

= Kristen Bell =

Kristen Anne Bell (born July 18 , 1980) is an American actress and singer . She began her acting career starring in stage productions and attended the Tisch School of Arts in New York . In 2001 , she made her Broadway debut as Becky Thatcher in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and starred in the Broadway revival of *The Crucible* the following year . In 2004 , she had a supporting role in the film *Spartan* and received praise for her first leading performance in *Gracie 's Choice* .

Bell gained critical acclaim for her first major role as the title character in the teen noir drama television series *Veronica Mars* (2004 ? 07) . For her performance she awarded a Saturn Award for Best Actress on Television . She reprised the eponymous role in the 2014 film continuation of the series . During her time on *Veronica Mars* , Bell appeared as Mary Lane in the 2005 film *Reefer Madness : The Movie Musical* , a reprise of the role she had played in the New York musical upon which the film was based . In 2007 , Bell joined the cast of the sci @-@ fi series *Heroes* , playing the character Elle Bishop , for which she was nominated for a Saturn Award .

In 2008 , she had her breakout film role as the title character in *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* . She has since appeared in a number of comedy films , such as *Couples Retreat* (2009) , *When in Rome* (2010) , and *You Again* (2010) . Bell garnered further recognition for voicing Princess Anna in the 2013 Disney film *Frozen* and the 2015 short film *Frozen Fever* . She also starred as the female lead on the Showtime series *House of Lies* . Bell married actor Dax Shepard in 2013 , with whom she has two daughters .

= = Early life and family = =

Kristen Anne Bell was born on July 18 , 1980 and was raised in Huntington Woods , Michigan , a suburb of Detroit . Her mother , Lorelei (née Frygier) , is a registered nurse , and her father , Tom Bell , works as the television news director for CBS Television in Sacramento . Her parents divorced when she was two years old , and she has two half @-@ sisters , Sara and Jody , from her father 's second marriage . Bell is of Scottish , Polish , German and Irish descent .

Bell stated that she did not like her first name at the age of four . Bell 's mother convinced her to go by her middle name of Anne instead ; she used the name Annie until high school . Bell once broke both her wrists at the same time playing street hockey with friends .

Just before her freshman year of high school , Bell 's parents decided to pull her from the public school system . She then attended Shrine Catholic High School in nearby Royal Oak , where she took part in the drama and music club . During her time at the school , she won the starring role in the school 's 1997 production of *The Wizard of Oz* , as Dorothy Gale and also appeared in productions of *Fiddler on the Roof* (1995) , *Lady Be Good* (1996) , and *Li 'l Abner* (1998) . In 1998 , the year she graduated , Bell was named the yearbook 's " Best Looking Girl " by senior class vote .

Shortly after her high school graduation , Bell moved to New York City to attend New York University 's Tisch School of the Arts , majoring in musical theater . In 2001 , during her senior year , Bell left a few credits shy of graduating to take a role in the Broadway musical version of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* .

= = Career = =

= = = 1992 ? 2003 : Early work = = =

In 1992 , Bell went to her first audition and won a dual role as a banana and a tree in a suburban Detroit theater 's production of *Raggedy Ann and Andy* . Her mother had established her with an agent before Bell was 13 , which allowed her to appear in newspaper advertisements for several Detroit retailers and television commercials . She also began private acting lessons . In 1998 , she appeared with an uncredited role in the locally filmed film *Polish Wedding* .

In 2001 , Bell left New York University to play a role as Becky Thatcher in the short @-@ lived Broadway musical of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer . That same year , she made her credited film debut in Pootie Tang . Her one line in the film was cut and her appearance exists only as a scene shown during the credit sequence . Additionally , she auditioned for the television series Smallville for the role of Chloe Sullivan , a part eventually won by Allison Mack . In 2002 , she appeared in the Broadway revival of The Crucible with Liam Neeson , Angela Bettis and Laura Linney . Bell then moved to Los Angeles , California in 2002 because of her friendship with writers Kevin Murphy and Dan Studney , and appeared in a handful of television shows as a special guest , finding trouble gaining a recurring role in a television series . Bell had " tested like eight times and booked nothing and every show [she] tested for got picked up , " including auditions for Skin and a Norm Macdonald series .

= = = 2004 ? 06 : Veronica Mars and other roles = = =

In 2004 , Bell appeared in the Lifetime television film Gracie 's Choice , which received one of the network 's highest ratings . She made her debut in a theatrically released film , with David Mamet 's Spartan , as Laura Newton , the kidnapped daughter of the U.S. President , acting alongside Val Kilmer . Bell also guest @-@ starred on the HBO drama Deadwood in a two @-@ episode story arc (" Bullock Returns to the Camp " and " Suffer the Little Children ") .

At 24 , she won the role of the title character in UPN 's drama Veronica Mars , which was launched in the fall of 2004 . Created by Rob Thomas , the series starred Bell as the seventeen @-@ year @-@ old anti @-@ establishment high school student / detective . Bell drew on the parallels between the character of Veronica and her own life , since Bell 's parents had divorced and her best friend had also died . The series earned acclaim from television critics , as did Bell 's performance . Some critics asserted that her performance was overlooked , and deserved consideration for an Emmy Award .

Aside from working on Veronica Mars , Bell starred in Reefer Madness : The Movie Musical , reprising the role she played in the short @-@ lived 2001 off @-@ Broadway musical . The musical was a spoof of the 1936 exploitation film of the same name . Reefer Madness : The Movie Musical debuted on the Showtime network on April 16 , 2005 . Also in April , Bell starred as Gracie in Fifty Pills , an entry for the Tribeca Film Festival . She appeared in a short independent film called The Receipt and the horror film Roman , which was directed by her The Crucible co @-@ star Angela Bettis . Released on August 11 , 2006 , Pulse starred Bell as the lead Mattie . A remake of the Japanese horror film Kairo , the film grossed US \$ 27 @. @ 9 million worldwide , ; however it garnered negative response from critics . Frank Scheck of The Hollywood Reporter commented , " despite the starring presence of Kristen Bell , [the] young actress has far less interesting material to work with here than she does as [the character] " Veronica Mars . " "

= = = 2007 ? 2011 : Film breakthrough = = =

Veronica Mars continued on UPN for a second season ; for the third season , the show was renewed and appeared on the newly created The CW . On January 19 , 2007 , CW Entertainment President Dawn Ostroff announced that while she was pleased with the gradual improvement of Veronica Mars 's ratings , the series would be put on hiatus after February sweeps to air a new reality series , Pussycat Dolls Present . On May 17 , 2007 Ostroff announced the cancellation of the series . A two @-@ hour series finale aired in the United States on May 22 , 2007 , and on June 11 , 2007 Thomas officially announced in an email to TV Guide 's Michael Ausiello that Veronica Mars had been canceled by the CW . A Veronica Mars feature film and comic book series continuation had been discussed , and for a short time there was talk of another collaboration between Bell and creator Thomas that would be unrelated to the Veronica Mars series .

Following the cancellation of Veronica Mars , Bell voiced interest in appearing on Heroes because she was a fan . On July 29 , 2007 , during a train ride back to Los Angeles from the San Diego Comic @-@ Con with Heroes actors Zachary Quinto and Masi Oka , and writers from the series ,

the writers had mentioned that if she " ever want [ed] to come on Heroes , give us [writers] a call , " to which Bell said she would " love to . " Meanwhile , there were discussions about a role on Lost , but Bell turned down the role of Charlotte Staples Lewis . Bell portrayed Elle Bishop on Heroes , a " mysterious young lady " with an " awesome power " . She did not have to audition for the role of Elle , who made her first appearance in an October 2007 episode , and appeared in at least thirteen episodes during the run of the series . The casting of Bell , Heroes creator Tim Kring explained , " was not easy to pull off " , but because of the large ensemble cast of the series and multiple story arcs , " we found a way to jump into a small window in [Bell 's] schedule . " . Bell lent her voice to the CW series Gossip Girl : she voiced the title character in every episode of the series , appearing in person only for a surprise cameo in the final episode , portraying herself .

Shortly after the cancellation of Veronica Mars in early 2007 , Bell filmed on location in Hawaii for a starring role as the title character in the Judd Apatow comedy Forgetting Sarah Marshall . She regarded the improvisational comedy in the film as " a lovely experience " . The film , written by and also starring Jason Segel , was released theatrically on April 18 , 2008 , and is considered to be Bell 's star @-@ making role . Bell lent her voice and likeness to the video game Assassin 's Creed which was released on November 13 , 2007 for the PlayStation 3 and Xbox 360 and April 8 , 2008 for the PC . Bell reprised her role of Lucy in Assassin 's Creed II released on November 17 , 2009 , and again in Assassin 's Creed : Brotherhood , released on November 16 , 2010 . In the spring of 2006 , she finished filming the Star Wars @-@ themed comedy Fanboys , which had its release date pushed to January 14 , 2008 . This was due to additional funding given to director Kyle Newman to shoot new scenes , however , the busy schedules of the actors only allowed for filming in September 2007 , thus moving the release date to accommodate that . Bell also starred in the 2009 comedies Serious Moonlight , alongside Meg Ryan , and Couples Retreat , which chronicles four couples who partake in therapy sessions at a tropical island resort . Jason Bateman played her husband . She also provided the voice for Cora in Astro Boy . On March 31 , 2008 , Bell began shooting the Mark Steven Johnson @-@ written Disney film When in Rome in locations in Rome and New York ; the film was released in 2010 . Bell reprised her role as Sarah Marshall for a cameo appearance in the film Get Him to the Greek , a spin @-@ off sequel from Forgetting Sarah Marshall , released June 4 , 2010 .

She co @-@ starred with singers Christina Aguilera and Cher in the film musical Burlesque which was released on Thanksgiving in 2010 . Bell had a cameo in the slasher horror film , Scream 4 , which was released on April 15 , 2011 .

= = = 2012 ? present : Frozen and future projects = = =

In 2012 , Bell starred in the family drama film Big Miracle . She has also appeared in the music video for " Madder Red " by Brooklyn experimental rock band Yeasayer . Bell portrayed " Mary Magdalene " in The Truth & Life Dramatized Audio New Testament Bible , a 22 @-@ hour , celebrity @-@ voiced , dramatized audio New Testament which uses the RSV @-@ CE translation .

Bell stars as Jeannie van der Hooven , the female lead on the Showtime series House of Lies , which premiered on January 8 , 2012 . Bell starred in The Lifeguard , written and directed by Liz W. Garcia , which began filming in July 2012 , and was released in August 2013 . She also voiced Anna in Frozen , which was released on November 22 , 2013 . In 2013 , for multiple episodes , Bell played Ingrid de Forest , an Eagleton City Councilwoman , on Parks and Recreation .

On March 13 , 2013 , it was confirmed that a Veronica Mars film would finally be coming to fruition . Bell and series creator Rob Thomas , launched a fundraising campaign to produce the film through Kickstarter and attained the \$ 2 million goal in less than ten hours . The main cast members of the series all reprised their roles in the feature film . Production of the film took place during summer 2013 , and it was released theatrically and on video @-@ on @-@ demand on March 14 , 2014 .

In September 2014 , Bell starred with her husband , Dax Shephard , in a commercial for the Samsung Galaxy Tab S. It was so popular (with over 20 million YouTube views) that they did another for the holiday season . The ad agency McKinney was behind both . In 2016 , Bell voiced the sloth Priscilla in the animated comedy film Zootopia and starred as Claire in the comedy film The

Boss . She will appear in the 2016 comedy film Bad Moms , and the 2017 action comedy CHiPs . Bell will also star as the main character , Eleanor , in the NBC comedy series The Good Place , which is set to premiere in the fall of 2016 .

= = In the media = =

In 2006 and again in 2013 , Bell was selected " World 's Sexiest Vegetarian " on PETA 's yearly poll . She was placed No. 68 on Maxim 's 2005 " Hot 100 " list , No. 11 in Maxim 's 2006 " Hot 100 " list , and No. 46 in Maxim 's 2007 " Hot 100 " list in which she was stated to have " single @-@ handedly saved the CW from becoming the worst network ever . " In 2006 , Maxim also placed Bell at the top of the " Fall TV 's Criminally Sexy Investigators " List . In 2008 , she was featured at No. 59 on Ask Men 's Top 99 Women of 2008 List . Reflecting on her admitted popularity with " geeks " , Bell was voted the fourth sexiest woman on TV by the staff at Wizard magazine .

Bell stated she never thought of herself as womanly because " I always play and look and act 10 years younger than I am , " however , she said , " Something magical happened when I turned 25 ? I looked in the mirror and was like , You might not get carded for an R @-@ rated movie anymore . Like I didn 't have a little stick figure anymore . " Bell has said that many of her characters are tomboys because she was " not homely enough to play the nerdy girl and not nearly pretty enough to play the pretty girl " .

Bell has been associated with the idea that " nerdy is the new cool " , and she explained , " what was previously perceived as nerdy is now viewed as original . What I like about nerdiness , geekiness , is it doesn 't really matter what you 're into ? it just means you 're not a follower . " She has also said , " I love nerds . Comic @-@ Con junkies are the tastemakers of tomorrow . Isn 't that funny ? The tables have turned . " Vanessa Juarez of Entertainment Weekly commented that Bell 's roles on Veronica Mars , Heroes and as a Star Wars fanatic in Fanboys have " solidif [ied] her placement at the center of the geek universe " , while Rodney Rothman stated , " I guess she 's cornered the market on losers . " Bell 's work is often compared to Sarah Michelle Gellar 's portrayal of the title character on the cult television series Buffy the Vampire Slayer . Frank Scheck of The Hollywood Reporter stated that Bell was " arguably the television successor [to Gellar 's portrayal of Buffy] when it comes to fighting bad guys . " Bell is sometimes confused with Lauren Conrad from the show The Hills . " Yeah , sometimes fans yell , ' Hey , Lauren ' to me , but usually from a distance , " said Kristen .

Despite " new celebrity " status , Bell claimed that she was not concerned because " no one ever recognizes me anyway " . As Bell explained , " I hang out with Hayden quite a bit ? they never take pictures of me . I just step to the side , and I push myself in front of her when she wants to get out of it , or put her in the car . " Bell was a recurring guest on The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson , appearing in interviews as well as sketches . On The Late Late Show , she shows a humorous hostility towards Craig 's robot skeleton sidekick Geoff Peterson , claiming that she had wanted to be Craig 's sidekick on his show and taking it upon herself to cut Geoff down every chance she gets . Both Bell and Geoff Peterson appeared with Ferguson during the five Late Late Shows filmed in France .

In January 2011 , it was announced that Bell would be the new face of Neutrogena .

= = Personal life = =

= = Relationships and family = =

In 2007 , Bell ended a five @-@ year relationship with former fiancé Kevin Mann . She later told Complex magazine that dating " makes me want to vomit . And not out of grossness ? OK , a little bit out of grossness , but just nerves ... I 've always been a serial monogamist . "

Bell began dating actor Dax Shepard in late 2007 . The couple announced their engagement in January 2010 . They decided to delay marriage until the state of California passed legislation

legalizing same @-@ sex marriage . They co @-@ starred in the 2010 film When In Rome and in the 2012 film Hit and Run . After section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act fell on June 26 , 2013 , Bell asked Shepard to marry her through Twitter , which he accepted . They were married at the Beverly Hills County Clerk 's Office on October 17 , 2013 . They have two daughters : Lincoln Bell Shepard (born March 28 , 2013) and Delta Bell Shepard (born December 19 , 2014) .

= = = Beliefs , interests and charity work = = =

At age 11 , Bell became a vegetarian . In an interview with PETA , Bell stated , " I have always been an animal lover . I had a hard time disassociating the animals I cuddled with ? dogs and cats , for example ? from the animals on my plate , and I never really cared for the taste of meat . I always loved my Brussels sprouts ! " By 2012 Bell became vegan with her husband after watching the documentary Forks Over Knives . During her time in Michigan , Bell fostered animals from Michigan Humane Society and she now supports the San Diego @-@ based Helen Woodward Animal Center . Bell often attends fund raisers for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and other non @-@ profit organizations dedicated to protecting animals . She has a Welsh Corgi @-@ Chow Chow mix named Lola , a Welsh Corgi @-@ Chihuahua mix named Shakey , and a black Labrador Retriever named Sadie , who was 11 years old when she was rescued from Hurricane Katrina and adopted by Bell in 2005 .

Bell has also become a strong advocate of vaccination . Though initially skeptical she has since stated " I think it 's really important to acknowledge that we have something called the herd immunity , where there are people that cannot get immunizations because of autoimmune diseases or cancer treatments , " and that " If we don 't get the vaccinations to keep them safe , then they 're screwed . " Citing scientific research , she shares her belief that it is her duty to not only protect her children , but other children , too - especially those who may suffer from autoimmune diseases or cancer .

She and many of those who worked on Veronica Mars , including personal friend Ryan Hansen , are involved with the charity organization Invisible Children , Inc . The goal of the organization is to create awareness regarding the plight of Northern Ugandans who are caught in the midst of a civil war between the government and Joseph Kony 's Lord 's Resistance Army . Bell has also done a public service announcement for Do Something 's Healthy Living Campaign . In 2014 , Bell launched a Prizeo campaign offering fans a chance to win a date with her in return for donating to Invisible Children .

Bell supported and campaigned for Barack Obama during the 2008 United States presidential election . Along with Rashida Jones , she visited college campuses in Missouri to discuss the candidates and encourage voter registration . Bell showed support for the Writers Guild of America in the writer 's strike , appearing in the picket lines in December 2007 stating , " the writers are just looking for some fairness . "

Bell also has a strong liking of Tommy Wiseau 's 2003 cult film The Room . She hosts parties at her house for The Room , attended cinema screenings of it , and has said that " there is a magic about that film that is indescribable . "

= = = Depression and anxiety = = =

In May 2016 , Bell revealed that she has struggled with and received help for depression and anxiety . She said , " It 's important for me to be candid about this so people in a similar situation can realize that they are not worthless and that they do have something to offer . "

= = Filmography = =

= = = Film = = =

== Television ==

== Video games ==

== Web series ==

== Theatre ==

== Soundtrack appearances ==

== Awards and nominations ==