

# The Marsh King's Daughter

The Marsh King's Daughter is a 2023 American psychological thriller film directed by Neil Burger and written by Elle Smith and Mark L. Smith, based on the 2017 novel of the same name by Karen Dionne. It stars Daisy Ridley, Ben Mendelsohn, Garrett Hedlund, Caren Pistorius, Brooklynn Prince, and Gil Birmingham.

*The Marsh King's Daughter* was released in the United States on November 3, 2023, by Lionsgate and Roadside Attractions.

#### **Premise**

Two years before Helena was born, the Marsh King abducted her mother, and she spent her childhood in captivity. Now convinced he will try to take her daughter, Helena sets out to outmaneuver the man who taught her everything she knows about surviving in the wilderness.

#### Cast

- Daisy Ridley as Helena
  - Brooklynn Prince as young Helena
- Ben Mendelsohn as Jacob
- Gil Birmingham as Clark Bekkum
- Caren Pistorius as Beth
- Garrett Hedlund as Stephen
- Joey Carson as Marigold
- Yanna McIntosh as Agent Lorna Illing

## **Production**

The project was announced in February 2018, with Elle Smith and Mark L. Smith writing the screenplay for director Morten Tyldum. Alicia Vikander was cast in the lead role, and was also set to serve as an executive producer. [2]

Filming was due to begin in late July 2019, and continue through autumn, [3] but no further developments were announced until February 2021, with Tyldum and Vikander no longer involved in the film. Neil Burger was now directing with Daisy Ridley cast to star, replacing Tyldum and Vikander. In

#### The Marsh King's Daughter



Theatrical release poster

Theatheat release poster	
Directed by	Neil Burger
Screenplay by	Elle Smith
	Mark L. Smith
Based on	The Marsh King's
	Daughter
	by <u>Karen Dionne</u>
Produced by	Teddy
	Schwarzman
	Keith Redmon
	Mark L. Smith
Starring	Daisy Ridley
	Ben Mendelsohn
	Garrett Hedlund
	Caren Pistorius
	Caren Pistorius
Cinematography	Caren Pistorius Brooklynn Prince
Cinematography Edited by	Caren Pistorius Brooklynn Prince Gil Birmingham

May, <u>Ben Mendelsohn</u> joined the cast. In June 2021, <u>Brooklynn Prince</u>, <u>Gil Birmingham</u>, <u>Caren Pistorius</u>, and <u>Garrett</u> Hedlund joined the cast of the film.

Filming began on June 7, 2021, in Ontario, Canada. [6][8][9] Filming officially wrapped on August 6, 2021. [10]

#### Music

In April 2022, it was revealed that Adam Janota Bzowski composed the score for the film. [11]

### Release

Initially meant to be released by <u>STX films</u>, the film's distribution was shopped to different distributors following the dissolution of STX films' domestic distribution company: [12] eventually, STX films formed a domestic distribution partnership with <u>Lionsgate</u>, Lionsgate and <u>Roadside Attractions</u> scheduling the film for release on October 6, 2023. [13] It was later delayed to

STXfilms
STAIIIIIS
Black Bear
Pictures
Anonymous
Content
Lionsgate
Roadside
Attractions (United
States)
STXinternational
(International)
November 3, 2023
108 minutes
United States
English
\$3 million <sup>[1]</sup>

November 3, 2023, to avoid competition with  $\underline{Taylor\ Swift:\ The\ Eras\ Tour.}^{[14]}\ \underline{Amazon\ Studios}$  will distribute the film in European markets as part of ErosSTX's multi-year output deal with the company via Prime Video.  $\underline{^{[15][16]}}$ 

*The Marsh King's Daughter* was released on digital platforms on November 21, 2023, followed by a <u>Blu-ray</u> and DVD release on January 2, 2024. [17]

## Reception

On the <u>review aggregator</u> website <u>Rotten Tomatoes</u>, 41% of 46 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 5.5/10. The website's consensus reads: "*The Marsh King's Daughter* begins with plenty of promise and has a remarkable cast, but they're outweighed by the story's dawdling pace and clumsy conclusion." Metacritic, which uses a <u>weighted average</u>, assigned the film a score of 47 out of 100, based on 14 critics, indicating "mixed or average" reviews. [19]

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## **External links**

■ The Marsh King's Daughter (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8002382/) at IMDb

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