

= Winona Ryder =

Winona Ryder ( born Winona Laura Horowitz ; October 29 , 1971 ) is an American actress . One of the most profitable and iconic 1990s actresses , she made her film debut in the 1986 film *Lucas* . As Lydia Deetz , a goth teenager in Tim Burton 's *Beetlejuice* ( 1988 ) , she won critical acclaim and widespread recognition . After appearances in film and on television , Ryder continued her acting career with the cult film *Heathers* ( 1988 ) , a controversial satire of teenage suicide and high school life that has since become a landmark teen film . She later appeared in the coming of age drama *Mermaids* ( 1990 ) , earning a Golden Globe nomination , in Burton 's dark fairy tale *Edward Scissorhands* ( 1990 ) , and in Francis Ford Coppola 's gothic romance *Bram Stoker 's Dracula* ( 1992 ) .

Having played diverse roles in many well received films in the mid late 1980s and early 1990s , Ryder won a Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actress and an Academy Award nomination in the same category for her role in *The Age of Innocence* in 1993 as well as another Academy Award nomination , for Best Actress , for the literary adaptation *Little Women* the following year . She later appeared in the Generation X hit *Reality Bites* ( 1994 ) , *Alien : Resurrection* ( 1997 ) , the Woody Allen comedy *Celebrity* ( 1998 ) , and *Girl , Interrupted* ( 1999 ) , which she also executive produced . In 2000 , Ryder received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame , honoring her legacy in the film industry .

Ryder 's personal life has attracted significant media attention . Her relationship with Johnny Depp in the early 1990s and a 2001 arrest for shoplifting were constant subjects of tabloid journalism . She has been open about her personal struggles with anxiety and depression . In 2002 , she appeared in the box office hit *Mr. Deeds* alongside Adam Sandler . In 2006 , Ryder returned to the screen after a brief hiatus , later appearing in high profile films such as *Star Trek* . In 2010 , she was nominated for two Screen Actors Guild Awards : as the lead actress in *When Love Is Not Enough : The Lois Wilson Story* and as part of the cast of *Black Swan* . She also reunited with Burton for *Frankenweenie* ( 2012 ) .

= = Early life = =

Ryder was born Winona Laura Horowitz in a farmhouse near Winona , Minnesota , the daughter of Cynthia Palmer ( née Istas ) and Michael Horowitz . Her mother is an author , video producer , and editor . Her father is an author , editor , publisher , and antiquarian bookseller . He also worked as an archivist for psychedelic guru Dr. Timothy Leary ( who was Ryder 's godfather ) . Her father 's family is Jewish ( they emigrated from Romania and Russia ) , and Ryder has described herself as Jewish . Many members of her father 's family perished in the Holocaust . Her father 's family was originally named " Tomchin " but took the surname " Horowitz " when they immigrated to America .

Named after the nearby city of Winona , she was given her middle name , Laura , because of her parents ' friendship with Laura Huxley , writer Aldous Huxley 's wife . Her stage name derives from Mitch Ryder , a soul and rock singer of whom her father was a fan . Ryder 's father is an atheist and her mother is a Buddhist ; they encouraged their children to take the best part of other religions and use them to make their own belief systems .

Ryder has one full sibling , a younger brother , Uri ( named in honor of the first Soviet cosmonaut , Yuri Gagarin ) , and two half siblings from her mother 's prior marriage : an older half brother , Jubal Palmer , and an older half sister , Sunyata Palmer . Ryder 's family friends are her godfather , Timothy Leary , the Beat Movement poets Allen Ginsberg and Lawrence Ferlinghetti , and the science fiction novelist Philip K. Dick .

In 1978 , when Ryder was seven years old , she and her family relocated to Rainbow , a commune near Elk , Mendocino County , California , where they lived with seven other families on a 300 acre ( 120 ha ) plot of land . As the remote property had no electricity or television sets , Ryder began to devote her time to reading and became an avid fan of J. D. Salinger 's *The Catcher in the Rye* . She developed an interest in acting after her mother showed her a few movies on a screen in the family barn . At age 10 , Ryder and her family moved on again , this time to Petaluma , California

. During her first week at Kenilworth Junior High , she was bullied by a group of her peers who mistook her for an effeminate , scrawny boy . As a result , she ended up being home @-@ schooled that year . In 1983 , when Ryder was 12 , she enrolled at the American Conservatory Theater in nearby San Francisco , where she took her first acting lessons . In 1989 , Ryder graduated from Petaluma High School with a 4 @.@ 0 GPA . She suffers from aquaphobia because of a traumatic near @-@ drowning at age 12 . This caused problems with the underwater scenes in *Alien : Resurrection* ( 1997 ) , some of which had to be re @-@ shot numerous times .

= = Career = =

= = = Early works , 1985 ? 1990 = = =

In 1985 , Ryder sent a videotaped audition , where she recited a monologue from the novel *Franny and Zooey* by J. D. Salinger , to appear in the film *Desert Bloom* . Although the part went to Annabeth Gish , writer / director David Seltzer noticed her talent and cast her in his 1986 film *Lucas* , about a boy called Lucas ( Corey Haim ) and his life at high school . Shot in the summer of 1985 , the film co @-@ starred Charlie Sheen and Kerri Green with Ryder playing Rina , one of Lucas 's friends at school . When asked how she wanted her name to appear in the credits , she suggested " Ryder " as her surname because a Mitch Ryder album that belonged to her father was playing in the background .

Her next film was *Square Dance* ( 1987 ) , where her teenage character creates a bridge between two different worlds ? a traditional farm in the middle of nowhere and a large city . Ryder won acclaim for her role , and *The Los Angeles Times* called her performance in *Square Dance* " a remarkable debut . " Both films , however , were only marginally successful commercially . Director Tim Burton decided to cast Ryder in his film *Beetlejuice* ( 1988 ) , after being impressed with her performance in *Lucas* . In the film , she plays goth teenager Lydia Deetz . Lydia 's family moves to a haunted house populated by ghosts played by Geena Davis , Alec Baldwin and Michael Keaton . Lydia quickly finds herself the only human with a strong empathy toward the ghosts and their situation . The film was a success at the box office , and Ryder 's performance and the overall film received mostly positive reviews from critics .

Ryder landed the role of Veronica Sawyer in the 1988 independent film *Heathers* . The film , a satirical take on teenage life , revolves around Veronica , who is ultimately forced to choose between the will of society and her own heart after her boyfriend , played by Christian Slater , begins killing off popular high school students . Ryder 's agent initially begged her to turn the role down , saying the film would " ruin her career . " Reaction to the film was largely positive , and Ryder 's performance was critically embraced , with *The Washington Post* stating Ryder is " Hollywood 's most impressive ingénue ... Ryder ... makes us love her teen @-@ age murderess , a bright , funny girl with a little Bonnie Parker in her . She is the most likable , best @-@ drawn young adult protagonist since the sexual innocent of Gregory 's Girl . " The film was a box office flop , yet achieved status as a predominant cult film . Later that year , she starred in *Great Balls of Fire !* , playing the 13 @-@ year @-@ old bride ( and cousin ) of Jerry Lee Lewis . The film was a box office failure and received divided reviews from critics . In April 1989 , she played the title role in the music video for Mojo Nixon 's " Debbie Gibson Is Pregnant with My Two @-@ Headed Love Child . "

In 1990 , Ryder was selected for four film roles . She played the leading female role alongside her then @-@ boyfriend Johnny Depp in the fantasy film *Edward Scissorhands* . The film reunited Tim Burton and Ryder , who had previously worked together on *Beetlejuice* in 1988 . *Edward Scissorhands* was a significant box office success , grossing US \$ 56 million at the United States box office and receiving much critical devotion . Later that year , she withdrew from the role of Mary Corleone in Francis Ford Coppola 's *The Godfather Part III* ( after traveling to Rome for filming ) due to exhaustion . Eventually , Coppola 's daughter Sofia Coppola was cast in the role . Ryder 's ninth role was in the family comedy @-@ drama *Mermaids* ( 1990 ) , which co @-@ starred Cher and

Christina Ricci . Mermaids was a moderate box office success and was embraced critically . Ryder 's performance was acclaimed ; critic Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun @-@ Times wrote : " Winona Ryder , in another of her alienated outsider roles , generates real charisma . " For her performance , Ryder received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Actress in a Supporting Role . Ryder then performed alongside Cher and Christina Ricci in the video for " The Shoop Shoop Song " , the theme from Mermaids . Following Mermaids , she had the lead role in Welcome Home , Roxy Carmichael , a film about an adopted child Dinky Bossetti played by Ryder . The film co @-@ starred Jeff Daniels and was deemed a flop due to its poor showing at the box office .

= = = 1991 ? 1995 = = =

In 1991 , Ryder played a young taxicab driver who dreams of becoming a mechanic in Jim Jarmusch 's Night on Earth . The film was given only a limited release at the box office , but received critical praise . Ryder then starred in the dual roles of Count Dracula 's reincarnated love interest Mina Murray and Dracula 's past lover Princess Elisabeta , in Bram Stoker 's Dracula ( 1992 ) , a project she brought to director Francis Ford Coppola 's attention . In 1993 , she starred in the melodrama The House of the Spirits , based on Isabel Allende 's novel . Ryder played the love interest of Antonio Banderas ' character . Principal filming was done in Denmark and Portugal . The film was poorly reviewed and a box office flop , grossing just \$ 6 million on its \$ 40 million budget .

Ryder starred in The Age of Innocence with Michelle Pfeiffer and Daniel Day @-@ Lewis , a film based on a novel by Edith Wharton and helmed by director Martin Scorsese , whom Ryder considers " the best director in the world . " In the film , Ryder plays May Welland the fiancée of Newland Archer ( Day @-@ Lewis ) . The film , set in the 1870s , was principally filmed in New York and Paris . Her role in this movie won her a Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actress as well as an Academy Award nomination in the same category . Although not a commercial success , it received critical praise . Vincent Canby in the New York Times wrote ; ' Ms Ryder is wonderful as this sweet young thing who 's hard as nails , as much out of ignorance as of self @-@ interest . ' Ryder was set to star in Broken Dreams with actor River Phoenix . The project was put on hold due to his untimely death in 1993 .

Ryder 's next role was in the Generation X drama Reality Bites ( 1994 ) , directed by Ben Stiller , where she played a young woman searching for direction in her life . Her performance received acclaim and the studio hoped the film would gross a substantial amount of money , yet it did not make as much money as expected . Bruce Feldman , Universal Pictures ' Vice @-@ President of Marketing said : " The media labeled it as a Generation X picture , while we thought it was a comedy with broad appeal . " The studio placed TV ads during programs chosen for their appeal to 12- to 34 @-@ year @-@ olds and in interviews Stiller was careful not to mention the phrase " Generation X . "

In 1994 , Ryder was handpicked to play the lead role of Josephine March in Little Women , an adaptation of Louisa May Alcott 's novel . The film received widespread praise ; critic Janet Maslin of The New York Times wrote that the film was the greatest adaptation of the novel , and remarked on Ryder 's performance : " Ms. Ryder , whose banner year also includes a fine comic performance in ' Reality Bites ' , plays Jo with spark and confidence . Her spirited presence gives the film an appealing linchpin , and she plays the self @-@ proclaimed ' man of the family ' with just the right staunchness . " She received a Best Actress Oscar nomination the following year .

She made a guest appearance in The Simpsons episode " Lisa 's Rival " as Allison Taylor , whose intelligence and over @-@ achieving personality makes her a rival of Lisa 's . Her next starring role was in How to Make an American Quilt ( 1995 ) , an adaptation of the novel of the same name by Whitney Otto , co @-@ starring Anne Bancroft . Ryder plays a college graduate who spends her summer hiatus at her grandmother 's property to ponder her boyfriend 's recent marriage proposal . The film was not a commercial success , nor was it popular with critics .

= = = 1996 ? 2000 = = =

Ryder made several film appearances in 1996 , the first in *Boys* . The film failed to become a box office success and attracted mostly negative critical reaction . Roger Ebert of the *Chicago Sun @-@ Times* stated that " *Boys* is a low @-@ rent , dumb @-@ down version of *Before Sunrise* , with a rent @-@ a @-@ plot substituting for clever dialogue . " Her next role was in *Looking for Richard* , Al Pacino 's documentary on a production of Shakespeare 's *Richard III* , which grossed only \$ 1 million at the box office , but drew moderate critical acclaim . She starred in *The Crucible* with Daniel Day @-@ Lewis and Joan Allen . The film , an adaptation of Arthur Miller 's play , centered on the Salem witch trials . The film was expected to be a success , considering its budget , but became a large failure . Despite this , it received acclaim critically , and Ryder 's performance was lauded , with Peter Travers of *Rolling Stone* saying , " Ryder offers a transfixing portrait of warped innocence . "

In December 1996 , Ryder accepted a role as an android in *Alien : Resurrection* ( 1997 ) , alongside Sigourney Weaver , who had appeared in the entire *Alien* trilogy . Ryder 's brother , Uri , was a major fan of the film series , and when asked , she took the role . The film became one of the least successful entries in the *Alien* film series , but was considered a success as it grossed \$ 161 million worldwide . Weaver 's and Ryder 's performances drew mostly positive reviews , and Ryder won a Blockbuster Entertainment Award for Best Actress . Ryder then starred in Woody Allen 's *Celebrity* ( 1998 ) , after Drew Barrymore turned down Ryder 's role , in an ensemble cast . The film satirizes the lives of several celebrities . She later appeared in the music video for Jon Spencer Blues Explosion 's *Talk About the Blues* , which was on their sixth studio album *ACME* . Ryder also appeared on the cover artwork of its follow up album *Xtra @-@ Acme USA* , which was made using a screenshot from the previously mentioned music video .

In 1999 , she performed in and served as an executive producer for *Girl , Interrupted* , based on the 1993 autobiography of Susanna Kaysen . The film had been in project and post @-@ production since late 1996 , but it took time to surface . Ryder was deeply attached to the film , considering it her " child of the heart . " Ryder starred as Kaysen , who has borderline personality disorder and was admitted to a psychiatric hospital for recovery . Ryder starred alongside Whoopi Goldberg and Angelina Jolie . While Ryder was expected to make her comeback with her leading role , the film instead became the " welcome @-@ to @-@ Hollywood coronation " for Jolie , who won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her performance . Jolie thanked Ryder in her acceptance speech . The same year , Ryder was parodied in *South Park : Bigger , Longer & Uncut* .

The following year , she starred in the melodrama *Autumn in New York* , alongside Richard Gere . The film revolves around a relationship between an older man ( Gere ) and a younger woman ( Ryder ) . *Autumn in New York* received mixed reviews , but was a commercial success , grossing \$ 90 million at the worldwide box office . Ryder then played a nun of a secret society loosely connected to the Roman Catholic Church and determined to prevent Armageddon in *Lost Souls* ( 2000 ) , which was a commercial failure . Ryder refused to do commercial promotion for the film . Later in 2000 , she was one of several celebrities who made small cameo appearances in *Zoolander* ( released in 2001 ) . On October 6 , 2000 , Ryder received her own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame , located directly in front of the Johnny Grant building next to the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel on Hollywood Boulevard . She was the 2,165th recipient of this honor .

= = = Hiatus , 2001 ? 2005 = = =

Ryder had a hiatus after her shoplifting incident in 2001 ( see below ) . The book *Conversations with Woody Allen* reports that in 2003 , film director Woody Allen wanted to cast Robert Downey , Jr. and Ryder in his film *Melinda and Melinda* , but was unable to do so because " I couldn 't get insurance on them ... We couldn 't get bonded . The completion bonding companies would not bond the picture unless we could insure them . [ ... ] We were heartbroken because I had worked with Winona before [ on *Celebrity* ] and thought she was perfect for this and wanted to work with her again . "

In 2002 , Ryder appeared in two movies , filmed before her arrest . The first was a romantic comedy

titled Mr. Deeds with Adam Sandler . This was her most commercially successful movie to date , earning over \$ 126 million in the United States alone . The film was not a critical success , however ; film critic Philip French described it as a terrible film , saying that " remakes are often bad , but this one was particularly bad . " The second film was the science fiction drama S1m0ne in which she portrayed a glamorous star who is replaced by a computer simulated actress due to the clandestine machinations of a director , portrayed by her Looking for Richard costar Al Pacino . In July 2003 , she was number 183 on VH1 's and People magazine 's " 200 Greatest Pop Culture Icons " countdown list .

= = = 2006 ? 2010 = = =

In 2006 , following her hiatus , Ryder appeared in Richard Linklater 's A Scanner Darkly , a film based on Philip K. Dick 's well @-@ received science fiction novel of the same name . Ryder starred alongside Keanu Reeves , Robert Downey , Jr. and Woody Harrelson . Live action scenes were transformed with rotoscope software and the film was entirely animated . A Scanner Darkly was screened at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival and the 2006 Seattle International Film Festival . Critics disagreed over the film 's merits ; Carina Chocano of the Los Angeles Times found the film " engrossing " and wrote that " the brilliance of [ the film ] is how it suggests , without bombast or fanfare , the ways in which the real world has come to resemble the dark world of comic books . " Matthew Turner of View London , believing the film to be " engaging " and " beautifully animated , " praised the film for its " superb performances " and original , thought @-@ provoking screenplay . " Ryder appeared in the comedy The Darwin Awards with Joseph Fiennes . The film premiered at the Sundance Film Festival on January 25 , 2006 .

Ryder reunited with Heathers screenwriter Daniel Waters for the surreal black comedy Sex and Death 101 ( 2007 ) . The story follows the sexual odysseys of successful businessman Roderick Blank , played by Simon Baker , who receives a mysterious e @-@ mail on the eve of his wedding , listing all of his past and future sex partners . " We will be doing a sequel to Heathers next " , Ryder stated . " There 's Heathers in the real world ! We have to keep going ! " In a more recent interview Ryder was quoted as saying on the speculation of a Heathers sequel : " I don 't know how much of the movie is official ; it 's a ways away . But it takes place in Washington and Christian Slater agreed to come back and make an Obi @-@ Wan @-@ type appearance . It 's very funny . "

Ryder appeared in David Wain 's comedy The Ten . The film centers around ten stories , each inspired by one of the Ten Commandments . The film debuted at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival on January 10 , 2007 , with a theatrical release on August 3 , 2007 . Ryder played the female lead opposite Wes Bentley and Ray Romano in Geoffrey Haley 's 2008 offbeat romantic drama The Last Word . In 2009 , she starred as a newscaster in the movie version of The Informers .

= = = 2010 ? present = = =

Ryder was cast by director J. J. Abrams 's Star Trek , as Spock 's human mother Amanda Grayson . Several media outlets have noted her return to the box office and upcoming roles as a remarkable comeback . She starred alongside Robin Wright and Julianne Moore in Rebecca Miller 's The Private Lives of Pippa Lee , released on February 9 , 2009 at the 59th Berlin International Film Festival , with a limited US release scheduled for November 2009 . On June 2 , 2009 , Entertainment Weekly reported that in an interview with Ryder in Empire magazine , she revealed that she and Christian Slater will reprise their roles in a sequel to Heathers . In 2010 , Ryder played Beth McIntyre , an aging ballet star in Darren Aronofsky 's Black Swan . She also was cast in an independent film , Stay Cool , alongside Hilary Duff , Mark Polish and Chevy Chase . The same year , she also starred as Lois Wilson in the television movie , When Love Is Not Enough : The Lois Wilson Story for which she has received leading female Screen Actors Guild Award and Satellite Award nominations .

Ryder appeared in a leading role in the film , The Dilemma , directed by Ron Howard and previously called Cheaters and What You Don 't Know . The film , which also starred Vince Vaughn and Kevin

James , began filming in Chicago in May 2010 and was released in January 2011 . In 2011 , she was cast as Deborah Kuklinski , the wife of contract killer Richard Kuklinski , in the thriller The Iceman . In 2012 , Tim Burton cast her as the love interest in The Killers music video , " Here with Me " . She was reunited with Tim Burton for a role in the animated 3D feature film Frankenweenie , released in October 2012 , and appeared alongside James Franco in the action thriller Homefront ( 2013 ) .

In 2013 , Ryder starred in a segment of the Comedy Central television series Drunk History called " Boston " . She played religious protestor Mary Dyer , opposite stern Puritan magistrate John Endicott , played by Michael Cera . She has also appeared in the American miniseries Show Me a Hero , playing the president of the Yonkers City Council , and the British television film Turks & Caicos . In 2015 , she starred alongside Peter Sarsgaard in the biographical drama film Experimenter , playing the wife of Stanley Milgram . Experimenter was released to positive reviews in October 2015 . Aside from acting , she was also announced as the face of Marc Jacobs .

In 2016 , Ryder starred in the Netflix Original Series " Stranger Things " created by the Duffer Brothers In the show she plays single mother Joyce Byers set in 1980 's Indiana whose 12 year @-@ old son vanishes mysteriously . The show was released by Netflix on July 15 , 2016 . It received very positive reviews for its characterization , pacing , atmosphere , acting , soundtrack , directing , writing , and homages to 1980s genre films . Ryder plays one of the main protagonists in the series .

= = Personal life = =

= = = Relationships = = =

Ryder was engaged to actor Johnny Depp for three years beginning in July 1990 . She met Depp at the Great Balls of Fire ! premiere in June 1989 ; two months later they began dating . Following her split from Depp , she dated Soul Asylum front man Dave Pirner for three years , from 1993 to 1996 . She later had a two @-@ year relationship with actor Matt Damon between 1998 and 2000 .

= = = Polly Klaas = = =

In 1993 , Ryder offered a reward in the hope that it would lead to the return of kidnapped child Polly Klaas . Klaas lived in Petaluma , the same town where Ryder grew up . Ryder offered a \$ 200 @,@ 000 reward for the 12 @-@ year @-@ old kidnap victim 's safe return . After the girl 's death , Ryder starred as Jo in the 1994 film adaptation of Little Women by Louisa May Alcott and dedicated her performance to Klaas ' memory . Little Women was one of Klaas ' favorite novels .

During a sentencing hearing related to the 2001 shoplifting incident ( see below ) , Ryder 's attorney , Mark Geragos , referred to her work with the Polly Klaas Foundation and other charitable causes . In response , Deputy District Attorney Ann Rundle said : " What 's offensive to me is to trot out the body of a dead child . " Ryder was visibly upset at the accusation and Rundle was admonished by the judge . Outside the courthouse , Polly 's father Marc Klaas defended Ryder and expressed outrage at the prosecutor 's comments .

= = = 2001 arrest = = =

On December 12 , 2001 , Ryder was arrested on shoplifting charges in Beverly Hills , California . She was accused of stealing \$ 5 @,@ 500 worth of designer clothes and accessories at a Saks Fifth Avenue department store . Ryder agreed under signature to pay two Civil Demands , as permitted under California 's Statute for Civil Recovery for Shoplifting , from Saks Fifth Avenue that completely reimbursed Saks Fifth Avenue for the stolen and surrendered merchandise while detained in the Security Offices of the Saks Fifth Avenue store , and before she was read her Miranda rights and arrested by the Los Angeles Police Department . Los Angeles District Attorney

Stephen Cooley produced a team of eight prosecutors . Cooley filed four felony charges against her . Ryder hired noted celebrity defense attorney Mark Geragos . Negotiations for a plea bargain failed at the end of summer 2002 . As noted by Joel Mowbray from National Review , the prosecution was not ready to offer the actress an open door to a no @-@ contest plea on misdemeanor charges .

During the trial she was accused of using drugs , including oxycodone , diazepam , and Vicodin ( hydrocodone / APAP ) without valid prescriptions . Ryder was convicted of grand theft , shoplifting , and vandalism but was acquitted on the third felony charge , burglary . In December 2002 , she was sentenced to three years ' probation , 480 hours of community service , \$ 3 @,@ 700 in fines , and \$ 6 @,@ 355 in restitution to the Saks Fifth Avenue store and ordered to attend psychological and drug counseling . After reviewing Ryder 's probation report , Superior Court Judge Elden Fox noted that Ryder served 480 hours of community service and on June 18 , 2004 , the felonies were reduced to misdemeanors . Ryder remained on probation until December 2005 .

Of the incident , Ryder explained to Interview that it occurred during a time in her career where she was clinically depressed . She also stated that the heavy painkilling medication she was prescribed at the time by a quack doctor had significantly clouded her judgment .

= = Filmography = =

= = = Film = = =

= = = Television = = =

= = = Music videos = = =