

Monster (2018 film)

Monster is a 2018 American <u>legal drama</u> film directed by Anthony Mandler, from a screenplay by <u>Radha Blank</u>, [1] Cole Wiley, and Janece Shaffer, based on the novel <u>of the same name</u> by Walter Dean Myers. It stars <u>Kelvin Harrison Jr.</u>, <u>Jennifer Ehle</u>, <u>Tim Blake Nelson</u>, <u>Nas</u>, <u>ASAP Rocky</u>, <u>Paul Ben-Victor</u>, <u>John David Washington</u>, <u>Jennifer Hudson</u>, and <u>Jeffrey Wright</u>. Wright, Nas, and <u>John Legend</u> also serve as executive producers on the film.

Three years after its world premiere at the <u>Sundance Film Festival</u> on January 22, 2018, the film was acquired by <u>Netflix</u> and released on May 7, 2021. It received generally positive reviews from critics.

Premise

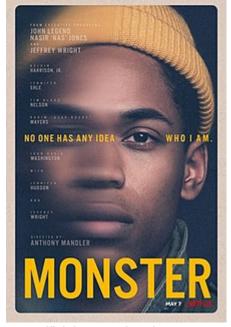
Monster tells the story of Steve Harmon (Kelvin Harrison Jr.) a seventeen-year-old honor student whose world comes crashing down around him when he is charged with felony murder. The film follows his dramatic journey from a smart, likeable film student from Harlem attending an elite high school through a complex legal battle that could leave him spending the rest of his life in prison. [2]

—Netflix

Cast

- Kelvin Harrison Jr. as Steve Harmon
- Jennifer Hudson as Mrs. Harmon
- Jeffrey Wright as Mr. Harmon
- Jennifer Ehle as Maureen O'Brien
- Tim Blake Nelson as Leroy Sawicki
- ASAP Rocky as James King
- Paul Ben-Victor as Anthony Petrocelli
- John David Washington as Richard "Bobo" Evans
- Nas as Raymond "Sunset" Green
- Jharrel Jerome as Osvaldo Cruz
- Dorian Missick as Asa Briggs
- Willie C. Carpenter as Judge

Monster



Official promotional poster

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Anthony Mandler
Radha Blank
Cole Wiley
Janece Shaffer
Monster
by Walter Dean
Myers
Tonya Lewis Lee
Nikki Silver
Aaron L. Gilbert
Mike Jackson
Edward Tyler
Nahem
Kelvin Harrison
<u>Jr.</u>

Jennifer Ehle

ASAP Rocky

John David

Washington

Tim Blake Nelson

- Rege Lewis as Ernie Ryans
- Jonny Coyne as Detective Karyl
- Lovie Simone as Renee Pickford
- Liam Obergfoll as Casper Juenemann
- Mikey Madison as Alexandra Floyd
- Nyleek Moore as Jerry Harmon
- Roberto Lopez as Mr. Nesbitt

Release

The film premiered in the U.S. Dramatic Competition section at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival. In April 2019, it was announced that Entertainment Studios had acquired distribution rights to the film, retitled $All\ Rise$. In November 2020, Netflix acquired distribution rights to the film, with the title switching back to Monster. It was released on their service on May 7, 2021. [7][8]

Reception

On the <u>review aggregator</u> website <u>Rotten Tomatoes</u>, 68% of 62 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 6.1/10. The website's critical consensus reads, "*Monster* would have benefited from a less heavy-handed approach, but Kelvin Harrison Jr.'s performance gives this timely drama emotional heft." According to <u>Metacritic</u>, which assigned a weighted average score of 56 out of 100 based on 18 critics, the film received "mixed or average reviews". [10]

	1
	Jennifer Hudson
	Jeffrey Wright
Cinematography	David Devlin
Edited by	Joe Klotz
Music by	Harvey Mason Jr.
Production companies	Bron Studios
	Charlevoix
	Entertainment
	Get Lifted Film
	Company
	Tonik
	Productions
	Red Crown
	Productions
	Productions Creative Wealth
Distributed by	Creative Wealth
Distributed by Release dates	Creative Wealth Media
-	Creative Wealth Media Netflix
-	Creative Wealth Media Netflix January 22, 2018
-	Creative Wealth Media Netflix January 22, 2018 (Sundance)
-	Creative Wealth Media Netflix January 22, 2018 (Sundance) May 7, 2021
Release dates	Creative Wealth Media Netflix January 22, 2018 (Sundance) May 7, 2021 (United States)
Release dates Running time	Creative Wealth Media Netflix January 22, 2018 (Sundance) May 7, 2021 (United States) 98 minutes

See also

- List of black films of the 2010s
- List of hood films
- Monster (Myers novel)

References

- 1. "'Monster' Summary & Ending, Explained Cultivates Drama With Hard-Hitting Dialogues | DMT" (https://dmtalkies.com/monster-summary-ending-explained-2021-netflix-film/). Digital Mafia Talkies. May 7, 2021. Retrieved May 7, 2021.
- 2. Monster (https://media.netflix.com/en/only-on-netflix/81121351)
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- 5. "Jennifer Hudson Sundance Film 'All Rise' Acquired by Byron Allen's Entertainment Studios" (https://www.thewrap.com/jennifer-hudson-byron-allen-sundance-film-all-rise-acquired-entert ainment-studios/). *The Wrap*. April 22, 2019. Retrieved April 23, 2019.
- 6. Galuppo, Mia (November 10, 2020). "Netflix Acquires 'Monster' Starring Jennifer Hudson, Kelvin Harrison Jr" (https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/netflix-acquires-monster-starrin g-jennifer-hudson-kelvin-harrison-jr). *The Hollywood Reporter*. Retrieved November 10, 2020.
- 7. Fleming, Mike Jr. (January 12, 2021). "Netflix Unveils A 2021 Film Slate With Bigger Volume & Star Wattage; Scott Stuber On The Escalating Film Ambition" (https://deadline.com/video/netflix-2021-movie-slate/). Deadline Hollywood. Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20210112140848/https://deadline.com/video/netflix-2021-movie-slate/) from the original on January 12, 2021. Retrieved January 12, 2021.
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- 9. "Monster (2018)" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/monster_2021). Rotten Tomatoes. Fandango Media. Retrieved October 10, 2021.
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External links

Monster (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2850272/) at IMDb

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