired by films like *Frances Ha*, *Superbad*, and *Lady Bird*, I leaned into humor and honesty, creating dynamic, authentic characters whose relationships feel real and relatable. Keeping the film set in one location became an exciting creative challenge, not only for budgetary reasons but because of the intensity and drama that naturally emerges when two people are confined together. This allowed me, as the director, to dive deep with the actors and create engaging, visually expressive blocking that strengthened the emotional storytelling.

Dialogue has always been important to me, but as someone coming from a storyboarding and animation background, I'm ultimately a visual storyteller. Working closely with my Cinematographer and Production Designer, using detailed storyboards and meticulous pre-visualization, we crafted visuals that genuinely captured the heart of Rudy and Sofia's friendship. Directing this film reinforced my passion for visually-driven storytelling and my commitment to bringing heartfelt, character-centric stories to life.

- Portlynn Tagavi

Cast



Jetta Juriansz

is an American actor, comedian, writer, and singer, originally from Scottsdale, Arizona. She gained prominence as a cast member on the sketch comedy television show "Studio C," where she showcased her versatility in various comedic roles. In addition to her work on "Studio C," Juriansz has appeared on television series such as "Station 19" (ABC), "S.W.A.T." (CBS), and "Kickin' It" (Disney). Her theater credits include originating the role of Ali Mills in the pre-Broadway premiere of "The Karate Kid: The Musical" and performing as Helena Landless in "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" at The Goodspeed. Juriansz is also known for her involvement in the CBS Showcase 2023 and as a recipient of the Diversity Scholarship at The Groundlings, highlighting her commitment to diversity and representation in the entertainment industry. Beyond her acting and comedy career, she has written and produced her own projects, including short films like "Bleh" and "Happy Birthday, Faye," as well as original music and music videos, demonstrating her multifaceted talents in the creative arts. Juriansz continues to be active in the entertainment industry, contributing to various projects across television, theater, and digital platforms.



Anna Garcia

born on December 15, 1995, in Beverly Hills, Michigan, is an American actress and comedian known for her dynamic presence in television and film. From a young age, Garcia exhibited a passion for performance, beginning her acting journey at age six with productions at the Marquis Theater in Northville. She further honed her craft at the University of Michigan, majoring in screen arts and culture and actively participating in the improv group Midnight Book Club. After relocating to Los Angeles post-graduation, Garcia co-created and starred in the YouTube series "The Pembroke Brothers," showcasing her writing and acting talents. Her television credits include guest appearances on popular series such as "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia," "Bunk'd," "Superstore," "Hacks," and "Party Down." During the COVID-19 pandemic, she expanded her reach by creating content on TikTok, amassing a following of approximately 200,000. Garcia is also featured on Dropout series including "Very Important People" and "Make Some Noise." In 2024, she made her feature film debut as Ruby in Greg Berlanti's "Fly Me to the Moon," acting alongside Scarlett Johansson. Beyond acting, Garcia continues to perform improv, host live variety shows, and develop her own creative projects, solidifying her status as a multifaceted talent in the entertainment industry.



Alex Vaughan

is an American actor, writer, and comedian based in Los Angeles, California. He has appeared in various television series, including "Party of Five" (2020), where he portrayed Micah, and "The Conners" (2022), playing the role of Romeo. His film credits include "International Falls" (2019) as Trevor and "Love and Baseball" (2021) as The Sound Mixer. Vaughan has also showcased his talents in short films such as "Delivery" (2018), which he co-wrote and co-produced, and "Swimmers" (2022), where he played the character Warren. In addition to his on-screen work, Vaughan is active in the comedy scene, performing stand-up and improv at various venues in Los Angeles. He continues to develop his craft through diverse roles in television, film, and digital media. For more information and updates on his projects, visit his official website: <https://www.thealexvaughan.com>

Filmmakers



DIRECTOR

Portlynn Tagavi

is an Iranian-Creole filmmaker and animator based in Los Angeles. Her award-winning shorts include They Won't Last (Student Emmy, Student BAFTA Shortlist), Out of Tune (Dances with Films, MVAFF), and Mosh (Project Involve, Slamdance). Currently, Portlynn works at Netflix as a Story Artist, where she contributed to films such as The Magician's Elephant, Thelma the Unicorn and Steps. She was also the Artist Lead for Netflix's 2023 Story Trainee Program. Her narrative slate includes the short Hot Cocoa, a bittersweet coming-of-age story inspired by her childhood. Prior to Netflix, Portlynn worked as a story artist for DreamWorks, Paramount, and the Jim Henson Company, contributing to projects like Trolls: The Beat Goes On! and Splash and Bubbles. Portlynn's storytelling combines humor and emotional depth, driven by her passion for creating authentic, resonant narratives that tackles difficult subject matters.



PRODUCER

Gregory M. Schroeder

Gregory M. Schroeder completed his MFA in Producing from AFI Conservatory in 2019. His films have won dozens of awards and screened at prestigious film festivals worldwide. Since 2023, Gregory has completed production on 3 feature films along with several indie TV and documentary projects. He wrote and produced the horror comedy feature film ZOMBIE STRAIN, to be released in select theaters and on digital on January 24th, 2025.



CINEMATOGRAPHER

TJ Thickett

TJ Thickett is a Los Angeles based Cinematographer working in narrative films and commercials. Before entering the MFA program at The American Film Institute Conservatory he worked in the San Francisco, bay area for six years. He is the Cinematographer of several award winning short films including Progeny, Now is a Bad Time, This is War, and The Proceedings. TJ is always searching for new and exciting projects to collaborate on, and is especially passionate about genre filmmaking using a story first approach to cinematography in an effort to elevate films to the best that they can be.

Filmmakers



EDITOR

Camilla Bartoli

Camilla is a film editor based in Los Angeles. She was born in Italy and grew up between France, China, the USA, and the UK. She received her MFA in Post Production Editing from the prestigious AFI Conservatory. Since then, Camilla has worked as an editor and assistant editor on a variety of projects ranging from award-winning short films, docu-series, music videos, to indie feature films. Before attending AFI, she freelanced for Create Productions, had work experience from companies such as Whisper Films and ENVY Post-Production, and was Head of Post-Production for rhubarbTV.



PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Kelly Stark Reckert

Kelly Stark is a graduate of Drew University in New Jersey, where she earned a BA Studio Art. She started her film career in New York City working with the Maria Weinhoff Studio with clients including Vera Wang, Carolina Herrera, Lady Gaga and Beyonce. She has worked in all areas of the art department, including as props assistant for Dir. Andrea Arnold's Jury Prize-awarded American Honey (2016), Set Decorator for Ink Master Season 12 and as Production Designer on Meghan Trainor's music video My Kind of Present and Art Director for Diplo's latest music video. After having worked for 9 years in New York on everything from photo shoots and events to commercials and films, she now lives and works in Los Angeles. Kelly's work is detail oriented, and she especially enjoys bringing sets to life through careful consideration of their context and characters. Kelly has recently become a member of IATSE Local 800.

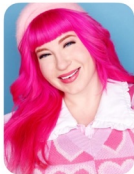


COMPOSER

Alexander Arntzen

is a prolific Film Composer & Singer/Songwriter of multiple genres, styles, and mediums. Some career highlights include original music for Last Man Down (Netflix Top 10 Movies), Follow Her (Showtime/Paramount+), HERD (Shudder), Initiation (SXSW), Unmothered (Max) & Stalled (Slamdance/Fantasia). He has also enjoyed being an integral part of doing additional music on 3 Animated TV Series including one Original for Netflix. A graduate of Berklee's College of Music and recipient of multiple academic awards, Alexander had the opportunity to intern with Hans Zimmer during the summer of 2010. Three years later he interned with Danny Elfman, assisting with transcribing scores for his concert, "Danny Elfman's Music from the Films of Tim Burton". Alexander's career has really taken off since then. To date he has scored 19 features, 11 pilots and series, and over 130 short films and videos, including several for well-known actress and YouTube sensation Anna Akana.

Filmmakers



CASTING DIRECTOR

**Kasia
Szarek**

is a Los Angeles-based casting director and the founder of Harlowe Casting, specializing in commercials, film, music videos, and print. With a keen eye for discovering talent, Kasia has earned a reputation for bringing authentic and diverse performers to her projects. Her credits include films like *The Lost* and *Aquarium of the Dead*, commercials for brands such as Pampers and Budweiser, and print campaigns for Disney and Glamour Magazine. An influencer herself, Kasia leverages her extensive network to cast fresh, unique talent, including TikTok creators and digital personalities. Passionate about diversity in casting, she is dedicated to helping underrepresented talent find opportunities on screen.

Behind the Scenes



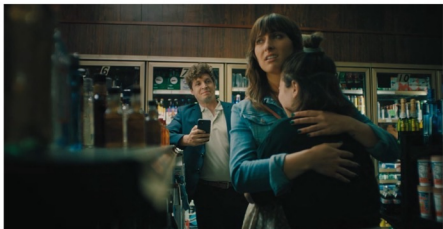
Behind the Scenes



Behind the Scenes



Stills



Stills



Stills



Credits

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY

PORTLYNN TAGAVI

PRODUCED BY

GREGORY M. SCHROEDER

CINEMATOGRAPHY BY

THOMAS J. THICKETT

PRODUCTION DESIGN BY

KELLY STARK RECKERT

EDITED BY

CAMILLA BARTOLI

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

PORTLYNN TAGAVI

ZUBIN ASARIA

RYAN TURNER

SOFIA PADOVANI

SUNMIN INN

TREVOR KNAPP JONES

CAST

RUDY **JETTA JURIAN SZ**

SOFIA **ANNA GARCIA**

ZANE **ALEX VAUGHAN**

ZANE'S FRIEND **ANDY HERNANDEZ**

CUSTOMER **KAREN MARUYAMA**

Credits

UNIT PRODUCTION MANAGER	MAXWELL MORRO
FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	BUZZ HUGHES
SECOND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	TARYN PROCSAL
MUSIC	ALEXANDER ARNTZEN
CASTING	KASIA SZAREK
FIRST ASSISTANT CAMERA	RILEY SHEN
SECOND ASSISTANT CAMERA	DARRELL HAM
STILL PHOTOGRAPHER	TREVOR KNAPP JONES
SCRIPT SUPERVISOR	J.C. HEINS
GAFFER	LEO PURMAN
KEY GRIPS	ANTOINE COMBELLES
	GEMMA DOLL-GROSSMAN
SWING	MICHAEL CERUTI
	KATHERINE HORAK
PRODUCTION SOUND MIXER	JASMINE SANKARAN
ART DIRECTOR	KRISTA LU
ART PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS	JEFFREY O'BRIEN
	LAUREN LEE
	NATALIE O'BRIAN
	ISABELLE SPADON

Credits

CHARACTER DESIGN AND ANIMATION	RACHEL YUXIU WANG
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	SOPHIA DU
VOICE OF ANIME LIZZY	SOFIA PADOVANI
VOICE OF ANIME MR. DARCY	JUAN PABLO ARIAS MUÑOZ
VFX	JUSTIN CHANDRA
COSTUME DESIGNER	GISELLE CARRILLO
COSTUMER	IGNACIO BUSTAMANTE
KEY MAKE-UP ARTIST	TETIANA KAZAK
ASSISTANT MAKE-UP	NAZIA ATHAR
POST PRODUCER	RYAN TURNER
POST COORDINATOR	FRANCISCO LOPEZ
ASSISTANT EDITOR	DUSTIN FOSTER
AUDIO POST PRODUCTION SERVICES	MELODYGUN SOUND STUDIOS
SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR	THOMAS OUZIEL, MPSE
RE-RECORDING MIXER	THOMAS OUZIEL, MPSE
SOUND SUPERVISOR	HAMED HOKAMZADEH, MPSE
SOUND EFFECTS EDITOR	XIAODAN LI
FOLEY ARTIST	REECE MILLER
SOUND EDITOR	AMENDA LEE
ASSISTANT SOUND EDITOR	KRISTOPHER BRECKON
COLORIST	ROY SUN

Credits

PRODUCER'S ASSISTANT	ALEX EISENSTEIN
PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS	REBECCA PAYNE
	IAN MOSS
	JESSICA XU
	ANYA MARTIN
	SOPHIA DU
	ELIZABETH THATCH

CRAFT SERVICE	JUSTINE KWON
COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER	JILL HORMANN

THE FILMMAKERS WITH TO THANK:

NORMA GORDON	ZUBIN ASARIA
ALL MY CALARTS STUDENTS	RYAN TURNER
CHRISTINA WOO	ROBERT MARTINEZ
WANG HUA	SOFIA PADOVANI
WILL WIBISONO	KYLE AHLM KIM
ALYSIA ANDERSON	TARYN PROSCAL
MATTHEW PALMQUIST	JING NG
JULIE TRIEU	VICTOR GABRIEL
KATE AVERY	BRANDON GALE
LEXY NAUT	DAVID BURGIS
AMY MAI	CHRIS KINGSLEIGH LICUD
DONNA LEE	DELANEY O'BRIEN
ELIZABETH WHEELER	LYNN WANG
ISABELLA SPADONE	SHAWN WU
NATALIE O'BRIEN	PAIGE BICKFORD
SANJANA BHARADWAJ	YOKO HONGYU LI
SASHA SCHOTZKO-HARRIS	DAT PETER TON
TREVOR KNAPP JONES	ADAM MUTO

Credits

CARRIE LIAO	ELLIE GARVEY
TENY ISSAKHANIAN	GABRIELA ZAPATA
WILLIE REAL	BRETT BATTLES
ANA RAMIREZ	ANDREA WALKER
PAULA ASSADOURIAN	AMY CHAN
SIMON ESTRADA	CARRIE HOBSON
NAK CHOI	ALONSO RAMIREZ RAMOS
ANDY MAPATANO	MATT HOEKSTRA
JET SALMON	TAHNEE GEHM
ROB SPERA	MEGHANA GUPTA
CHRIS SCHWARTZ	VIOLET BRUCE
ANTHONY PARAS	LAURA LEE
JACOB HOHSFIELD	BRIGETTE BARRAGER
ELLE MICHALKA	LOUIS THOMAS
NAZ GHODRATI-AZADI	



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Credits

SPECS

Genres: Comedy

Run Time: 16:40

Country of Filming: United States

Language: English

Aspect Ratio: 2:1

PRESS

IMDB

CONTACT

Gregory M. Schroeder (Producer)

greg@firstlightprod.com

Portlynn Tagavi (Director)

portlynnntagavi@gmail.com