

# After We Fell

After We Fell is a 2021 American romantic drama film directed by Castille Landon from a screenplay by Sharon Soboil, based on the 2014 novel of the same name by Anna Todd. It is the sequel to After We Collided (2020) and the third installment in the After film series. The film stars Josephine Langford and Hero Fiennes Tiffin reprising their roles as Tessa Young and Hardin Scott, respectively. The plot follows Tessa's preparations for a job in Seattle, the arrival of Tessa's father, and revelations about Hardin's family, all of which threaten the couple's relationship. Louise Lombard, Rob Estes, Arielle Kebbel, Chance Perdomo in his feature film debut, Frances Turner, Kiana Madeira, Carter Jenkins and Mira Sorvino appear in supporting roles.

The film was <u>shot back-to-back</u> in Bulgaria in 2020 with its sequel, <u>After Ever Happy</u>. Due to scheduling conflicts and <u>travel restrictions</u> during the <u>COVID-19 pandemic</u>, several characters were recast.

*After We Fell* was released in Europe on September 1, 2021, and in the United States on September 30, by <u>Voltage Pictures</u>. Like its predecessors, it received negative reviews from critics, with criticism for its screenplay and acting.

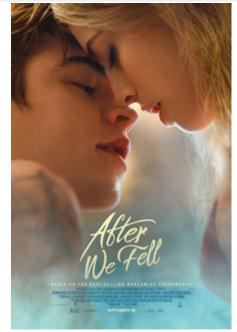
The sequel, *After Ever Happy*, was released in 2022.

### **Plot**

In a flashback, Carol Young kicks her husband Richard out of their house over his alcoholism, despite Tessa's pleas for him to stay. In the present, Tessa and her boyfriend Hardin Scott bring a now-homeless Richard to their apartment. Tessa wants to let her father stay so she can build a relationship with him, while Hardin distrusts Richard, even offering him money to leave. Richard declines the money, explaining that he only wants to make amends.

Tessa and Landon, Hardin's step-brother, discuss Tessa's move to Seattle to be closer to her employer Vance Publishing. Hardin arrives and argues with Tessa over the move; he hoped to move with Tessa to London after graduation. After a phone call with his mother Trish, who asks Hardin to attend her

#### After We Fell



Theatrical release poster

I heatrical release poster	
Directed by	Castille Landon
Screenplay by	Sharon Soboil
Based on	After We Fell
	by Anna Todd
Produced by	Jennifer Gibgot
	Brian Pitt
	Aron Levitz
	Nicolas Chartier
	Jonathan Deckter
	Hero Fiennes Tiffin
	Courtney Solomon
	Mark Canton
Starring	Josephine Langford
	Hero Fiennes Tiffin
	Louise Lombard
	Rob Estes
	Arielle Kebbel
	Chance Perdomo
	Frances Turner

upcoming wedding and talks about her close relationship with Vance's owner Christian Vance, Hardin accompanies Richard to a bar, where they get into a fight with a bystander over lewd comments about Tessa.

The next day, Richard decides to leave the apartment, while Hardin and Tessa fight again about her move to Seattle. Kimberley, Vance's fiancée, offers to let Tessa and Hardin stay with the couple in Seattle, after which Hardin apologizes to Tessa.

Tessa and Hardin accompany Hardin's dad, Ken, his stepmom, Karen, and Landon to the family's lake house for a weekend vacation. Hardin sheds some of his previous hostilities towards his family, growing closer to them. While the family is out for dinner, Hardin encounters an old friend, Lillian, who he introduces to Tessa. Tessa grows jealous of the attention Lillian receives from Hardin and begins to flirt with their waiter Robert.

After having sex in a hot tub, Hardin asks Tessa if she ever had feelings towards her coworker, Trevor. Tessa admits she may have briefly, causing him to storm away. When Hardin tells Tessa that he is with Lillian, Tessa goes to the restaurant from before and flirts with Robert, who gives her his phone number. Hardin and Lillian arrive, and Lillian explains that she's gay and thus has no interest in Hardin. When Hardin

I	1
	Kiana Madeira
	Carter Jenkins
	Stephen Moyer
	Mira Sorvino
Cinematography	Rob C. Givens
	Joshua Reis
Edited by	Morgan Halsey
Music by	George Kallis
Production companies	Voltage Pictures
	CalMaple Media
	Ethea Entertainment
	Wattpad Studios
Distributed by	Voltage Pictures
Release dates	September 1, 2021
	(Europe)
	September 30, 2021
	(United States)
Running time	99 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English
Box office	\$21.8 million <sup>[1][2]</sup>

finds Robert's phone number in Tessa's belongings the next day, they leave the lake house early.

After her move to Seattle, Tessa and Hardin do not speak for several days; he finds her journal, wherein she describes all the pain caused by their relationship. Eventually, they reconcile, and Hardin takes up boxing as a way of resolving his anger issues. Vance and Kimberly tell Tessa that they are expecting a child. When Hardin has a nightmare of Tessa being unfaithful to him, he surprises her in Seattle, admits to reading her journal, and apologizes for causing her pain.

After spending some time together, Hardin returns home, where he finds Richard in his apartment, brutally beaten. He had been attacked by men to whom he owed money; Hardin offers him a watch to pay off the debt. When Tessa visits her gynecologist to start birth control, she is informed that, because of an issue with her cervix, she may never conceive. Hardin tells Tessa he plans on moving to Seattle in two months.

Hardin eventually agrees to attend his mother's wedding in London, taking Tessa along and showing her his hometown. The night before the wedding, Hardin catches Trish and Vance having sex, causing an altercation between the three. Trish and her fiancé get married the next day.

Tessa sits with Kimberley, who admits she knows of Vance's infidelity, but that she loves him and can't stay angry with him. Hardin discusses the previous night's events with Vance at a local bar. Kimberly tells Tessa, and Vance tells Hardin, that Vance is Hardin's real father. The news shocks Tessa and infuriates Hardin, who storms out of the bar. Tessa finds Hardin and they embrace passionately in the street.

#### Cast

- Josephine Langford as Tessa Young
- Hero Fiennes Tiffin as Hardin Scott
- Louise Lombard as Trish
- Rob Estes as Ken
- Arielle Kebbel as Kimberley
- Chance Perdomo as Landon
- Frances Turner as Karen
- Kiana Madeira as Nora
- Carter Jenkins as Robert
- Stephen Moyer as Christian Vance
- Mira Sorvino as Carol

## **Production**

Filming for *After We Fell* and its sequel *After Ever Happy* began in <u>Sofia</u>, Bulgaria, in September 2020. [3] It was later announced that the characters of Kimberley, Christian Vance, Carol Young, Landon Gibson and Karen Scott were recast because the original actors not being able to travel to Bulgaria due to the <u>COVID-19</u> pandemic or that they were already committed to other projects. [4][5][6][7]

Castille Landon directed the film using a script written by Sharon Soboil. The film was produced by Jennifer Gibgot, Brian Pitt, Wattpad's Aron Levitz, CalMaple's Mark Canton, and Courtney Solomon. [8]

# Release

*After We Fell* was released in multiple European countries on September 1, 2021. The film performed well in Germany, Russia, Spain, the Netherlands, and Poland, grossing \$9.2 million on its opening weekend at the worldwide box office. It debuted atop the Belgian box office and achieved 50% of the total box office that the prior film, *After We Collided*, received in its opening weekend. [11]

The film was released on September 30, 2021, in the United States, with <u>Voltage Pictures</u> partnering with <u>Fathom Events</u>. In select regions, it was released directly to <u>Netflix</u> on October 21, 2021 and arrived on Netflix US on January 17, 2022. In United Kingdom, Italy and France, it was released directly to <u>Amazon Prime</u> on October 22, 2021. 14

# Reception

#### **Box office**

The film has grossed \$2.2 million in the United States and Canada and \$19.4 million in international territories, for a worldwide total of \$21.6 million. [1][2]

In Canada, the film earned \$428,300 during its three-day opening weekend across 230 theaters, grossing \$215,600 on its opening day. The film earned \$9.2 million across 31 international territories during its three-day opening weekend, in which it opened at number one in Belgium and in second place in Germany, Spain, Russia, The Netherlands, Austria and Mexico. [16]

### **Critical reception**

The <u>review aggregator</u> website <u>Rotten Tomatoes</u> reported a 0% approval rating based on 11 reviews, with an average rating of  $2.91/10.\frac{[17]}{}$ 

Caroline Siede of *The A.V. Club* rated the film a 'D', describing it as a "filler episode" of the franchise, saying "the problem is that most of After We Fell is too boring to even lend itself to mockery". Lath Clarke of *The Guardian* panned the film, giving it 1 star out of 5, criticizing the acting as "daytime-soap" standard. [19] Jade Budowski of *Decider* urged viewers to skip the film, describing it as "a yawn-inducing continuation of After We Collided, picking up exactly where it left off and schlepping along at a pace so slow and uneventful I kept checking how many minutes were left". She criticized the film's plot and runtime, saying it "feels like an eternity, dragging its way through lackluster sex scenes set to B-list pop songs and very little actual conflict". [20] Writing for *Screen Rant*, Molly Freeman expressed that while the film may please fans of *After*, "it doesn't provide the same level of entertainment as the previous movies" and described the plot as "where stuff happens, but it all feels meaningless - so much so that even the melodrama loses its fun".  $\frac{[21]}{}$  David Pardillos of *Cinemanía* gave the film 2 out of 5 stars, saying it is "reduced to the now classic series of outbursts of anger by Hero Fiennes-Tiffin" and "to the squared sex scenes arranged throughout its montage". [22] Sabela Pillado of *La Voz de Galicia* was also critical, calling it a "hormonal mess with overtones of a chic soap opera" and likened it to an "unfinished chapter that you can only continue if you have seen (and will continue to watch) the other films". [23] Sandra Hall of *The Sydney* Morning Herald awarded the film 2 stars out of 5, noting that "After We Fell is unlikely to interest fans of the popular Netflix series *Sex Education*, and its unfiltered treatment of the black comic aspects of teenage sexuality.[24]

# **Sequels**

In October 2020, it was announced that *After We Fell* and *After Ever Happy* were greenlit to go into back-to-back production, with Castille Landon directing both films. *After Ever Happy* was released in September 2022. Filming began December 28, 2020 and concluded on February 16, 2022. The film was released on September 7, 2022. [26]

On August 24, 2022, it was announced that final movie of franchise, titled  $\underline{After\ Everything}$ , had finished filming. Langford and Fiennes Tiffin will reprise their roles. It will be the fifth movie in the After film series. It will also be the only film that will not be based on a book in the series.

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## **External links**

- After We Fell (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt13069986/) at IMDb
- After We Fell (https://www.instagram.com/aftermovie/) on Instagram

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