

Beauty (2022 film)

Beauty is a 2022 American drama film directed by Andrew Dosunmu from a screenplay by Lena Waithe. It premiered at the 2022 Tribeca Film Festival^[1] and was released on Netflix on June 29, 2022. It stars Gracie Marie Bradley, Niecy Nash, Giancarlo Esposito, Sharon Stone, Andre Ozim, Micheal Ward, and Kyle Bary.^{[2][3]}

Synopsis

A young singer on the brink of stardom is determined to hold on to her identity amid her rising fame and the oppressive household of her religious parents.

Cast

- Gracie Marie Bradley as Beauty
- Niecy Nash as Beauty's Mother
- Aleyse Shannon as Jasmine
- Giancarlo Esposito as Beauty's Father
- Kyle Bary as Abel
- Micheal Ward as Cain
- Sharon Stone as Colonizer
- Andre Ozim as Preacher

Reception

On review aggregator Rotten Tomatoes, *Beauty* holds an approval rating of 22% based on 18 reviews, with an average rating of 5.10/10.^[4]

Lovia Gyarkye of *The Hollywood Reporter* commended Dosunmu's direction for delivering "beautiful, indulgent vignettes" that are "aesthetically pleasing and immersive" in its vibes but was critical of the broadly straightforward story and its characters being "vague sketches" with "predictable and perfunctory" conversations, concluding: "As it stands, *Beauty* feels too distant, treating its mercurial protagonist just as her mother feared — like a fantasy."^[2] Noel Murray of the *Los Angeles Times* was critical of Waithe's interpretation of Whitney Houston's story being composed of "mid-20th century progressive theater" archetypes, saying "this semi-true story is ultimately too sketchy to have anything effective to say about Houston, mainstream success or being in the

Beauty



Poster

Directed by	Andrew Dosunmu
Screenplay by	Lena Waithe
Produced by	Lena Waithe <div>Michael Ellenberg</div>
Starring	<div>Gracie Marie Bradley<div>Niecy Nash<div>Aleyse Shannon<div>Giancarlo Esposito<div>Kyle Bary<div>Micheal Ward<div>Sharon Stone<div>Andre Ozim</div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div>
Cinematography	Benoît Delhomme
Edited by	Oriana Soddu
Music by	Philip Miller

closet."^[5] Kristen Lopez of *IndieWire* gave the film an overall D+ grade, writing: "Beauty could have something interesting to say about the cultural and aesthetic straitjacket Black female artists endured in the 1970s and 1980s, and whether that's changed (or not) even today. But Dosunmu's airless directing and Waithe's thin script only amount to loud allegory that never goes anywhere and drowns out any compelling ideas that might be worth singing."^[6]

References

1. "Beauty | 2022 Tribeca Festival" (<https://tribecafilm.com/films/beauty-2022>). *Tribeca*. Retrieved July 1, 2022.
2. Gyarkye, Lovia (June 29, 2022). "'Beauty': Film Review" (<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/movies/movie-reviews/beauty-film-lena-waithe-netflix-1235172484/>). *The Hollywood Reporter*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20230406002027/https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/movies/movie-reviews/beauty-film-lena-waithe-netflix-1235172484/>) from the original on April 6, 2023. Retrieved July 1, 2022.
3. "'Beauty' Director Andrew Dosunmu Says The Lena Waithe-Penned Netflix Film Is A Love Letter To Black Women Vocalists" (<https://news.yahoo.com/beauty-director-andrew-dosunmu-says-105051379.html>). *news.yahoo.com*. July 2022. Retrieved July 1, 2022.
4. "BEAUTY" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/beauty_2022). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20230523223137/https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/beauty_2022) from the original on May 23, 2023. Retrieved July 1, 2022.
5. Murray, Noel (July 1, 2022). "Review: Disappointing 'Beauty,' another college admissions scandal and more movies" (<https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/movies/story/2022-07-01/beauty-netflix-jennifer-lopez-george-clooney-out-of-sight-college-admissions-scandal>). *Los Angeles Times*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20221211200017/https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/movies/story/2022-07-01/beauty-netflix-jennifer-lopez-george-clooney-out-of-sight-college-admissions-scandal>) from the original on December 11, 2022. Retrieved October 15, 2023.
6. Lopez, Kristen (June 29, 2022). "'Beauty' Review: Lena Waithe and Andrew Dosunmu's Music Drama Hits All the Wrong Notes" (<https://www.indiewire.com/criticism/movies/beauty-review-lena-waithe-netflix-music-1234737385/>). *IndieWire*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20231015184926/https://www.indiewire.com/criticism/movies/beauty-review-lena-waithe-netflix-music-1234737385/>) from the original on October 15, 2023. Retrieved October 15, 2023.

External links

- *Beauty* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt11364112/>) at *IMDb*

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Production companies	Hillman Grad Media Res
Distributed by	<i>Netflix</i>
Release dates	June 11, 2022 (Tribeca) <div>June 29, 2022 (United States)</div>
Running time	95 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English