



# GRASSLAND

A FILM WRITTEN BY ZOE MITCHELL  
PRODUCED BY JEREMIE COLLE, BEN MATHEWS, ZOE MITCHELL  
DIRECTED BY BEN MATHEWS

# Grassland

2022 / 68 MIN / CALIFORNIA, U.S. / DRAMA / NEO-WESTERN

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Scattamooch Productions, LLC

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**STARRING**

Nicole Sevey  
Kevin Moody  
Donn Kasper  
Saskia Baur  
Malena Valinote  
Stephen Multari

**DIRECTED BY**

Ben Mathews

**WRITTEN BY**

Zoe Mitchell

**PRODUCED BY**

Jeremie Colle  
Ben Mathews  
Zoe Mitchell

**CINEMATOGRAPHY BY**

David Auner

**EDITOR**

Diana Mitchell

**MUSIC BY**

Bryce Livingston

**CASTING BY**

Ciani Rey Walker



**Logline:** After the death of her mother, an urbanized twenty-year-old journeys to a cattle ranch in search of answers about her past.

**Synopsis:** Whitney (Nicole Sevey), while grieving the death of her mother, Cassie, travels to a cattle ranch in search of answers. Once there, she meets a family that lives on the property: Sarah Taylor (Saskia Baur), Bill Taylor (Donn Kasper), and their son Jack Taylor (Kevin Moody). Whitney aims to understand the purpose of the ranch, because she found legal documents linking it to her mom's finances. After calling a work associate in search of advice, it becomes clear that the outside world has nothing to offer Whitney. So, Whitney decides to stay and learn more about these strangers. In an effort to discover more about her legacy, Whitney begins working on the property, assisting Malena (Malena Valinote), one of the ranch hands. Malena's humble nature forces Whitney to reexamine her judgment of the rugged lifestyle. At first, due to her mom's property development business which she has now inherited, Whitney's relationship with Jack is tumultuous. However, as she embraces the Taylor's home and Jack's perspective on the land, the two become closer. Whitney's ranch-fairytale comes to an abrupt end when her mother's Executor (Stephan Multari) arrives with more news of Cassie's struggling business and personal finances. It becomes clear that Cassie sacrificed a lot for the Taylors and that it is now Whitney's responsibility to decide the fate of her mother's business, the Taylor's ranch, and her own future.



## **BEN MATHEWS**

### **Director & Producer**

Having grown up in the suburbs of Los Angeles, Ben decided to challenge his passion and experience by studying film directing and writing at an international school in Paris, France. Once completing his degree and absorbing the diverse culture of European cinema, he moved back to LA in order to direct, write, and produce original content in various formats. From shorts to web-series pilots, Ben's canvas continued to grow as he developed his storytelling skills. Craving an opportunity to work in his favorite format, the silver screen, Ben worked with writing partner Zoe Mitchell to design their first feature, *Grassland*. A year later, they managed to secure independent financing and were set to make the dream come true. As a blend of neo-western and intimate human drama, *Grassland* proved to be the best possible recipe to make use of Ben's attention to performance details and interest in visual atmospheric design.



**ZOE MITCHELL**

**Writer & Producer**

Zoe Mitchell is an American screenwriter and producer. She wrote and directed her debut dramatic short film, *Bernadette* (2020). She also co-wrote the comedy/drama web-series *AutoMotion* (2021) with writer/director Ben Mathews. Currently, Mitchell's dramatic feature, which she wrote and produced, called *Grassland* is in the festival circuit. For *Bernadette*, she received the Spirit Award from the MINT Film Festival as well as an award for Best Editing from the Cinémathèque Française in Paris, France. For *AutoMotion*, she received the Best Pilot award from Web Series Festival Global.

Mitchell was born in Baltimore, Maryland. She graduated in 2016 from Berklee College of Music. She was also a masters in screenwriting candidate at EICAR Film and Television school in Paris, France.



## **JEREMIE COLLE**

### **Producer**

Born in Hong Kong and raised in Singapore, Canada, and France; Jeremie Colle has become fascinated with the unique voices of filmmaking as he has witnessed first-hand the true potential and cultural importance of visual storytelling. After having completed his Master of Fine Arts degree in Producing at the New York Film Academy, Jeremie now resides in Los Angeles where he continues to create, inspire, and unite people of all backgrounds with emotional journeys experienced through the world of film and television. Jeremie has worked on over 30 film projects, serving in at least 10 different key positions, including but not limited to being the writer, director, and producer of his own short film 'Help.' He also worked as the line producer for more than 20 short films where he supervised a technical staff of over 25 people. Recently, Jeremie partnered with writer-director duo Ben Mathews and Zoe Mitchell to produce the pilot episode of their web series 'Auto Motion.' He is now the producer of their upcoming feature film 'Grassland' which will be entering the festival circuit later this year.



**NICOLE SEVEY**

**Whitney Hill**

Born and raised in Sacramento, CA (Yes, my life was surprisingly a lot like the movie *Ladybird!*) I started doing community theater at the age of eight, which eventually led me to NYC to study musical theater at Marymount Manhattan College. While in NYC, I trained vocally as well as in jazz, tap and ballet. I loved the Big Apple, but ultimately decided to make the move to sunny LA and transfer to USC, and I'm so happy I did! As a USC Trojan, I continued to study theater while broadening my training to film and tv technique, and received my BA in Acting. Post grad, I continued to study scene study and audition technique at Stan Kirsch Studios and improv at UCB. In my free time, I can be found spotting every dog while on a hike, gardening, or listening to true crime podcasts.



**DONN KASPER**

**Bill Taylor**

Donn was born and raised in Indiana and received a full drama scholarship to the University of Evansville. While there, he was cast as 'Arthur' in the play "Ah, Wilderness" in which he won the American College Theater Festival and was flown to Washington D.C. to perform the show at the Kennedy Center. He then moved to California to pursue acting, but left the craft after starting a family and getting work which required that he travel overseas frequently. He recently returned to pursuing more acting roles after being given the opportunity to portray the role of 'Bill' in Grassland.



**SASKIA BAUR**

**Sarah Taylor**

Saskia Baur is an American actor of Dutch, Italian & German descent, born to Erna Baur and Mario Baur, Professor of Chemistry at UCLA, and raised in Los Angeles. Named after the Dutch painter Rembrandt's wife, Saskia began her career as a Ballet dancer with Ms. Eileen Locklin and later went on to study Theatre Arts at Emerson Junior High School in Los Angeles. She graduated from the University of California at Santa Cruz with a Bachelor's Degree in Women's Studies and Italian Literature. She is fluent in Italian and still keeps up with her Ballet practice.



## **KEVIN MOODY**

### **Jack Taylor**

American actor Kevin Moody is a native of Southwest Florida. Born and raised in Port Charlotte, he is the youngest of three children. In the fall of 2010, after an extensive history with musical theater, Kevin began his career in film and television. Kevin was chosen to be a stand-in/photo double for the feature film *Dolphin Tale* (2011), filmed in Clearwater, FL. This opportunity gave Kevin the boost he needed into the acting scene, guest starring in such series as *The Glades* (2010), *Ballers* (2015), *Bloodline* (2015) and more. *Tag* (2018) was released to international audiences, further forwarding Kevin's career. Kevin finished his BA in Digital Filmmaking at Ringling College of Art & Design in 2020 and now works and lives in Los Angeles. In addition to film/TV, Kevin also specializes in modeling and commercials.