

Lou (2022 film)

Lou is a 2022 American <u>crime thriller</u> film directed by <u>Anna Foerster</u>. The film stars <u>Allison Janney</u>, <u>Jurnee Smollett</u>, <u>Logan Marshall-Green</u>, Ridley Asha Bateman, and Matt Craven.

Lou was released on September 23, 2022, by Netflix. The film received mixed reviews from critics, who praised Janney's performance but criticized the writing. [1][2]

Plot

In 1986, on <u>Orcas Island</u> in <u>Washington</u>, Lou, a loner living with her dog Jax, goes to the village to buy some supplies. She talks to the sheriff about her arthritis and he tells her a copper bracelet could help her condition. A mother, Hannah, plays hide-and-seek with her young daughter, Vee, outside their home. Lou, her landlady, stops by on her way back home to say the rent is due the next day.

Expecting a large storm, Chris, Hannah's male friend, offers to bring supplies. On his way home, he picks up a hitchhiker who kills him in his van. The hitchhiker cuts power to Hannah's home and while she is outside trying to restore power, he kidnaps Vee and flees with her on foot. Hannah runs to Lou's house, interrupting her suicide attempt, and tells her that Vee is missing. Before they are able to leave, Lou's truck blows up due to a bomb set by the hitchhiker. Eventually, Hannah and Lou set off tracking him and Vee into the night during the storm.

Hannah informs Lou that the hitchhiker is Vee's father, Philip, a former <u>Green Beret</u> and war criminal she thought was dead. Lou finds and kills Philip's friends on the way, clearly

Lou	
Directed by	Anna Foerster
Written by	Maggie Cohn
	Jack Stanley
Produced by	J.J. Abrams
	Jon Cohen
	Hannah Minghella
Starring	Allison Janney
	Jurnee Smollett
	Logan Marshall-
	Green
	Ridley Asha
	Bateman
	Matt Craven
Cinematography	Michael McDonough
Edited by	Matt Evans
	Paul Tothill
Music by	Nima Fakhrara
Production company	Bad Robot
Distributed by	Netflix
Release date	September 23, 2022
Running time	109 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English

showing she is more than she appears to be. She explains to Hannah she is an ex-CIA field agent of 26 years. Lou and Hannah track Philip and Vee to the beach at Eagle Bay. Lou sends Hannah to radio for help, while she goes to confront Philip and rescue Vee. After a standoff, it is revealed Philip is actually Lou's son, who tracked them down after she turned him in and hid them for protection. It is also revealed that Lou abandoned him as a child to avoid blowing her undercover mission in Iran. Philip injures Lou and leaves with Vee, intending to kill all of them together.

Hannah contacts the sheriff, but a call from the <u>United States Marshals Service</u> forces him to stand down, as it is now a federal case. The sheriff goes to Eagle Bay nonetheless, where he finds Lou and gives her a copper bracelet. Meanwhile, Hannah arrives at the lighthouse and manages to get Vee away from Philip. After a scuffle, Hannah injures Philip and flees with Vee. Lou finds the lighthouse filled with explosives

and sets them off from a distance, destroying it to signal an approaching CIA helicopter. Lou and Philip fight on the beach, until she gains the upper hand and hugs him. She apologizes as a CIA agent fires on them, and both Lou and Philip go under the water's surface.

Later, Hannah and Vee are shown in Lou's house, packed up and ready to leave. After a few questions from CIA agents and a goodbye from the sheriff, they are seen on board a ferry with Jax, who looks at someone on the upper deck, not fully in frame. The camera shifts to show a woman's arm with a similar scar that Lou had and a copper bracelet, as she watches her granddaughter and daughter-in-law through binoculars.

Cast

- Allison Janney as Lou Adell
- Jurnee Smollett as Hannah Dawson
- Logan Marshall-Green as Philip
- Ridley Asha Bateman as Vee Dawson
- Matt Craven as Sheriff Rankin

Production

Filming

Production was set to begin from May to July 2020 in <u>Vancouver</u>, <u>Canada</u> when originally set up at <u>Paramount Pictures</u>, until <u>Bad Robot</u> decided to produce the film independently and land with <u>Netflix</u>. The film officially entered production in June 2021 and wrapped in August that same year. [3]

Casting

Allison Janney was cast in 2019. On April 28, 2021, Jurnee Smollett signed on as one of the leading roles alongside Janney. They are both set to serve as executive producers. [4]

Release

The film was released on Netflix on September 23, 2022. [5]

Reception

On the <u>review aggregator</u> website <u>Rotten Tomatoes</u>, 68% of 50 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 6.1/10. The website's consensus reads: "From a storyline or set piece perspective, *Lou* doesn't add much to the action genre -- but it does serve as a generally entertaining reminder that Allison Janney is not to be trifled with."

On <u>Metacritic</u>, the film has a weighted average score of 51 out of 100 based on 12 critics, indicating "mixed or average reviews".

Jeannette Catsoulis reviewed the film for <u>The New York Times</u>, saying, "Unfazed either by the working conditions or by Maggie Cohn and Jack Stanley's ridiculously over-the-top screenplay, [Janney] lends her grouchy character more than a <u>ramrod</u> spine and steely stare." In another positive review for <u>The Los Angeles Times</u>, Noel Murray writes, "The mystery of who Lou is and why she takes an interest in Hannah isn't as surprising as the movie makes it out to be; but Janney is so commanding as an unlikely action hero that the picture still works." John Anderson of the <u>Wall</u> Street Journal said, "Sometimes you just want a crazy action movie to kill an evening, and "Lou" fits that

bill. Just don't expect to be thinking about it tomorrow." In a negative review, Brian Tallerico of <u>RogerEbert.com</u> writes, "Allison Janney proves with Lou that she could carry an action movie. If only she got one worth carrying."

References

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- 2. "Lou" (https://www.metacritic.com/movie/lou). Metacritic. Fandom, Inc. Retrieved September 24, 2022.
- 3. Asatryan, Tigran (March 29, 2021). "Allison Janney's Netflix Movie 'Lou': What We Know So far" (https://www.whats-on-netflix.com/news/allison-janneys-netflix-movie-lou-what-we-know-so-far/). What's On Netflix. Retrieved September 12, 2022.
- 4. N'Duka, Amanda; D'Alessandro, Anthony (April 28, 2021). "Jurnee Smollett To Star In & Executive Produce Netflix's 'Lou' Alongside Allison Janney" (https://deadline.com/2021/04/jurnee-smollett-netflix-movie-lou-cast-and-executive-producer-1234745984/). Deadline. Retrieved September 12, 2022.
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External links

- Official website (https://www.netflix.com/title/81058695)
- Lou (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5315210/) at IMDb

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