

Facing the Wild



JOSHUA HENRY
Writer & Director

MICHAEL SCHMUCKER
Producer

A FEATURE LENGTH, FAMILY-FRIENDLY,
SURVIVAL ADVENTURE DRAMA.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Facing The Wild is a feature length, family-friendly survival adventure drama, currently in development. The story centers around 12-year-old Sam and his new dog Jackie, as they find themselves lost in the wilderness. Sam struggles to love Jackie, as he's still mourning the loss of the previous family dog. Intended for families in general, the film will especially appeal to dog lovers, as Jackie is a major character. The plan is to produce the film no later than 2020 for \$1M-\$3M, dependent on key casting of secondary characters. The production is currently seeking a sales agent, finance partners, and is open to co-production opportunities.

LOGLINE

Lost in the wilderness, a boy and his dog must find their way back home, while overcoming loss and learning to love again.

PROJECT DETAILS

Genre: Family, Adventure, Drama

Status: In Development

Production Budget: \$600,000-\$1M (Cast Dependent)

Target Duration: 90min

Production by: LampHouse Films



Struggling to cope with the passing of his beloved family dog, 12-year-old Sam is looking forward to his family's upcoming camping trip. Sam is a relatively skilled outdoorsman, as long as he has his glasses, which he is practically blind without. The trip's only downside is that his parents are bringing along the family's new dog: a one-year-old Brittaney Spaniel named Jackie. Loyal to the memory of his previous dog, Sam wants nothing to do with her.

After a long hike, the family arrives at the campground near a beautiful cliffside overlook. That night, Jackie runs off, causing both Sam & Jackie to tumble off the overlook – separating them from the rest of the family!

The journey back puts Sam's survival skills to the test. Along the way, they face encounters with a dangerous storm, a close call with a bear, and a run-in with a mysterious woman who tries to kidnap them. Sam works with Jackie, but is still reluctant to give his affection.

Back at the camp, Sam's mother goes to get help from the local authorities, as Sam's father sets out after his son. As an excellent tracker, it doesn't take him long to catch Sam's trail. Every step of the way, Sam's dad is just a few hours behind. Eventually, he catches up to Sam and Jackie. For a brief moment all is well, until they cross paths with a bear and her cub. Sam's father distracts the bear as Sam and Jackie escape into the rushing river.

While the river provides escape from the bear, it takes Sam's most valuable possession, his glasses. Blinded, soaking wet, and lost again, Sam finally unleashes his emotions on Jackie, blaming her for everything. Ultimately Sam realizes he has been taking his anger out on her all along, and that he needs her. Sam finally puts his trust in Jackie, and she leads them back to Sam's father who is gravely injured.

Sam's father can't traverse the steep rocks between them and safety, and Sam urges them to trust Jackie's instincts to lead them back. Jackie takes them straight to Sam's mother who had been searching for them nearby.

The family is reunited, all is as it was, except Sam has learned to put the past behind him, and love his new companion –

Jackie.



CASTING STRATEGY

Facing The Wild plans to cast some level of known talent in its supporting roles. These key roles are Sam's Father and Mother, and the Park Ranger who helps Sam's mother lead a search party. The film's total budget is somewhat dependent on the level of talent it can draw, as name talent will be a key factor in the film's sale (or presale) value. Considering the young age of Sam the protagonist, the lead will likely be played by an unknown, and the dog will have a natural genre appeal. That leaves the supporting cast to carry some familiar faces. Because these characters require less time on set compared to a lead, the production will aim to attach larger names for less production days, allowing us to stretch our talent budget further to attract better cast. This is especially true of the Park Ranger, whose role is more of a cameo that would only require a few days.

POTENTIAL ATTACHMENTS

Sam's Father: Josh Lucas, Wyatt Russell, James Badge Dale, Scott Speedman, Ben McKenzie, Brett Cullen, Tom Welling, Logan Marshall Green, Luke Wilson

Sam's Mother: Kimberly Williams-Paisley, Ashley Judd, Annabelle Stephenson, Julia Stiles, Jessica Alba

Park Ranger: Eric Roberts, John Voight, Ray Liotta, Patton Oswalt, Cuba Gooding Jr., Sean Astin, Sam Elliott, Nick Nolte, Nick Offerman, Ron Perlman, Tim Allen



LAMPHOUSE FILMS

Production Company

Since 2014, LampHouse Films has produced hundreds of commercial and promotional films. LampHouse is known for its emphasis on tight, focused storytelling, and a commitment to high production values at any budget level. In 2016, LampHouse released its first internally produced narrative short film, *Carry Me Home* – a 23 minute period drama featuring Harriet Tubman, and an escape on the underground railroad. Now, in addition to its ongoing commercial work, LampHouse develops and produces feature length narrative films and documentaries. Based in Pennsylvania, with its generous 25% Film Tax Credit, LampHouse Films is well connected to affordable, high quality, talented, and efficient film personnel who are ready and willing to work. Learn more at LampHouseFilms.com.



JOSHUA HENRY

Writer & Director

As one of Central Pennsylvania's most talented working directors, Joshua Henry has written and directed hundreds of commercial and promotional films. Josh has a deep and studied understanding of storytelling and story structure for film. Josh wrote and directed LampHouse's 2016 short-film, *Carry Me Home*, and is the writer of *Facing The Wild*. Actors appreciate Josh's vision and style of directing, staying true to his own vision of the film, but giving them the room to explore and share their creative talent. Josh also has ample experience directing children and animals. *Facing The Wild* is his feature directorial debut.



MICHAEL SCHMUCKER

Producer

Michael has been producing commercial documentary & narrative films since 2009. With a background as a cinematographer, Michael understands the technical process of filmmaking from start to finish, and knows how to get the most production value out of any budget, up onto the screen. With a wide range of filmmaking expertise – from lighting & cinematography, to the technical aspects of post production, to budgeting and accounting, Michael has produced hundreds of commercial films for LampHouse. Michael originated and produced LampHouse's 2016 narrative short film *Carry Me Home*, and in 2018 he successfully budgeted and secured the 25% Pennsylvania Film Tax Credit for a \$600,000 action feature.

BUDGET

Facing the Wild's budget is set between \$600k-\$1M, depending on the level of cast the project can attract. The film can be shot for \$600,000, but if name talent can raise the production's marketability, the project can in turn raise its production values in several key areas in the story. LampHouse Films is open to co-producers who can assist with packaging the film, and raising funds.

FUNDING

Funding for the film will come from a mixture of sources. The plan is to produce the film in Pennsylvania, with its generous 25% Tax Credit. The remainder will be funded by leveraging presales (dependent on cast attachments), equity investment, and if need be crowdfunding.

TIMELINE

Development is currently underway, with a plan to roll cameras no later than spring of 2020, for delivery later that year. Should development move more quickly, production could be pushed up to fall of 2019.



CONTACT

Producer: Michael Schmucker

Email: michael@lamphousefilms.com

Phone: +1 717-823-1926

Web: LampHouseFilms.com

*Facing the
Wild*