

= Striptease ( film ) =

Striptease is a 1996 American erotic comedy film directed , produced , and written by Andrew Bergman , and stars Demi Moore , Burt Reynolds and Ving Rhames . The film is based on Carl Hiaasen 's novel of the same name , and is about a stripper who becomes involved in both a child @-@ custody dispute and corrupt politics .

Striptease was generally reviled by critics . It wound up winning several Golden Raspberry Awards , which are given to the worst in cinema . Among these awards given to Striptease was the Award for Worst Picture of 1996 .

= = Plot = =

The film revolves around former FBI secretary Erin Grant , who loses custody of her young daughter Angela ( Rumer Willis ) to her ex @-@ husband Darrell , who is a criminal and cost Erin her job . To afford an appeal to get her daughter back , Erin becomes a stripper at the Eager Beaver , a Miami strip club . A Congressman named David Dilbeck visits the club and immediately begins to adore Erin . Aware of Dilbeck 's embarrassing indulgences , another Eager Beaver patron approaches Erin with a plan to manipulate the congressman to settle the custody battle and help her get Angela back . However , Dilbeck has powerful business connections who want to ensure he remains in office . Consequently , those who can embarrass him in an election are murdered . Meanwhile , Erin retrieves her daughter from Darrell 's negligent care .

Dilbeck 's personal interest in Erin persists , and she is invited to perform privately for him . He asks her to become his lover and later his wife , despite his staff 's concerns that she knows too much . A debate occurs as to whether to kill Erin or simply keep her quiet by threatening to take away her daughter . However , Erin and a police officer ( Armand Assante ) begin to suspect the congressman 's guilt in the murders , and Erin concocts a plan to bring the congressman to justice . She tricks him into confessing on tape , and he is soon after arrested . Thus , Erin regains full custody of Angela , gets her job in the FBI back , and retires from stripping , and Darrell returns to prison after he is convicted of his crimes .

= = Cast = =

= = Production = =

Castle Rock Entertainment produced Striptease . The film is based on the novel Strip Tease by Floridian crime writer Carl Hiaasen . It was published in 1993 and was a bestseller . The screenplay itself was written by Andrew Bergman , who also directed . According to one critic , the novel 's plot is " quite faithfully followed " by the screenplay , but in bringing the complicated story to the screen , " Bergman forgets to explain persuasively what a nice girl like Erin ? smart , spunky and a former FBI employee ? is doing in a dump called the Eager Beaver . "

Concerns that the ending of the film was not comical enough resulted in rewrites and reshoots , causing a one @-@ month delay . Part of these concerns owed to test screenings , where audiences objected to a scene where Dilbeck becomes violent . Later test screenings also turned up less than favorable reactions .

= = = Casting = = =

Moore played the main female character , Erin Grant . For the film , she was paid \$ 12 @.@ 5 million , which was at the time a record for an actress . To prepare for her role , Moore visited strip clubs in New York City , California , and Florida , and she met with strippers . Moore really did dance topless in the part , and this was the sixth time she showed her breasts on film . She also read the novel , exercised , and practiced yoga . Moore was cast before other important parts were cast ,

creating some interest in the project . In the first attempt at filming Moore stripping , two hundred actors were used to portray the audience . Although their salaries were small , many accepted the role to see Moore nude . After waiting for a while , when Moore finally appeared and started dancing the crowd turned so loud and wild that the shooting had to temporarily cease . As Moore said , " After my experience , I felt very confident . "

The cast included some notable real @-@ world strippers such as Pandora Peaks . Rhames plays a bouncer named Shad . The filmmakers , in trying actors out for Shad 's part , looked for someone " at least 6 ' 2 and physically massive ... any ethnicity . " ( Rhames is African American ) . Reynolds played Congressman Dilbeck , and he based his performance after politicians he knew in his early life , through his father , a police chief . Reynolds was not an actor that the filmmakers originally had in mind for the part , but Reynolds wanted it , contacted Castle Rock head Rob Reiner , and traveled to Miami to audition . He accepted a salary lower than what he had made in his earlier career . Moore 's own daughter Rumer Willis , who was 7 years old when the film was released , played Erin 's daughter Angela . As Moore explained , " she [ Willis ] wanted it so badly " that Moore asked that Willis be considered for the part . In reality this required Willis to see Moore dancing topless , for a scene in which Angela sees Erin performing . However , Moore said that this was acceptable , as " We don 't shame the body , we encourage the body as something beautiful and natural , and my children bathe with me , and I walk around naked . "

= = Soundtrack = =

Striptease : Music from the Motion Picture Soundtrack was released on June 25 , 1996 . While the soundtrack did not include every song heard in the film , a notable exclusion were most tracks Erin ( Demi Moore 's character ) danced to in the film , which , aside from " If I Was Your Girlfriend " by Prince , were all sung by Annie Lennox ( whether as part of the Eurythmics or solo ) . While " Sweet Dreams ( Are Made of This ) " was featured on the disc , " Money Can 't Buy It " , " Cold " and " Little Bird " were left off , as was " Missionary Man " , which was played during the end credits . Furthermore , it excluded the song " ( Pussy , Pussy , Pussy ) Whose Kitty Cat Are You ? " by the Light Crust Doughboys which won the Golden Raspberry Award for Worst Original Song .

= = Release = =

Striptease was distributed by Sony and was finally released in the United States on June 28 , 1996 , after a June 23 premiere in New York City . It opened in Australia , France and Germany in August , and Argentina , Italy , Bolivia , South Africa , the United Kingdom , Brazil and Japan in September .

Nudity was heavily emphasized in advertisements . The Motion Picture Association of America raised concerns regarding a posters which it felt revealed too much of Moore 's naked body . A Castle Rock employee argued : " There are racier perfume ads . "

The previous year 's film about nude dancers , Showgirls , was generally disliked , so filmmakers feared audiences would pre @-@ judge Striptease on this basis . To avoid any association , advertisements were designed to make Striptease look more comedic than Showgirls , which was a drama . Besides the subject matter , Striptease and Showgirls did have two notable connections . The choreography in these films was by the same person , Marguerite Derricks . Both also featured performances by Rena Riffel , who plays a dancer in each . To promote the film , Moore appeared on the Late Show with David Letterman and a Barbara Walters special . In both cases , she danced or otherwise exhibited her body .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical response = = =

Striptease received generally negative reviews from film critics . Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun @-@ Times complimented some of the characters , but ultimately concluded the film failed because " all of the characters are hilarious except for Demi Moore 's . " He felt the drama surrounding the main character " throws a wetblanket over the rest of the party . " Ebert also found the nudity not too sexy . Leonard Maltin was harsher , writing in his book that the film was too depressing , and " Not funny enough , or dramatic enough , or sexy enough , or bad enough , to qualify as entertainment in any category . " Barbara Cramer concurred with Ebert that Moore 's character was written too dramatically , compared to other characters . She said the film was predictable and would appeal mostly to " post @-@ pubescent schoolboys or closet voyeurs . " However , Cramer also cited Reynolds ' " his best role in years , " and that Rhames was " worth the price of admission . " Brian D. Johnson of Maclean 's , who thought Moore 's acting was terrible , predicted that despite Moore 's financial success , her career depended on the success of this film and the film was " tacky , pretentious @-@ and boring . " This critic described Striptease as displaying Moore 's vanity . Dave Ansen of Newsweek , sharing Ebert 's view on Moore 's character , also claimed Striptease failed as a drama because it had no mystery , revealing the identity of its villains early . Moreover , the " damsel @-@ in @-@ distress angle generates zero tension . " Daniel P. Franklin , in his book Politics and Film : The Political Culture of Film in the United States went so far as to call Striptease " the worst film ever made " and stated " The film pays homage to Moore 's surgical breast enhancement " . Nathan Rabin , reviewing the film for his series " My Year of Flops " , described the film thus : " Moore 's dour lead performance sabotages the film from the get @-@ go . It 's as if director Andrew Bergman told Moore she was acting in a serious drama about a struggling single mother ... and then told everyone else in the cast that they were making a zany crime comedy filled with kooky characters , sleazy hustlers , dumbass opportunists , and outsized caricatures . " Striptease currently holds a 12 % rating on Rotten Tomatoes based on 68 reviews .

= = = Accolades = = =

The film received seven Golden Raspberry nominations and won six , namely for Worst Picture , Worst Director , Worst Screenplay , Worst Actress , Worst Original Song ( " ( Pussy Pussy Pussy ) Whose Kitty Cat Are You ? " ) , and Worst Screen Couple . The only category the film lost was Worst Supporting Actor for Burt Reynolds , which went to Marlon Brando for The Island of Dr. Moreau . In winning the Worst Picture Razzie , Striptease defeated The Island of Dr. Moreau , Barb Wire , The Stupids , and Ed . Moore won for Worst Actress while she and Reynolds shared for Worst Screen Couple .

= = = Box office = = =

Striptease made \$ 12 @,@ 322 @,@ 069 in its first weekend , falling behind The Nutty Professor with Eddie Murphy , Eraser starring Arnold Schwarzenegger , and Disney 's The Hunchback of Notre Dame , in which Moore voiced one of the main characters . Ultimately , Striptease made \$ 33 @,@ 109 @,@ 743 in the United States , and domestically it was the 47th highest grossing film of 1996 . It made \$ 113 @,@ 309 @,@ 743 internationally , having grossed £ 2 @,@ 104 @,@ 480 in the UK and ¥ 102 @,@ 419 @,@ 500 in Japan .

The film 's distribution rights were transferred to Warner Bros. in 1999 .

= = = Legacy = = =

In 1997 , Striptease made news again when it was shown in a fourth @-@ grade class in Chicago , Illinois . The teacher claimed the students chose the film , but he drew criticism since the film was risqué . ( The violent 1996 film Scream was shown in the same school on the same day , causing further controversy . ) In 2000 in Ireland , some viewers criticized the Radio Telefís Éireann for running Striptease . These viewers questioned the film 's appropriateness and some considered it demeaning to women . However , the station felt it was not pornography and it was aired at night .

In 2003 , Radioactive Films used a scene from Striptease featuring Moore nude in a video called Hollywood 's Hottest . This raised a dispute as to whether use of the scene qualified as fair use . A lawsuit was launched as a consequence .