



IN THE
DOGHOUSE

INFORMATION

Title: In the Doghouse
Year of Production: 2024
Country of Production: Australia
Production Company: Darkroom Entertainment Pty Ltd
ABN 59 673 163 070

Length 13 Minutes
Genre: Prison Drama
Shoot Gauge: Digital
Finish Gauge: DCP
Aspect: Anamorphic - 2.39
Sound Format: Stereo
Language/Subtitles: English

Contacts: **Director | Co Producer**
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SYNOPSIS

Incarcerated and yearning to reconnect with his estranged daughter, Joel embarks on a transformative journey through a dog assistance program. As he learns to train and bond with a spirited canine companion. He discovers that the challenges and responsibilities of caring for the dog mirror those of being a father.

Guided by the metaphorical connection between the dog and his daughter, Joel finds the strength to confront his past, mend broken relationships, and ultimately embrace the redemptive power of family and second chances.

“How you treat these dogs might just reveal more about your character than anything else.”



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

” | **In the Doghouse delves into themes of human transformation and redemption.**

In the Doghouse follows the journey of an incarcerated man striving to rebuild and reconnect with his daughter.

It touches upon fatherhood, responsibility, and second chances, highlighting the transformative influence of the human-animal bond and unconditional love.

” | **We shed a light on the challenges of seeking renewal in a judgmental society.**

Through parallel storytelling, the film explores the metaphorical connections between rehabilitating Lily, the assistance dog, and Joel's own path to healing, offering a poignant and inspiring narrative that resonates with themes of resilience and potential for change.

The film weaves a moving narrative through well-crafted dialogue, intimate character interactions, and thought-provoking visual storytelling.

” | **The format combines drama and realism to immerse the audience in the raw emotions of the characters and their struggles.**



FILMING IN THE DOGHOUSE

“ With denied access to functioning prisons, the production team had to creatively improvise with set design.

The production team dressed a current running recreational camp to the look of a modern prison farm. Specifically designed flooring and cell doors were installed into the dormitories to recreate a prison cell.

“ Working with dogs on set was a new challenge for many of the crew... now try five dogs.

The story called for a total of five dogs, undergoing training in the film. The production team operated with two cameras for all exterior locations to allow for a more proficient and productive shoot.



PRISON REHABILITATION

▮ | Rehabilitation methods have changed to focus more on addressing why people commit crimes.

Among these programs, the assistance dog program has emerged as a standout success story. Inmates participate in the training and care of assistance dogs, providing them with a sense of purpose and responsibility.

This hands-on experience fosters personal growth and development, offering inmates valuable skills and therapeutic benefits.

What sets the assistance dog program apart from other rehabilitation efforts is its unique combination of benefits for both inmates and the community.

Unlike some traditional programs that focus solely on punishment or classroom-based education, the assistance dog program offers inmates practical, real-world experience and fosters empathy, communication, and teamwork.

▮ | The program rehabilitates inmates and provides essential support to people with disabilities in need of trained service animals.



BIOGRAPHY

ARON ATTIWELL - DIRECTOR | WRITER

At just 23, Aron is already gaining recognition for his talent and experience beyond his years. He's a skilled director with a passion for storytelling that dives into human emotions. His ability to bring out authentic performances from actors and capture subtle moments on camera has earned him critical acclaim in the industry.

At the age of 20, Aron's film 'Fading Numbers' received 27 nominations and won several prestigious awards, including Best Picture and Best Director at the Los Angeles Film Awards. It also earned him the title of Breakthrough Filmmaker of the Year. Additionally, 'Fading Numbers' was distributed as educational material in Western Australian private high schools for media and history students.

Aron's dedication to his craft is evident in his meticulous approach to each project, ensuring that every frame reflects the film's vision. As a storyteller, he aims to explore the human condition, creating narratives that resonate across cultures and connect with audiences universally.



BIOGRAPHIES

JED COWPER - CO PRODUCER

Jed Cowper is a producer based in Boorloo (Perth) on Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar country, with experience in production across short form, online, and serial content. Originally from the southwest region of WA, Jed moved to the metropolitan area in 2018 to pursue his passion for Australian screen production.

Between 2022 and 2023, Jed completed work on two short film projects, both supported by the City of Stirling's community grants program: "Paper Route" (which made its debut at the 2022 Perth International Revelation Film Festival) and "Playtime," which is just beginning its festival journey.

In the last four years, Jed has taken on senior production roles across several projects. His most recent work with Darkroom saw a co-production between Jed, Aron Attiwell, and Regina Wong, bringing a story with a unique WA flavour to life. Jed is shepherding early development for several queer web series projects while expanding his skill set into commercial production spaces.

I've always been passionate about telling stories that matter to my community and feel a particular affinity to exploring the stories that shape our rural spaces of Western Australia, which made "In the Doghouse" a fantastic script and story to produce.



BIOGRAPHIES

REGINA WONG - CO PRODUCER

With a passion for the arts, Regina has been working with indie filmmakers since 2017. Known for her keen eye for talent and her ability to bring captivating stories to the screen, Regina started her journey in broadcasting and then moved into narratives. With the determination to make herself a household name as a producer in the industry, her award winning short film, 'Weakday,' has marked a milestone.

With her huge love for dogs, Regina believes 'In the Doghouse' is a successful story emphasizing the importance of human-animal bonds. With relentless drive and unwavering commitment to excellence, Regina continues to push the envelope and challenge audiences with thought-provoking stories. She remains dedicated to her craft, always striving to push the boundaries of storytelling and inspire the local community



WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY
Aron Attiwell

PRODUCED BY
Jed Cowper
Regina Wong
Aron Attiwell

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
Ian Hale
Shane Day
Jeremy Marriott

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Michael Sgro

EDITOR
Dani Unger

SOUND DESIGNER
Aref Rashidan
Zac Holmes

COMPOSER
Sean Tinnion

KEY GRIP
Dillon Beaman
Lachlan Ford

SOUND RECORDIST
Aref Rashidan

ASSISANT CAMERAS
Dan Collins
Zoe Davis
Kieran Hewitt
Ben L'Aguille

DOG WRANGLER
Dean Clemitshaw

STILLS
Shaun Heredia

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
Jane Tero

ART ASSISTANTS
Robyn Mae Ong
Marina Piper

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Marcus Kelly

COLOURIST
Caitlan O'Connor

CREDIT ROLL

CAST

Tristan Balz
Kate Elder
Mike Walsh-Bowser
Glenn Wallis
Sherilee Walsh
Tahlia Viner
Tayla Campbell





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