

Zoey 102

Zoey 102 is a 2023 American romantic comedy film directed by Nancy Hower.^[2] It is a sequel film of the Nickelodeon series *Zoey 101* (2005–2008), and features many of its cast members, including Jamie Lynn Spears, Erin Sanders, Sean Flynn, Christopher Massey, Matthew Underwood, Abby Wilde, and Jack Salvatore Jr.

It was produced by Nickelodeon Movies and was released on Paramount+ on July 27, 2023.^{[3][4]} It received mixed to positive reviews from critics and fans.^[5] One day after its release, on July 28, 2023, the film was the third most watched on Paramount+ in the U.S. and the second most watched in Canada.^{[6][7]}

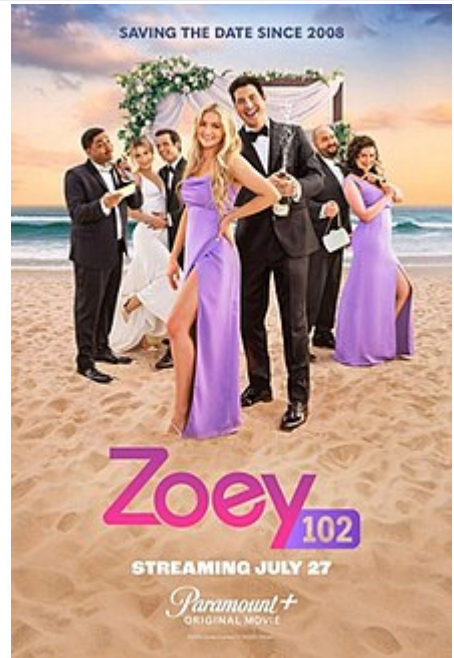
Plot

Zoey Brooks, now a 32-year-old struggling television producer for a reality series called "*LOVE: Fully Charged*," is asked by her best friend Quinn Pensky to be the maid of honor in her and Logan Reese's upcoming wedding, which is scheduled for the same weekend as the *LOVE: Fully Charged* season finale. Zoey also has unresolved feelings for the best man, Chase Matthews, whom she has not seen or spoken to since abandoning him on a Hawaiian vacation after high school; Chase has since started dating another woman. Zoey devises an elaborate plan to fulfill both commitments, hiring Todd Schupert, an actor who auditioned for *LOVE: Fully Charged*, to pose as her boyfriend.

After reuniting with her school friends at the pre-wedding party, Zoey sneaks off to tend to Jordan B., one of the finalists on *LOVE: Fully Charged*. She then returns to the party and finds a hiding Quinn, who reveals that she is uncomfortable with the size and opulence of the wedding. The group goes to a karaoke bar, where a confrontation ensues between Todd and Chase, the latter claiming that he is over Zoey.

The next day, Todd watches Jordan so that Zoey can attend the wedding rehearsal, but Jordan gets amnesia from a head injury and forgets his lines for the finale. On the day of the wedding and finale, Zoey goes to pick up the rings, with Chase inadvertently joining her. Zoey and Chase are distant at first, but after being pressured into kissing by the jewelers (who mistook them for Quinn and Logan), they warm up to each other. Zoey apologizes

Zoey 102



Official release poster

Directed by	<u>Nancy Hower</u>
Screenplay by	<u>Monica Sherer</u> <u>Madeline Whitby</u>
Based on	<u>Zoey 101</u> by <u>Dan Schneider</u>
Produced by	<u>Shauna Phelan</u> <u>Zack Olin</u>
Starring	<u>Jamie Lynn Spears</u> <u>Erin Sanders</u> <u>Sean Flynn</u> <u>Christopher Massey</u> <u>Matthew Underwood</u> <u>Abby Wilde</u> <u>Jack Salvatore Jr.</u> <u>Owen Thiele</u> <u>Thomas Lennon</u>

to Chase for abandoning him in Hawaii and reveals that she was afraid that things between them would end poorly, as they always had. She admits she still has feelings for him, and they share another, more genuine kiss.

Zoey and Chase arrive back at the wedding just in time for the ceremony, as well as the finale, with Zoey simultaneously fulfilling her maid of honor duties and feeding lines to Jordan via her phone and earbuds. While giving the welcome speech, Stacey receives a lead suggesting Todd is a serial killer whom she and Mark have been searching for, and a confused Zoey feeds Jordan the wrong lines, ruining the finale. Zoey confesses that she is working and that Todd is not her boyfriend but actually an actor. Quinn, fed up with Zoey's dishonesty and Logan's insistence on making the wedding a spectacle, calls off the ceremony and runs away in tears, while a guilt-ridden Zoey is fired.

On the beach, Chase reveals to Zoey that he and his girlfriend broke up two weeks prior and that she accompanied him to the wedding only so he would not be alone. Zoey has an idea and takes the gang back to their old, now abandoned school, Pacific Coast Academy, and they spruce the place up. Logan apologizes to Quinn and takes her to PCA, where the gang has set up an informal wedding venue. After the ceremony, Zoey's boss calls to tell her that the finale actually turned out to be a huge success and offers her a promotion, which she accepts with some conditions. While dancing, she and Chase profess their love for each other and kiss.

A mid-credits scene shows Todd putting a squirming bag in the trunk of his car, implying that Stacey and Mark's suspicions that he is the killer are correct.

Cast

- Jamie Lynn Spears as Zoey Brooks^[3]
- Sean Flynn as Chase Matthews^[3]
- Christopher Massey as Michael Barret^[3]
- Erin Sanders as Quinn Pensky^[3]
- Matthew Underwood as Logan Reese^[3]
- Abby Wilde as Stacy Dillsen^[3]
- Jack Salvatore Jr. as Mark Del Figgalo^[3]
- Owen Thiele as Archer March^[8]
- Thomas Lennon as Kelley Kevyn^[8]
- Dean Geyer as Todd Schupert^[8]
- Katelynn Bennett as Camille^[8]
- Audrey Whitby as Lyric Reese^[9]

	<u>Dean Geyer</u> <div>Katelynn Bennett</div>
Cinematography	<u>Mathew Rudenberg</u>
Edited by	<u>Ian Skalski</u>
Music by	<u>Roger Neill</u> ^[1]
Production companies	<u>Nickelodeon Movies</u> <div><u>AwesomenessTV</u></div>
Distributed by	<u>Paramount+</u>
Release date	July 27, 2023
Running time	101 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English



Jamie Lynn Spears in character as Zoey Brooks in the film.

- Ms. Pat as Janice the Jeweler^[8]
- Shua Jackson as Greg^[10]

Photographs of Victoria Justice and Austin Butler are used to represent their respective *Zoey 101* characters: Lola Martinez and James Garrett. Spears' daughters Maddie and Ivey made cameo appearances in the film.^[11]

Production



Zoey 102 cast members promoting the film before the 2023 SAG-AFTRA strike.

On January 12, 2023, it was announced that a revival film for *Zoey 101* was under production by Paramount+,^[12] with Nancy Hower as director and a script written by Monica Sherer and Madeline Whitby.^[13] Spears posted a photo on Instagram and revealed that she would reprise her role as Zoey, along with most of the cast as well.^[14] In addition, it was announced that Spears would also serve as executive producer, along with Alexis Fisher, Hower, Sherer and Whitby,^[13] while Shauna Phelan and Zack Olin would be producers.^[15] In a statement, Spears

said: "I'm beyond thrilled to be back alongside my PCA family and continue the story of Zoey and all the characters fans know and love. As an executive producer, it's been an exciting opportunity to work with such incredible talent as well as Paramount+ and Nickelodeon."^[16] However, several cast members did not return for the film. For example, Paul Butcher, the actor who played Dustin in the series, did not return as he was focusing on TikTok.^{[17][18]} Victoria Justice was offered the chance to reprise her role of Lola Martinez in the film, but she could not accept due to scheduling conflicts.^[19]

Principal photography took place in Wilmington, North Carolina,^[20] and some locations included the University of North Carolina Wilmington^[21] and Perry's Emporium.

The first trailer was released on June 20, 2023, which announced that the film will premiere on July 27.^[15]

Release

The film was released on July 27, 2023.^{[22][23]}

After the film's release, the original series *Zoey 101* was ranked on the Top 10 most watched television series list on Paramount+ in several countries.^[24]

Reception

The film received mixed to positive reviews from critics and fans.^[25] *Billboard* called it a "highly anticipated sequel,"^[25] while *Ready Steady Cut* praised the film as a "a nostalgic and amusing watch, enjoyable for original fans and the series newcomers."^[26] *Decider* recommended streaming the film and wrote in a positive review: "*Zoey 102* is a predictable reboot and the plot kinda goes exactly where you think it will. That being said, it's an enjoyable ride that reflects who these characters might be in 2023, and the jokes and writing feel funny and current."^[27]

People described Spears' role as Zoey Brooks as "iconic."^[28] *The New York Times* wrote in a favorable review: "It's not an easy task to make a movie out of a kids' show from a bygone era, but the film does a relatively smooth job of dipping into — but not overdoing — the nostalgia and retaining the lighthearted, wacky tone that was the show's signature. It helps that the cast members, now older, are better performers. Even if there's a ceiling to how much can be achieved here, returning fans wanting a reminder of their youths will get just enough of what they came for."^[5] On review aggregator *Rotten Tomatoes*, it reported an "fresh" approval rating of 67% based on reviews from 6 critics, with an average rating of 5.00/10.^[29]



Jamie Lynn Spears
interviewed on the set of
Zoey 102 in 2023.

Viewership

The film attracted a large international audience on *Paramount+*.^[7] On July 28, 2023, one day after the film's release, *Zoey 102* was the third most watched film on *Paramount+* in the United States and the second most watched in Canada.^{[6][7]} The film topped the most watched list in the United Kingdom and Ireland on July 29, 2023.^[30]

Zoey 102 ranking on Paramount+ Top 10^[31]

Year	Country	Top position
2023	Australia	1 ^[32]
	Argentina	1
	Bolivia	1
	Brazil	1
	Canada	2 ^[7]
	Chile	1
	Colombia	1
	Costa Rica	1
	Dominican Republic	1
	Ecuador	1
	Guatemala	1
	Honduras	1
	Ireland	1 ^[33]
	Mexico	1
	Nicaragua	1
	Panama	1
	Paraguay	1
	Peru	1
	Salvador	1
	United Kingdom	1 ^[30]
	United States	3 ^[6]
	Uruguay	1
	Venezuela	1
	Worldwide	9 ^[34]

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