

Midnight in the Switchgrass

Midnight in the Switchgrass is a 2021 American crime thriller film directed by Randall Emmett in his directorial debut from a screenplay by Alan Horsnail. It stars Megan Fox, Bruce Willis, Emile Hirsch, Lukas Haas, Colson Baker and Lydia Hull.

It was released in limited theaters and video-on-demand on July 23, 2021, by Lionsgate and was critically panned upon release.

Plot

Based on the true story of Texas's most dangerous serial killer, the film has the dramatization translocated to Florida. FBI Agent Karl Helter and his partner, Rebecca Lombardo, are very close to busting a sex trafficking ring. When they realize their investigation has crossed the path of a brutal serial killer, they team up with Florida Department of Law Enforcement Agent Byron Crawford, who has worked for years on the case. When Rebecca herself is abducted by their target and her life hangs in the balance, Byron has precious few hours to piece together the last clues and to put an end to the infamous "Truck Stop Killer".

Cast

- Megan Fox as Rebecca Lombardo
- Bruce Willis as Karl Helter
- Emile Hirsch as Byron Crawford
- Lukas Haas as Peter
- Colson Baker as Calvin
- Sistine Stallone as Heather
- Michael Beach as Detective Yarbrough
- Caitlin Carmichael as Tracey Lee
- Alec Monopoly as Suspect / Tall Man
- Welker White as Ms. Georgia Kellogg
- Jackie Cruz as Suzanna

Production

On January 22, 2020, it was announced that film producer Randall Emmett would make his directorial debut on the film, with Emile Hirsch set to star.^[3] Megan Fox and Bruce Willis were cast on February 16, with filming beginning on March 9 in Pensacola, Florida.^[4]

Midnight in the Switchgrass



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	<u>Randall Emmett</u>
Screenplay by	<u>Alan Horsnail</u>
Produced by	<u>Randall Emmet</u> <u>George Furla</u> <u>Alex Eckert</u> <u>Timothy C. Sullivan</u>
Starring	<u>Megan Fox</u> <u>Bruce Willis</u> <u>Emile Hirsch</u> <u>Lukas Haas</u> <u>Colson Baker</u> <u>Lydia Hull</u>
Cinematography	<u>Duane Manwiller</u>
Edited by	<u>Colby Parker Jr.</u>
Music by	<u>Robin Stout</u>

On March 12, 2020, [Lukas Haas](#), [Colson Baker](#), [Sistine Stallone](#), [Caitlin Carmichael](#), [Michael Beach](#), [Welker White](#), [Alec Monopoly](#), and [Jackie Cruz](#) joined the cast of the film.^{[5][6][7]}

On March 16, production on the film was halted because of the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).^[8] Production on the film resumed on June 29.^[9]

Release

Midnight in the Switchgrass had its world premiere on June 13, 2021, at the [Tampa Theatre](#), where it was the closing night film of the [Gasparilla International Film Festival](#). In attendance were [Randall Emmett](#), [Alan Horsnail](#), [Timothy C. Sullivan](#), [Lukas Haas](#), [Emile Hirsch](#), [Caitlin Carmichael](#), and [Katalina Viteri](#). The screening was followed by a 40-minute Q & A moderated by [Tyler Martinolich](#).^[10]

The film was later released in limited theaters and [VOD](#) on July 23, 2021, by [Lionsgate](#).^[11] [Megan Fox](#) did not attend the film's Los Angeles premiere and cited concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. [Machine Gun Kelly](#) did not respond, but on [Twitter](#), he mentioned that he does not talk about a movie if it is trash.^[12] In response, [Emile Hirsch](#) posted a screenshot of [Machine Gun Kelly's](#) tweet on [Instagram](#) and stated, "We definitely disagree here, Colson! [[Machine Gun Kelly](#)] Nothing but respect to you guys though - especially because you and Megan are so f#*king great in this movie."^[13]

Box office

As of March 14, 2022, *Midnight in the Switchgrass* grossed \$97,518 in Portugal and Russia, plus \$642,841 in home video sales.^[2]

Reception

On [Rotten Tomatoes](#), the film holds an 8% approval rating, based on 38 reviews, with an average rating of 3.40/10. The website's critics consensus read,: "Dull and predictable, *Midnight in the Switchgrass* squanders an evocative setting and some committed performances on a would-be thriller that rarely raises a sweat."^[14] On [Metacritic](#), it has a score of 24 out of 100, based on reviews from 9 critics, indicating "generally unfavorable reviews".^[15]

[Robert Kojder](#) of [Flickering Myth](#) said that "the fact that *Midnight in the Switchgrass* is an all-around terrible movie comes as no surprise, but there is a sting since for star [Megan Fox](#), it's coming off a career-best and physically impressive performance in *[Till Death](#)*."^[16] [Jackie K. Cooper](#) rated the film 5 out of 10 saying that "Megan Fox steals the show while [Bruce Willis](#) is missing in action."^[17]

In his review for *The New York Times*, [Ben Kenigsberg](#) said that "the atmosphere is thoroughly sleazy without being distinctive, and everything about the movie - the emotionless line readings, the half-baked back stories - exudes a terse functionality."^[18]

	<div>Liam Westbrook</div>
Production companies	<div><div><div><div><div></div></div><div><div></div></div></div><div><div><div>Emmett Furla</div><div>Oasis Films</div></div><div><div>The Pimienta Film Co.</div><div>BondIt Media Capital</div></div><div><div>Verdi Productions</div></div></div></div></div>
Distributed by	<div><div><div>Lionsgate</div></div></div>
Release date	<div>July 23, 2021</div>
Running time	<div>99 minutes^[1]</div>
Country	<div>United States</div>
Language	<div>English</div>
Box office	<div>\$97,518^[2]</div>

Waldemar Dalenogare Neto rated the film 2 out of 10 and stated that it is one of the "most generic thrillers of the year (...) I really don't know yet what the purpose of this film is other than the fact that it tries to profit from Megan Fox's image and Bruce Willis."^[19] In a positive review for the *San Jose Mercury News*, Randy Myers said that "it's worth a watch if you like serial killer thrillers but don't expect to see anything revolutionary going on."^[20]

Jesse Hassenger was less complimentary in his review for *Paste Magazine* by saying that it looks like the filmmakers are trying to punish Megan Fox for her performance in *Till Death*, and he concluded, "It's entirely because of Fox that *Switchgrass* stays compelling far longer than it should, raising vain hopes that she'll be able to work it into something pulpier and more defined. Despite the eventual disappointment, I hope she sticks with genre fare a bit longer, and finds some more shackles to break."^[21]

Accolades

Year	Award	Category	Nominee(s)	Result	Ref.
2022	Golden Raspberry Awards	Worst Actress	Megan Fox	Nominated	^[22]
		Worst Performance by Bruce Willis in a 2021 Movie	Bruce Willis	Rescinded	^[23]

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External links

- *Midnight in the Switchgrass* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt11656220/>) at [IMDb](#)
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