

Miller's Girl is a 2024 American erotic thriller^[4] film written and directed by Jade Halley Bartlett. The film stars Jenna Ortega and Martin Freeman as a student and teacher who enter into a complicated relationship after a creative writing assignment.

Miller's Girl was theatrically released in the United States by Lionsgate on January 26, 2024. The film received mixed reviews from critics.

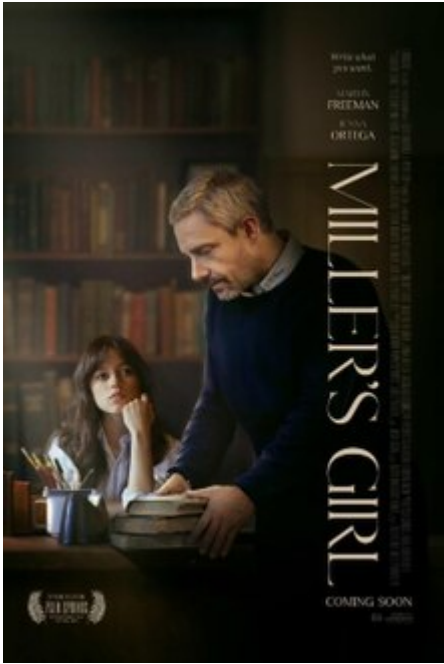
Plot

Cairo Sweet, an 18-year-old girl, lives alone in her wealthy family's mansion in Tennessee. Her attorney parents are away on a business trip while she completes her senior year in high school. Cairo takes the creative writing class of teacher Jonathan Miller, and impresses him with her wide knowledge in literature and her familiarity with Miller's own book, *Apostrophes and Ampersands*. Miller has not written since he got married and started teaching. His emotionally unavailable wife, Beatrice, is a more successful author who disdains her husband's lack of ambition and failure to write new material.

Cairo has to write a college admission essay for Yale University, with the subject being "the greatest achievement to date", but she cannot find anything worthy to write about. Winnie, Cairo's best friend, tells her to experience the excitement of a teacher-student affair such as she intends to do with the school's gym teacher Boris Fillmore, who is Miller's best friend. Seeing the intellectual connection between Cairo and Miller, Winnie suggests Cairo seduce Miller.

Cairo and Miller begin to spend more and more time together outside of class, sharing common interests in novels, poems and Tennessean culture. Miller assigns Cairo to write a short story in the style of her favorite author, and she chooses Henry Miller; despite being reluctant due to the author's provocative style, Miller approves. When he accidentally takes Cairo's cell phone, she asks him to return it personally. When Miller arrives at her parents' mansion, Cairo welcomes him in a sexy dress and kisses him in the rain. Inspired, she writes an erotic short story about the

Miller's Girl



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Jade Halley Bartlett
Written by	Jade Halley Bartlett
Produced by	<u>Seth Rogen</u> <u>Evan Goldberg</u> James Weaver Josh Fagen Mary-Margaret Kunze
Starring	<u>Martin Freeman</u> <u>Jenna Ortega</u> <u>Dagmara Domińczyk</u> <u>Bashir Salahuddin</u> <u>Gideon Adlon</u>
Cinematography	Daniel Brothers
Edited by	Vanara Taing
Music by	Elyssa Samsel

sexual relationship between a teacher and his student. While Miller reads it alone, he gets aroused, and eventually masturbates to it.

Miller declares that the story is unacceptable and demands Cairo rewrite it, but she calls him out for his cowardice and hypocrisy. Offended by Miller's rejection, Cairo sends the story to the school's vice principal Joyce Manor as revenge to expose a possible affair between them. She also takes advantage of Winnie's attraction to her by convincing her to send sexual photos of themselves to Fillmore, leading them to undress and kiss passionately.

The vice principal questions both Cairo and Miller separately about their relationship. Despite claiming that nothing inappropriate had happened between them, Miller has to take the full responsibility as the adult in the situation, resulting in his suspension. This causes a rift in his friendship with Fillmore, who blames him for not knowing his limits as a teacher. An argument with Beatrice about what happened also prompts Miller to finally vent his repressed anger at his wife and point out the nature of their marriage.

Realizing what Cairo's actions had done to Miller, Winnie asks her to withdraw the charges against him, but Cairo refuses, calling Miller's downfall her "greatest achievement to date". She writes her experiences into her admission essay in the same style Miller used in his book. Miller, having reached rock bottom but inspired for the first time in years, decides to write a new book.

Production companies	<u>Good Universe</u> <u>Point Grey Pictures</u>
Distributed by	<u>Lionsgate</u>
Release dates	January 11, 2024 <u>(PSIFF)</u> January 26, 2024 <u>(United States)</u>
Running time	93 minutes ^[1]
Country	United States
Language	English
Budget	\$4 million ^[2]
Box office	\$889,522 ^[3]

Cast

- Martin Freeman as Jonathan Albert Miller
- Jenna Ortega as Cairo Sweet
- Bashir Salahuddin as Boris Fillmore
- Gideon Adlon as Winnie Black
- Dagmara Domińczyk as Beatrice June Harper
- Christine Adams as Joyce Manor

Production

In December 2016, Jade Halley Bartlett's spec script for *Miller's Girl* was acquired by Seth Rogen's company Point Grey Pictures and listed in the Hollywood Black List of unproduced screenplays.^[5]

In mid-September 2022, it was reported that Lionsgate Films had picked up distribution rights for the film. Additionally, Bartlett would direct her script, and Martin Freeman and Jenna Ortega were set to star.^[6] A week later, it was announced that Gideon Adlon, Bashir Salahuddin, Dagmara Domińczyk, and Christine Adams had joined the cast of the film.^[7] That same month principal photography took place in Cartersville, Georgia.^[8]

Release

Miller's Girl premiered at Palm Springs Film Festival on January 11, 2024, followed by a release in theaters by Lionsgate on January 26, 2024.^{[9][10]} It was released on digital formats in the United States on February 16, 2024, followed by a release in the United Kingdom on February 19.^[11]

Reception

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 29% of 58 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 5.2/10. The website's consensus reads: "Despite a pair of talented stars and a central concept with a certain amount of real-world relevance, the narratively superficial *Miller's Girl* rings hollow."^[12] Metacritic, which uses a weighted average, assigned the film a score of 41 out of 100, based on 14 critics, indicating "mixed or average" reviews.^[13]

CNN's Brian Lowry called the film "a sort-of psychological, semi-erotic drama that, despite its literary pretensions, possesses roughly the intellectual heft of a perfume ad. Dated and creepy in all the wrong ways, it's a movie that might have escaped derision in the 1980s but deserves to get slapped around today."^[14] Kyle Smith of The Wall Street Journal wrote, "At times *Miller's Girl* has the feel of a stagey, self-consciously literary psychological drama; at others it seems like creepy noir about a femme fatale determined to ruin a randomly chosen man... Only a generous grader would award this script anything better than a D-plus."^[15]

The Messenger's Jordan Hoffman gave it a score of 6.5/10, saying it was "a brooding, bookish and bursting-with-pheromones thriller", but added, "after a splendid build-up, there is some serious lack of momentum that comes after the release of a narrative turn."^[16]

References

1. "*Miller's Girl* (15)" (<https://www.bbfc.co.uk/release/millers-girl-q29sbgvjdgvlbjpwwc0xmde4nte2>). *BBFC*. January 8, 2024. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240109204359/https://www.bbfc.co.uk/release/millers-girl-q29sbgvjdgvlbjpwwc0xmde4nte2>) from the original on January 9, 2024. Retrieved January 9, 2024.
2. Ho, Rodney (January 29, 2024). "Jenna Ortega falls for a teacher in 'Miller's Girl' " (<https://www.ajc.com/things-to-do/georgia-entertainment-scene/jenna-ortega-falls-for-a-teacher-in-miller-s-girl/UAJXGBOIIFBGXN5WJDSNPTYQI/>). *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240129231057/https://www.ajc.com/things-to-do/georgia-entertainment-scene/jenna-ortega-falls-for-a-teacher-in-millers-girl/UAJXGBOIIFBGXN5WJDSNPTYQI/>) from the original on January 29, 2024. Retrieved January 29, 2024.
3. "*Miller's Girl* (2024) - Financial Information" ([https://www.the-numbers.com/movie/Millers-Girl-\(2024\)](https://www.the-numbers.com/movie/Millers-Girl-(2024))). *The Numbers*. Archived ([https://web.archive.org/web/20240221140533/https://www.the-numbers.com/movie/Millers-Girl-\(2024\)#tab=summary](https://web.archive.org/web/20240221140533/https://www.the-numbers.com/movie/Millers-Girl-(2024)#tab=summary)) from the original on February 21, 2024. Retrieved February 21, 2024.
4. Roeper, Richard (January 26, 2024). "*Miller's Girl* the tedious tale of an ineffectual teacher and his infatuated student" (<https://chicago.suntimes.com/movies-and-tv/2024/1/25/24049822/millers-girl-review-jenna-ortega-movie-martin-freeman>). *Chicago Sun-Times*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240217030033/https://chicago.suntimes.com/movies-and-tv/2024/1/25/24049822/millers-girl-review-jenna-ortega-movie-martin-freeman>) from the original on February 17, 2024. Retrieved February 18, 2024.

5. Hipes, Patrick (December 12, 2016). "The Black List 2016 Scripts: Madonna Biopic 'Blond Ambition' Leads Rankings" (<https://deadline.com/2016/12/2016-black-list-2016-scripts-rankings-list-1201868979/>). *Deadline Hollywood*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20230124194148/https://deadline.com/2016/12/2016-black-list-2016-scripts-rankings-list-1201868979/>) from the original on January 24, 2023. Retrieved January 24, 2023.
6. D'Alessandro, Anthony (September 19, 2022). "Jenna Ortega Joins Martin Freeman In Lionsgate & Point Grey's 'Miller's Girl' " (<https://deadline.com/2022/09/jenna-ortega-millers-girl-martin-freeman-1235122345/>). *Deadline Hollywood*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20220919200916/https://deadline.com/2022/09/jenna-ortega-millers-girl-martin-freeman-1235122345/>) from the original on September 19, 2022. Retrieved January 24, 2023.
7. D'Alessandro, Anthony (September 30, 2022). "Gideon Adlon, Bashir Salahuddin, Dagmara Domińczyk & Christine Adams Board 'Miller's Girl' " (<https://deadline.com/2022/09/lionsgate-millers-girl-gideon-adlon-bashir-salahuddin-dagmara-dominczyk-christine-adams-1235132433/>). *Deadline Hollywood*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20230124194236/https://deadline.com/2022/09/lionsgate-millers-girl-gideon-adlon-bashir-salahuddin-dagmara-dominczyk-christine-adams-1235132433/>) from the original on January 24, 2023. Retrieved January 24, 2023.
8. "Briefly: Cartersville's Dellinger Park closing for movie *Miller's Girl* production" (https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/hometown_headlines/bartow/briefly-cartersvilles-dellinger-park-closing-for-movie-millers-girl-production/article_6d31d2ea-3061-11ed-a8a4-a3273bc97279.html). *Rome News-Tribune*. September 10, 2022. Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20230304011744/https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/hometown_headlines/bartow/briefly-cartersvilles-dellinger-park-closing-for-movie-millers-girl-production/article_6d31d2ea-3061-11ed-a8a4-a3273bc97279.html) from the original on March 4, 2023. Retrieved March 4, 2023.
9. Hipes, Patrick (December 12, 2023). "Jenna Ortega-Martin Freeman Movie *Miller's Girl* To World Premiere At Palm Springs Film Festival Ahead Of January Release; See First-Look Photo" (<https://deadline.com/2023/12/jenna-ortega-millers-girl-movie-photo-first-look-release-date-1235659454/>). *Deadline Hollywood*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/2023121211054/https://deadline.com/2023/12/jenna-ortega-millers-girl-movie-photo-first-look-release-date-1235659454/>) from the original on December 12, 2023. Retrieved December 12, 2023.
10. "Jenna Ortega to attend Palm Springs International Film Festival for 'Miller's Girl' premiere" (<https://www.desertsun.com/story/life/entertainment/events/2023/12/12/la-quinta-native-jenna-ortega-to-attend-palm-springs-film-festival-for-millers-girl-movie-premiere/71858094007/>). *The Desert Sun*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20231222052744/https://www.desertsun.com/story/life/entertainment/events/2023/12/12/la-quinta-native-jenna-ortega-to-attend-palm-springs-film-festival-for-millers-girl-movie-premiere/71858094007/>) from the original on December 22, 2023. Retrieved December 22, 2023.
11. "Miller's Girl is now available to watch digitally in the US" (<https://www.digitalspy.com/movies/a46694022/watch-millers-girl-streaming/>). *Digital Spy*. February 16, 2024. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240216193635/https://www.digitalspy.com/movies/a46694022/watch-millers-girl-streaming/>) from the original on February 16, 2024. Retrieved February 16, 2024.
12. "*Miller's Girl*" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/millers_girl). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Fandango Media. Retrieved May 2, 2024.
13. "*Miller's Girl*" (<https://www.metacritic.com/movie/millers-girl>). *Metacritic*. Fandom, Inc. Retrieved April 28, 2024.
14. Lowry, Brian (January 25, 2024). "Even Jenna Ortega can't save the icky '90s throwback 'Miller's Girl' " (<https://www.cnn.com/2024/01/25/entertainment/jenna-ortega-millers-girl-review/index.html>). *CNN*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240212094228/https://www.cnn.com/2024/01/25/entertainment/jenna-ortega-millers-girl-review/index.html>) from the original on February 12, 2024. Retrieved February 10, 2024.

15. Smith, Kyle. "'Miller's Girl' Review: Jenna Ortega's Literary Crush" (<https://www.wsj.com/arts-culture/film/millers-girl-review-jenna-ortega-martin-freeman-90086a75>). *WSJ*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240209164116/https://www.wsj.com/arts-culture/film/millers-girl-review-jenna-ortega-martin-freeman-90086a75>) from the original on February 9, 2024. Retrieved February 10, 2024.
16. Hoffman, Jordan (January 24, 2024). "'Miller's Girl' Review: Jenna Ortega Is an HR Nightmare in Saucy High School Drama" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20240125121632/https://themessenger.com/entertainment/millers-girl-review-jenna-ortega-hr-nightmare-saucy-high-school-drama>). Archived from the original (<https://themessenger.com/entertainment/millers-girl-review-jenna-ortega-hr-nightmare-saucy-high-school-drama>) on January 25, 2024. Retrieved February 10, 2024.

External links

- [Official website](https://www.lionsgate.com/movies/millers-girl) (<https://www.lionsgate.com/movies/millers-girl>)
 - *Miller's Girl* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8310486/>) at [IMDb](#)
-

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Miller%27s_Girl&oldid=1224874059"

▪