

HEATHER  
McCOMB

DANNY  
WOODBURN

JILLIAN  
BELL

CHRIS  
OWEN

with  
JOHN  
HENSLEY

# PRETTY BAD ACTRESS



**ALL THE MAKINGS OF A KILLER COMEBACK**

**IN THEATERS AND VOD AUG. 10<sup>TH</sup>**

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# Synopsis

LOGLINE: A former child star not only has to save her career, but her own life when she gets kidnapped after an audition along with an obsessed fan.

LONG SYNOPSIS: Former child star Gloria Green (Heather McComb) not only has to save her career, but her own life when she gets kidnapped by a stalker (John Hensley) after an audition along with an obsessed fan (Stephanie Hodes). Gloria's only hope is her loyal assistant, Cheryl (Jillian Bell) since her manager, Al (Danny Woodburn), is more interested in using the kidnapping to save Gloria's fledgling career than save his client's life in this sharp and funny look at fame and obsessive fan culture in the tradition of classic Hollywood satires like *The King of Comedy*, *The Player* and *Swimming with Sharks* as well as recent industry edgy comedies like *Bamboozled* and *Tropic Thunder*.

GENRE: Crime Comedy

RUNNING TIME: 85 mins

OFFICIAL WEBSITE: [www.prettybadactressmovie.com](http://www.prettybadactressmovie.com)

SCREENING TICKETS: <http://arenascreen.com/event/pretty-bad-actress>

DISTRIBUTOR: <http://mvdentertainment.com/>

# Director's Statement

I grew up loathing tabloid news because *The National Enquirer* and *Star* were the only “newspapers” delivered at our house (my mom loved reading the celebrity gossip). So I’ve been horrified to watch as this exploitive tabloid culture has spread like a plague from the pages of these disreputable rags to taking control of so much of our modern world, from TMZ to social media we cannot know or share enough, our appetite to elevate and then decimate others has become insatiable.

The idea to make a film about what was happening crystallized when I stumbled across an interview with a former TV star talking about being brutally attacked by a stalker and almost killed, followed by them rolling a clip of the TV movie where she played herself being attacked by her stalker: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victims\\_for\\_Victims:\\_The\\_Theresa\\_Saldana\\_Story](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victims_for_Victims:_The_Theresa_Saldana_Story) What leads someone to take the worst thing that has ever happened in their life and use it to reignite their fledgling career and what network exec green lit this? These were the kinds of questions that propelled me to work on this project for so many years, and while I’m sure I could have written another hand wringing blog post about “What’s wrong with Twitter!?” but I felt the tableaux of the Hollywood satire (from classics like *Sullivan’s Travels* and *Network* to modern takes like *The Disaster Artist*) that makes people laugh at the absurdity of it all would ultimately be the best way to get the public to swallow their medicine and take a look at our celebrity obsessed society that gobbles young people up and spits them out. I couldn’t be more excited to have assembled such a funny cast and talented crew as this to help tell this dark, but hopeful and hopefully hilarious story about unrequited love in this tabloid era – **Nick Fituri Scown**



## CAST BIOS

### **HEATHER MCCOMB as Gloria Green**



Heather McComb doesn't just play a child actress in *Pretty Bad Actress*, she was one in real life. Starting at the age of two in a Publishing Clearing House commercial, she's never stopped working, from playing the titular character in Francis Ford Coppola's *Life Without Zoe* to her recent turns in *Ray Donovan* and indie film *Battle Scars*, which she also produced.

### **JILLIAN BELL as Cheryl**



Emmy-nominated for her writing on *Saturday Night Live*, Bell has appeared in film and television projects including *22 Jump Street*, *Rough Night*, *Workaholics*, *Eastbound & Down*, *Fist Fight*, *The Night Before*, *Idiotsitter* (which she co-created), *Partners* and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. She's also done voice-over turns including *The Angry Birds Movie*, *Gravity Falls*, *American Dad!* and *Bob's Burgers*.

### **DANNY WOODBURN as Al**



A fixture of American television and film most notably as Mickey Abbott, the volatile but lovable friend of Kramer's on NBC's *Seinfeld*. He has helped raise awareness of the continued derogatory and dehumanizing treatment of Little People for which he has received Congressional recognition and the *Screen Actors Guild Harold Russell Award*.

### **STEPHANIE HODES as Dawnee**



Stephanie's first national exposure was with the NBA for their Reading is Fundamental Campaign where she co-starred with Tim Hardaway from the Miami Heat. Other appearances include a starring role in the short film *Left Turn* which screened at Cannes., *Pretty Bad Actress* is her leading role debut.

### **JOHN HENSLEY as Freddie**



Born in Louisville, Kentucky after starring on *Madigan Men*, he was seen on the hit series *The Sopranos*. His film credits later increased with roles in *Teeth*, *Shutter* and *Fifty Pills*, though most know him as the troubled teenager Matt McNamara on the FX drama *Nip/Tuck*.

## CREW BIOS

### NICK FITURI SCOWN – WRITER/DIRECTOR/EDITOR



A content creator whose subjects have ranged from Oprah to the UFC, and whose talent was singled out with an Emmy-nomination (Best Web Series) among other screenwriting and filmmaking honors. He's been fortunate to work in post-production at Sundance's summer labs, and for networks including Fox, FX, NBC Sports, and ESPN. His short films have played film festivals across the globe and the documentary he's currently in production on *Too Soon: The Comedy of 9/11* recently received fiscal sponsorship from Film Independent while *Pretty Bad Actress* marks his feature film debut.

### RON CARLSON – PRODUCER



Ron has produced a number of television projects including the *ESPY Awards*, the E! show *My Crazy Life* for which he won a *Telly Award* and the web series *Tim's Dates* where he was recognized with a *Daytime Emmy* nomination. In film Carlson wrote, produced and directed his first feature film *Tom Cool* starring Clifton Collins, Jr., Mila Kunis, and Michael Rappaport. Carlson then wrote, directed and produced the feature film *LIFE BLOOD* starring Sophie Monk, which was acquired by Lionsgate. He directed *Midgets Vs. Mascots* to a win at the Tribeca Film Festival. His *All-American Christmas Carol* starring Taryn Manning, Wendi Mc Lendon-Covey and Meatloaf has become a Netflix holiday staple. His latest film *Dead Ant* was the opening night premier at Scremfest in the historic Chinese Theater.

## **RACHEL NORTH – PRODUCER**

A freelance producer from Commercials and Network Promos to Branded and Social Media Content, Rachel has always been on the cutting edge of creative work. The short form works she's helped bring into the world with her filmmakers have been at the Cannes Critics Week and showcased in a MOMA exhibition. Her television work includes a long run on comedy *Head Case* for Starz and her feature films include *All American Christmas Carol*, and *Unnatural*.

## **EMILY SCHWEBER – CASTING DIRECTOR**

Emily Schweber has been an independent casting director based in Los Angeles since 1999. Prior to that, she trained under Emmy Award-winning casting director Mali Finn for more than a decade, working as a casting associate for films such as "Titanic," "L.A. Confidential," and "The Green Mile." Just some of the films she has cast that have screened at the Sundance Film Festival include "The United States of Leland," "Bookies," and "Steel City." Schweber also cast "That Evening Sun," which garnered jury and audience awards at several film festivals and received two Film Independent Spirit Award cast nominations.

## **MILTON SANTIAGO – CINEMATOGRAPHER**

M.A. Santiago attained his MFA from the University of Miami where he first met director Nick Scown. His work won him the prestigious Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Internship in Cinematography where he was mentored by ASC cinematographer James Chressanthis. His work has been screened at over twenty film festivals across the country including the Tribeca Film Festival and CineVegas.

## **GREG NICOLETT – COMPOSER**

Greg's music has screened at Sundance (*Above and Beneath*), HBO (*Muted*), won first prize in Ridley Scott's Parallel Lines Film Festival (*Porcelain Unicorn*, dir. Keegan Wilcox), and aired on Showtime (*Chicago Overcoat*, dir. Brian Caunter). He's also contributed additional music for *Smallville*, *The Vampire Diaries*, and *Video Game High School*, as well as video games such as *Kinect Disney Adventures* and *Star Wars: First Assault*. His commercial clients include such heavy hitters as Microsoft, Old Navy, and Best Buy. He's also been involved in a few viral videos, including Rob Cantor's "Actual Cannibal Shia LaBeouf" (aside from playing the pianist Greg also arranged and orchestrated the string and choir parts).