

= The Proposal (film) =

The Proposal is a 2009 American romantic comedy film set in Sitka , Alaska . Directed by Anne Fletcher and written by Peter Chiarelli , the film features Ryan Reynolds and Sandra Bullock in the leading roles , with Betty White , Mary Steenburgen , and Craig T. Nelson in supporting roles . The film was produced by Mandeville Films and released on June 19 , 2009 , in North America by Touchstone Pictures . The plot centers on a Canadian executive , Margaret Tate , who learns that she may face deportation from the U.S. because of her expired visa . Determined to retain her position as editor in chief of a publishing house , Tate convinces her assistant , Andrew Paxton , to temporarily act as her fiancé . Initially planning on resuming their lives after Tate resolves her visa issues , they appear to abandon those plans as their relationship intensifies .

Development on the film began in 2005 , when Chiarelli wrote the film 's script . Principal filming occurred over a period of two months from March to May 2008 . The film received mixed reviews from critics , who criticized its script , but praised the chemistry between Bullock and Reynolds . The film was a box office success , grossing over \$ 317 million worldwide , becoming the highest grossing romantic comedy film of 2009 .

= = Plot = =

Margaret Tate is an executive editor in chief of a book publishing company . After learning she is about to be deported to Canada because she violated the terms of her work visa , she persuades her assistant , Andrew Paxton , to marry her . She reminds Andrew that if she 's deported , the work he put in as her assistant will be lost , and he 'll be set back in his dream to become an editor . Mr. Gilbertson , a U.S. immigration agent , informs them that he suspects they are committing fraud to avoid Margaret 's deportation . Gilbertson tells them that they 'll be asked questions about each other separately . If their answers don 't match , Margaret will be deported to Canada permanently and Andrew will be convicted of a felony punishable by a \$ 250 @, @ 000 fine and five years in prison . Andrew insists that Margaret make him an editor after their marriage and publish the book he 's been recommending to her . Margaret agrees .

The couple travels to Sitka , Alaska , Andrew 's hometown , to meet his family . Margaret meets Andrew 's mother Grace and grandmother Annie a.k.a. " Gammy " . During the trip to the family home , Margaret notices that nearly every shop in town carries the name Paxton and learns that Andrew 's family is in fact very wealthy . During a welcome home party , Andrew confronts his father , Joe , who is angry about Andrew 's dating the boss he has so long disliked and thinks he is using her to get ahead in his career . After their argument , Andrew announces the engagement to everyone . Margaret also meets Gertrude , Andrew 's ex @-@ girlfriend .

The next day , Grace and Annie take Margaret to a local bar to watch a strip dance by a locally famous but over @-@ the @-@ hill exotic dancer , Ramone . Stepping away from the show , Margaret learns from Gertrude that Andrew wanted to become an editor and make his own life and that Andrew had proposed to Gertrude . However , Gertrude refused because she didn 't want to leave Sitka for New York . Returning home , Margaret learns of the conflict between Andrew and Joe . That night , Margaret asks Andrew about his relationship with his father , but Andrew refuses to talk . Instead , Margaret opens up to Andrew .

The next day , the family convinces them to marry while they 're in Sitka . After Margaret realizes how close Andrew 's family is , she becomes upset , gets on Andrew 's boat , and speeds away with him . She tells him she has been alone since she was sixteen years old after her parents died and had forgotten what it felt like to have a family . She lets go of the helm and stumbles to the back of the boat . Andrew makes a sharp turn to avoid hitting a buoy , and Margaret falls out of the boat . Andrew quickly turns the boat around and saves her because she can 't swim . At the wedding ceremony , Margaret confesses the truth about the wedding to the guests , including Gilbertson , who informs her she has twenty @-@ four hours to leave for Canada . Margaret returns to the Paxton home to pack her things . Andrew rushes to their room only to find Margaret has already left , leaving the aforementioned book manuscript with a note of praise and a promise to publish it .

Gertrude attempts to comfort Andrew and asks if he is going to go after her . As he rushes out to find Margaret , another argument arises between him and Joe . Annie fakes a heart attack and convinces them to reconcile before she " passes away " . After she succeeds in getting things moving again , she owns up to faking the heart attack . Andrew 's parents realize he really loves Margaret . He goes to New York and tells Margaret he loves her in front of the entire office staff . They kiss , then go to Gilbertson and inform him they are again engaged , but for real this time . The film ends with Gilbertson asking questions (some of them irrelevant) not only to Andrew and Margaret , but also Joe , Grace , Annie and Ramone .

= = Cast = =

Ryan Reynolds as Andrew Paxton , Margaret 's assistant whose ultimate career goal is to become an editor .

Sandra Bullock as Margaret Tate , a chief editor at a major New York City book publisher .

Mary Steenburgen as Grace Paxton , Andrew 's mother .

Craig T. Nelson as Joe Paxton , Andrew 's father who owns the family business that dominates the entire town of Sitka .

Betty White as Grandma Annie " Gammy " , Andrew 's grandmother and Joe 's mother .

Denis O 'Hare as Mr. Gilbertson , the immigration agent investigating Margaret 's case .

Oscar Nuñez as Ramone , a resident of Sitka who holds many jobs , including waiter , male stripper , shopkeeper and minister .

Malin Åkerman as Gertrude , Andrew 's ex @-@ girlfriend .

Michael Nouri as publisher Bergen , Tate 's superior .

Aasif Mandvi as Bob Spaulding , an editor .

Michael Mosley as Chuck , Andrew 's friend .

= = Production = =

Peter Chiarelli initially wrote the script for the film in 2005 . In May 2007 , it was announced that Sandra Bullock had been given a lead role for The Proposal . Julia Roberts was originally approached by producers for a lead role in the film , but later declined . Nearly two months after the announcement , it was reported that negotiations were being finalized for Ryan Reynolds to star opposite to Bullock . In January 2008 , Touchstone Pictures signed Anne Fletcher to direct the film . It premiered on June 1 , 2009 at the El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood , California .

Filming for The Proposal initiated in April 2008 in Rockport , Massachusetts . In the oncoming days leading to production , areas of the town were temporarily remodeled to represent Sitka , Alaska , the setting of most of the film . Principal photography officially began on April 9 at Bearskin Neck , where it continued over a period of 24 hours . Filming continued at the Motif Number One building on Bradley Wharf (April 14 ? 16) , the Haskins Building (April 15 ? 18) , and the central business district of Rockport (April 17) . Principal photography relocated to Manchester @-@ by @-@ the @-@ Sea , Massachusetts on April 22 , where it resumed over an approximate period of two weeks . In response , city officials accommodated the producers by renting out all publicly owned parking lots . Filming for The Proposal was shortly delayed after Bullock and her husband were involved in a car accident . The wedding scene was filmed in a three @-@ story twentieth century Victorian home ; photography took place at the residence for three weeks . In an interview with the New York Times , the owners of the home stated that Nelson Coates knocked on their door asking for leaves . Initially , the owners directed Coates to other residences in the area ; however , they eventually gave the film 's producer a tour of the house . Production occurred on the first floor of the home . Outside of the Cape Ann area , filming took place in Boston , Massachusetts at the State Street Bank Building and in Lower Manhattan in New York City . The Proposal contained 350 special effect shots , and some parts were edited using computer @-@ generated imagery . The score to The Proposal was composed by Aaron Zigman , who recorded his score with the Hollywood Studio Symphony at the Sony Scoring Stage .

As part of an extensive advertising campaign , Reynolds discussed about taking part in the production of a nude scene . The scene was filmed in a period of three days , and took approximately twelve takes to complete . Expressing that she was initially nervous , Bullock stated in an interview with Sky News that " when everyone else acts like it 's just a normal day it really helps you relax . " Although she revealed that producers provided them with fig leaves , Bullock stated that they would continuously fall off . She added , " You could literally see everything . " Similar sentiments were expressed by Reynolds , who in an interview with People , stated , " Filming a scene that involves being entirely naked and takes a couple days can be a little awkward . " He continued : " Thankfully you 're there for so long and you 're doing it for so long that you dispense with the awkwardness pretty quickly and start to have mundane , normal conversations ? the difference being you 're not wearing pants . "

= = Release = =

= = = Box office = = =

The Proposal was released in the United States on June 19 , 2009 . On its opening day , the film grossed an estimated \$ 12 @. @ 7 million in 3 @, @ 056 theaters , becoming the highest grossing film of the day . It later went on to gross over \$ 34 million during its opening weekend , beating out Year One , Up , and The Hangover . In an exit poll conducted by Disney , nearly 63 % of the opening audience consisted of female viewers , 78 % were eighteen or older , and 71 % were classified as couples . It marked the biggest opening weekend out of any film in Bullock 's career , nearly doubling from her previous holder , Premonition . As of October 2011 , the film had grossed over \$ 164 million in the United States and Canada .

Box office performances showed similar numbers in international markets . The film was released in Australia on June 18 , 2009 , grossing over \$ 2 @. @ 8 million on its opening weekend . In Russia , the film grossed over \$ 2 @. @ 6 million on its opening weekend , accounting for 34 % of all total film revenue in that country . In South Africa the film debuted at number two , losing out to the new release Ice Age : Dawn of the Dinosaurs . It managed to gross over \$ 2 @. @ 6 million as of October 2011 . In the United Kingdom , estimated first opening weekend grosses stand at £ 3 @. @ 2 million . The film has grossed over \$ 317 million worldwide , with international grosses standing at \$ 153 million . It is the twentieth highest @- @ grossing film of 2009 .

= = = Critical reception = = =

The Proposal received mixed reviews . The film has a 44 % approval rating on the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes , based on 180 reviews with an average rating of 5 @. @ 3 / 10 , with the consensus : " Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds exhibit plenty of chemistry , but they 're let down by The Proposal 's devotion to formula . " Metacritic , which assigns a weighted average score , gave the film a 48 out of 100 based on 30 reviews from critics .

Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun @- @ Times gave a mixed review , giving the film three out of four stars despite complaining that the film " recycles a plot that was already old when Tracy and Hepburn were trying it out " . Peter Travers of Rolling Stone was very critical of the film , calling it insipid . He wrote , " Anne Fletcher directs Peter Chiarelli 's script like a manufacturer of hard plastic that is guaranteed to ward off intrusion from all recognizable human emotion . " New York Times writer Manohla Dargis felt that Bullock 's character was awkward in comparison to her previous work . She continued : " She ? s always been better in fundamentally independent roles that allow her to grab the wheel [...] and take the spotlight [...] , an independence that persists all the way through the last @- @ act coupling . She can smile as brightly at a man as well as the next leading lady , though , like all genuinely big female stars , she ? s really more of a solo act . " The Telegraph 's Tim Robey expressed disappointment towards the film , giving it a two out of five stars .

The interaction between Reynolds and Bullock was well received by critics . Lisa Schwarzbaum of

Entertainment Weekly opined that the chemistry between the two actors was " fresh and irresistible . " Zorianna Kit of The Huffington Post exclaimed that " what [kept] audiences of this lite @-@ fare comedy in their seats is the undeniable on @-@ screen chemistry between leads Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds . " She continued : " The two are so adept at comedy and have so much fun with one another , viewers watching The Proposal won 't be able to resist their charms , even when some of the plot veers in to unnecessarily silliness . " Betsey Sharkley of the Los Angeles Times felt that their relationship was a " cheeky update of The Taming of the Shrew . " She opined , " Bullock 's deft physical comedy , one of her most endearing qualities , is given a full run . [...] Reynolds ' ability to deliver a line , or a look , with withering , surgical precision is there at every turn . " Giving it a one out of five stars , The Guardian writer Peter Bradshaw gave a negative reaction to the interaction between Reynolds and Bullock . Bradshaw stated : " Their initial sparky detestation isn 't convincing , and neither is their later thawing and romance . In each scene , it looks as if they have never met before . And Margaret isn 't permitted to be a convincing cow , because that would make her unsympathetic [...] . Andrew can 't be a total wimp , because that would be unsexy , so the fundamental comic premises of the film are fudged . "

= = = Accolades = = =

= = = Home media = = =

The Proposal was released by Touchstone Home Entertainment on DVD and Blu @-@ ray on October 13 , 2009 . It sold over 2 @.@ 4 million units within its first week , translating to an addition of \$ 39 @.@ 3 million in the box office . In its second week , sales numbers declined by 70 % to 623 @,@ 744 units , ranking second among DVD sales of the week . By July 2013 , The Proposal had sold over 5 @.@ 6 million units and earned over \$ 90 million in sales .

= = Remakes = =

The 2012 Malayalam ? language Indian film My Boss is a remake of The Proposal . Set in Mumbai and Kerala , the remade version has many differences from the original although the basic storyline remains the same . Popular actors Dileep and Mamta Mohandas played the lead roles in this version . The remake was also a hit .

A Chinese remake co @-@ produced by Walt Disney Pictures and Linmon Pictures and directed by Yee Chin @-@ yen was announced in June 2016 .