

# God's Country (2022 film)

***God's Country*** is a 2022 American thriller film co-written and directed by Julian Higgins,<sup>[4][5]</sup> based on the short story "Winter Light" by James Lee Burke.<sup>[6]</sup> The film stars Thandiwe Newton, Jeremy Bobb, Joris Jarsky, Jefferson White, Kai Lennox, and Tanaya Beatty. It had its world premiere in the Premieres section of the 38th Sundance Film Festival on January 23, 2022, and was released theatrically in United States on September 16, 2022.

## Synopsis

After being a police officer in New Orleans, the events of Hurricane Katrina convinces Sandra to move with her mother to a remote and cold region of Montana, where she becomes a university professor. Once her mother dies, Sandra is left alone between the power dynamics of her college and the town. But

God's Country



Release poster

<b>Directed by</b>	Julian Higgins
<b>Screenplay by</b>	Julian Higgins <p>Shaye Ogbonna</p>
<b>Based on</b>	"Winter Light" <p>by <u>James Lee Burke</u></p>
<b>Produced by</b>	Julian Higgins <p>Miranda Bailey</p> <p>Halee Bernard</p> <p>Amanda Marshall</p>
<b>Starring</b>	<u>Thandiwe Newton</u> <p><u>Jeremy Bobb</u></p> <p><u>Joris Jarsky</u></p> <p><u>Jefferson White</u></p> <p>Kai Lennox</p> <p><u>Tanaya Beatty</u></p>
<b>Cinematography</b>	Andrew Wheeler
<b>Edited by</b>	Justin LaForge
<b>Music by</b>	DeAndre James <p>Allen-Toole</p>

it is when she confronts two hunters she catches trespassing on her property that ultimately pushes her own pain and growing anger to their limits.

## Cast

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- [Thandiwe Newton](#) as Sandra
- [Jeremy Bobb](#) as Wolf
- [Joris Jarsky](#) as Nathan
- Kai Lennox as Arthur
- [Jefferson White](#) as Samuel
- [Tanaya Beatty](#) as Gretchen
- Dan Gravage as the funeral director

<b>Production companies</b>	Cold Iron Pictures <a href="#">The Film Arcade</a>
<b>Distributed by</b>	<a href="#">IFC Films</a>
<b>Release dates</b>	January 23, 2022 ( <a href="#">Sundance</a> )  September 16, 2022 (United States)
<b>Running time</b>	102 minutes <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Box office</b>	\$493,679 <sup>[2][3]</sup>

## Release

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The film had its world premiere in the [Premieres](#) section of the [38th Sundance Film Festival](#) on January 23, 2022, at the Eccles Center in [Park City, Utah](#).<sup>[1]</sup> It was released theatrically in the United States by [IFC Films](#) on September 16, 2022,<sup>[2][3][7]</sup> and on [VOD](#) by IFC Video on October 4, 2022.<sup>[3][7]</sup>

## Reception

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### Box office

*God's Country* grossed \$493,679 in the United States.<sup>[2][3]</sup>

### Critical response

On the [review aggregator](#) website [Rotten Tomatoes](#), 88% of 82 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 7.4/10. The website's consensus reads: "Led by an outstanding Thandiwe Newton, *God's Country* rewards patient viewers with a slow-burning but ultimately explosive story of inexorable conflict."<sup>[7]</sup> [Metacritic](#), which uses a [weighted average](#), assigned the film a score of 77 out of 100, based on 15 critics, indicating "generally favorable" reviews.<sup>[8]</sup>

Brian Tallerico of *RogerEbert.com* said, "It's a film that understands both form and content, merging the two in a story that feels less like a piece of suspenseful entertainment and more like a warning."<sup>[9]</sup> Dennis Harvey of *Variety* said, "*God's Country* (the title of which hints at another running theme of faith and doubt) is admirable for avoiding caricature within conflict, and granting dramatic personae the depth to hesitate before giving in to their angriest first impulses."<sup>[6]</sup>


## References

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2. "*God's Country* (2022)" (<https://www.boxofficemojo.com/title/tt11818818/>). *Box Office Mojo*. Retrieved October 21, 2022.
3. "*God's Country* (2022) – Financial Information" ([https://www.the-numbers.com/movie/Gods-Country-\(2022\)](https://www.the-numbers.com/movie/Gods-Country-(2022))). *The Numbers*. Retrieved October 21, 2022.
4. Smart, Jack (September 13, 2022). "God's Country is an unsettling place for Thandiwe Newton" (<https://www.avclub.com/gods-country-review-thandiwe-newton-julian-higgins-1849526556>). *The A.V. Club*. Retrieved May 22, 2023.
5. Kraft, Tim (September 12, 2022). "Exclusive: Julian Higgin's on God's Country and Thandiwe Newton" (<https://movieweb.com/julian-higgins-gods-country-interview/>). *MovieWeb*.
6. Harvey, Dennis (January 23, 2022). "'God's Country' Review: Thandiwe Newton Anchors a Thriller of Escalating Disputes in Big Sky Country" (<https://variety.com/2022/film/reviews/god-s-country-review-1235159334/>). *Variety*. Retrieved September 14, 2022.
7. "*God's Country*" ([https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/gods\\_country\\_2022](https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/gods_country_2022)). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Fandango Media. Retrieved October 27, 2022.
8. "*God's Country*" (<https://www.metacritic.com/movie/gods-country>). *Metacritic*. Fandom, Inc. Retrieved May 22, 2023.
9. Tallerico, Brian (January 27, 2022). "Sundance 2022: God's Country, Emily the Criminal, Resurrection" (<https://www.rogerebert.com/festivals/sundance-2022-gods-country-emily-the-criminal-resurrection>). *RogerEbert.com*. Retrieved September 14, 2022.

## External links

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- Official website (<https://www.godscountryfilm.com/>) 
  - *God's Country* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt11818818/>) at IMDb
  - *God's Country* (<https://www.allmovie.com/movie/v732880>) at AllMovie
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