



Cocktails

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DOLLARS & DONUTS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
THE SADDER BUT WISER BOY
DIRECTED BY DARYL DELLA



SYNOPSIS

Lando (**Lorenzo Ocon**) and Dallas (**Daryl Della**) have been inseparable for two decades, but their friendship has been marked by an endless cycle of pranks and hurtful comments. As they enter their thirties, Dallas decides to help Lando lose his virginity by arranging for him to spend time with a prostitute named Misty (**Sasha Boggs**) in San Francisco.

When they meet Misty to discuss the details, Lando feels pressured to share stories about his past failed attempts to lose his virginity. As Lando and Misty retire to a hotel room to consummate their arrangement, they unexpectedly bond over their shared regrets and disappointments. Meanwhile, Dallas is left alone at the bar, where he receives a stern lecture from his bartender friend Jay (**Ray Revello**) about his bullying behavior. Dallas is forced to confront the true nature of his relationship with Lando and the toll their toxic dynamic has taken on both of them.

Throughout the course of the night, Dallas and Lando's true selves are revealed, proving that maybe the real friends were the hookers we met along the way.

LANDO

Lando, (30s), has never been successful with women. His 20-plus-year friendship with Dallas has constantly pushed him out of his comfort zone but has never given him comfort. He's an awkward man coming to grips with his long lasting virginity and inability to be seen for anything other than what he is... **a loser.**



DALLAS

Dallas, (Mature 30s), has always been the best at everything. He never loses and yet he's constantly angry because winning isn't enough. While none of his peers understand why he's remained friends with Lando for all the years, what they don't know is that he's gained more knowledge of the world from Lando's blissful unawareness and brazen disregard for polite society than they could ever imagine and the awkward cruelty of his actions is the only time he feels alive.



MISTY

Misty, (Early 30s), is a hooker with a heart of somewhat-shiny-slightly-dinged-up aluminum. She feels as though she's missed out on her life and is trying to make the best of what she has. Seemingly optimistic, Misty is a fun time to be around, but as the night goes on we see the gleam in her eyes slowly disappear as reality sets back in. Despite her best efforts at staying professional in her transaction with Lando, she ends up meeting him on the other side.









TEAM

DARYL DELLA (Writer/Director/Editor/Lead Actor) - Daryl has been making films for 20 years, amassing an impressive filmography of shorts. He founded Dollars & Donuts Productions in 2003, where he has been the defacto director and editor for nearly all the films they've created. He has recently stepped in front of the camera for the first time, winning an award for Best Supporting Actor from the White Vulture Film Festival for his performance in *The Sadder but Wiser Boy*.

SASHA BOGGS (Writer/Producer/Lead Actress) - Sasha is a comedian and actress living in Los Angeles. She has performed stand-up across the country and has co-hosted the streaming video game talkshow *Tauntfest* on Vision Entertainment, and also appeared on *American Horror Story* and the Dr. Drew Podcast. Her first film with Dollars & Donuts was in 2017, starring in *No Pill for Regret* and she quickly became their premier actress. She has recently taken on a larger role behind the scenes as the main Executive Producer in charge of all Dollars & Donuts Productions.

DANIEL CRUZ (Cinematographer) - Daniel has been a professional photographer for over 10 years. Named 20 On the Rise Image Maker by Honeybook + RiseTideSociety, and one of the top wedding photographers by The Love Collective and Le Magnifique. Daniel first translated his photography techniques to the world of cinematography for Dollars & Donuts in 2013 for *After the Jack*. He returned to lens *Shadows in the Snow* in 2017 and *The Sadder but Wiser Boy* in 2022, winning Best Cinematography from the Best Damn Film Awards.

LORENZO OCON (Lead Actor) - Lorenzo has been a member of the Dollars & Donuts team since 2004 appearing in over 30 films. His wild acting style and intense demeanor has made him a great asset to the team in character roles both comedic and dramatic. He is also an accomplished stunt performer, immortalizing his fire-breathing talents on screen in the team's *Am I See You?*

TEAM

BECKER VON FELSBURG (Associate Producer) - Becker has been acting and producing in Dollars & Donuts Productions since 2007. He has achieved notoriety in the San Francisco Bay Area for his performances and for his uncanny ability to draw an audience to the annual Dollars & Donuts premiere events, where the team has sold out many showings of their films thanks in large part to Becker's marketing. He has recently been nominated as Best Actor for his role in *Ash Holes* at the East Bay Comedy Festival.

RAY REVELLO (Supporting Actor) - Ray has been the star of Dollars & Donuts Productions since it's inception in 2003, appearing in their very first film and going on to command the screen over 40 more times. He has received numerous accolades for his powerful performances and has continued to be one of the main draws of the company. His recent acclaimed appearances include *Am I See You?*, *Shadows in the Snow*, and *A Lust for Time*.

TOM ARNOLD (Guest Star) - Tom Arnold is a national treasure and worldwide entertainer. He is known for his stand-up comedy, writing on *Roseanne*, and his incredible performances in over 150 films and tv shows. As a guiding voice from the Hollywood elite, he has shared his knowledge and experience with the Dollars & Donuts team, lending his star power to their projects. His appearances have brought an air of legitimacy and prestige to their films and fostered a creative environment for the indie filmmakers to grow their skills. Tom's children, Jax and Quinn, have even gotten in on the act, being included in several Dollars & Donuts Productions.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Daryl Della and **Lorenzo Ocon**'s friendship has lasted since high school and is peppered with quotable adventures, heated arguments, and memorable pranks that have become legendary tales within their circle. Weaving 20 years of inside jokes into the true story of one outrageous night from their past, Daryl attempted to capture the essence of their unique friendship into the original draft of ***The Sadder But Wiser Boy***. However, while it was a true story, Daryl felt that that it skewed too closely to a typical "lose your virginity to a hooker" plotline and lacked depth. To fix this, he brought on **Sasha Boggs** to help bring another perspective and add new emotional and comedic beats to the story.

Combining Daryl's vivid imagination with **Daniel Cruz**'s incredible cinematography, the team took the film in unexpected directions, continually adding to the film during production by incorporating comedic cameos, dream sequences, and even Hollywood legend **Tom Arnold**. The film was shot on location in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Las Vegas, giving it a diverse and dynamic backdrop and shooting in several of the real world locations that the boys' original escapades took place in.

To accompany the film's soundtrack, **David Quintanilla** wrote the original song "Real Boy" and **Ukulele Hiro** recorded a punk-rock ukulele cover of "Love Fool" by The Cardigans. The result is a unique and heartfelt film that captures a piece of friendship history and showcases the power of human connection, even through the worst of intentions.

AWARDS & REVIEWS

BEST COMEDY SHORT - *White Vulture Film Festival*

BEST DIRECTOR - Daryl Della - *White Vulture Film Festival*

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR - Daryl Della - *White Vulture Film Festival*

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY - Daniel Cruz - *Best Damn Film Awards*

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR - Richard Castromayor - *Best Damn Film Awards*

BEST EDITING - Daryl Della - *Tokyo Shorts Film Festival*

“★★★★★”

- The Macoproject Film Festival

“I’m looking back at just how frustratingly fun
The Sadder but Wiser Boy is. 8.5 out of 10”

- Film Threat

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Genre: Drama/Comedy

Runtime: 29 minutes 26 seconds

Shooting Format: Digital

Aspect Ratio: 2.35:1

Production Budget: \$10,000 USD

CONTACT

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