

KELSEY GUNN

NICHOLAS ANTHONY REID

ION SNOW

LITTLE JAR



Press Notes

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Good Deed Entertainment
presents

a Grey Rabbit Films production

directed & filmed by
Dominic López

composed by
James Wakefield

original screenplay by
Dominic López & Kelsey Gunn

additional original music by
BEEBE

produced by
**Tomm Jacobsen, Kelsey Gunn,
Michael Rousselet, Nicholas Anthony Reid & Dominic López**

Title:
Little Jar

Run Time:
90 mins

Audio:
Stereo

Genre:
Comedy

Aspect Ratio:
1.85:1

Language:
English

Country of Origin:
USA

Filming Locations:
Lake Arrowhead & Los Angeles, CA

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IG: [@littlejarmovie](https://www.instagram.com/littlejarmovie)
IMDB: [imdb.com/title/tt13267436](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt13267436)

Film Festivals

World Premiere



Awards





Logline

When a misanthrope's dream of isolation is realized, she learns the true value of connection when she befriends a dead mouse.

Synopsis

Ainsley (Kelsey Gunn) is a misanthrope who hates people but when she suddenly finds herself in isolation with no one to talk to, she realizes how much she actually misses connection. Enter Ulysses, a dead mouse in a jar. With a little bit of loneliness, a pinch of imagination, and a mouse-sized tuxedo, Ulysses becomes her training wheels in this newly discovered world of friendship.



A Little Back Story

It was the beginning of 2020 and the filmmakers suddenly found themselves locked in with a lot of time on their hands. Over the previous year, Dominic and Kelsey had been making a series of short films under their production company Grey Rabbit Films. With their schedules free, the two began working on the feature length script that would become *Little Jar*.

In shifts, Dominic in the morning and Kelsey in the afternoon - because he's a morning person and Kelsey hates getting up - they spent upwards of 10 hours a day writing and re-writing multiple drafts of their movie. After six months of tirelessly writing, they had a completed script.

Now what?

They wondered, *if* they were going to try and make this movie and remain Covid safe what would that even look like? First, they had a few friends read the script to see if what they had written was even any good. That's where Tomm and Michael came in. They championed this little movie and encouraged Dominic and Kelsey to get it made.

So with a cabin in the woods booked, Dominic, Kelsey, and three other friends drove up to Lake Arrowhead, CA where they would begin filming. The small crew of Bobby (sound mixer), Pavel (gaffer/grip) and Nicholas (Marvin), quarantined together in the small cabin. Michael and Tomm stayed back in Los Angeles for last minute runs, crafty replenishing, and the occasional, "*Oh sh*t, we forgot something*" moment - we were a cast and crew of 5 after all. Jon (Emre) would be filmed only through a laptop during principal photography and later in-person once it was safe.

The task in front of them was monumental. Without the normal crew positions it was up to the filmmakers to take on all the roles themselves. Dominic acted as his own cinematographer and DIT, often only sleeping 3-4 hours per night. Kelsey (Ainsley) not only had to be on camera every day but she also cooked dinners each night, took care of wardrobe and props, and acted as handler to the two mice. Pavel managed all lighting while Bobby had to sleep in a tent. Between battling home improvement noises ringing through the mountains and raccoons attempting to steal their food at night somehow, after 17 days, they had a movie in the can!

Dominic spent the whole of 2021 editing and color grading the film. Luckily or through the grace of [insert higher power here], the filmmakers were able to bring on as composer James and their good friend Liz Beebe (Dust Bowl Revival) to write music for them. This is when their little film became a bonafide movie! Polished off by the fantastic post audio work of Chris (music mixing), Brian (re-recording artist & sound design) and Amber (sound design & foley), and the VFX work of Shanalyse - some times you don't see the C-stand in the background - the small rag tag team was finally ready for the festival circuit!

The making of this film was unlike anything Dominic and Kelsey had done before. Did it almost kill them? Yup. Did they survive? Barely. Was it all worth it?

You bet your butt it was!



Kelsey Gunn

Ainsley

LA based actor & writer, Kelsey is one of the founding members of internet comedy troupe *5 Second Films* (featured on *Tosh.O* and *Larry King Now*). She can be seen in TV shows *Community*, *Castle*, & *How to be a Gentleman*, as well as the feature films *Bigfoot Famous* and *5 Second Films' cult classic Dude Bro Party Massacre III*.

Nicholas Anthony Reid

Marvin

Born in Redlands, CA and son of a pilot, Nicholas is best known for his breakout role in the hit Netflix series *Dear White People* as well as features such as *Little Jar* and *Only*. His stage credits include *Bootycandy* by Robert O'Hara, *Obamaology* by Aurin Squire and *Maiden's Prayer* by Nicky Silver.



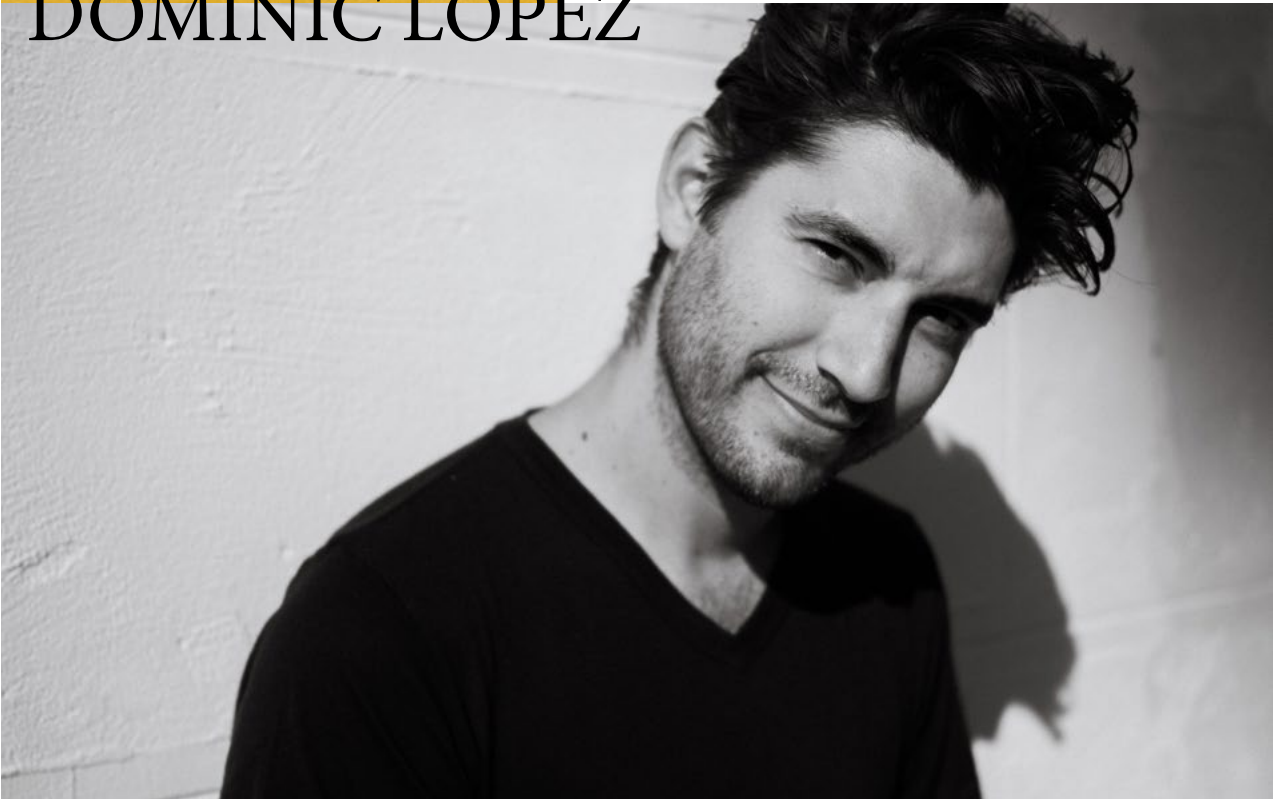
Jon Snow

Emre

Raised in St. Louis, MO and son of a preacher, Jon is an actor, writer and cult survivor. He's also a self-described "terrible yet enthusiastic" dancer. He can be seen in TV shows like *The Rookie*, *Good Girls*, *All Rise*, and Netflix's *Graymail* (coming soon). Jon is thrilled to be a part of *Little Jar* with his "adopted" sister, Kelsey Gunn.

director & cinematographer

DOMINIC LÓPEZ



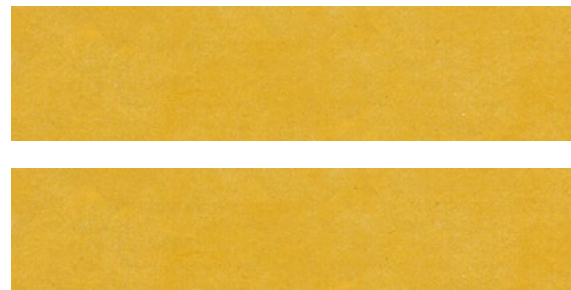
Growing up as the only child of three kids, Dominic López escaped to his imagination when he realized he couldn't throw a football for sh*t. This escape cultivated his love and passion for storytelling and filmmaking. Later in life when he was supposed to go to medical school, he pulled a fast one on his parents when instead he majored in the most liberal arts of them all – the theatre. Always a camera in his hand, he married his love for filming things with his classmates' needs for over the top acting and found his true calling - making movies.

He regularly works as a cinematographer for film (*The Last Deal*, *Brothers from Malta*, *Bigfoot Famous*), television, and commercials. *Little Jar* marks his directorial debut.

His future looks so bright he'll probably wear shades, and he'll probably wear them at night because the sun never sets on cool. Also, he takes nothing seriously except for everything filmmaking but that's only because he really loves making movies.

And he totally didn't write this bio himself.

Totally...



Director's Statement

When lockdown began at the beginning of 2020, we all found ourselves facing the unknown. My full calendar of freelance work as a cinematographer was suddenly open and empty. I was desperate for connection and financially strained and I knew it wouldn't be over soon. However, as a perpetual optimist, I looked on the bright side and realized that what I had actually been given was an enormous amount of free time; time to do whatever I wanted.

As a respite from the chaos and uncertainty, I began writing a movie. It started as a shower thought. A random image that popped into my head. Initially, it was just something to do; something to keep a sense of normalcy. Well with the help of my filmmaking partner and fiancée, Kelsey Gunn, six months and many drafts later we found ourselves with a full fledged feature length script. Since there wasn't even an inkling of when the lockdown would end, we decided to actually make this film. We rented a friend's cabin in Lake Arrowhead, CA, called in every favor we had, and began production in late September of 2020.

With only a 5 person crew (present company included), we locked ourselves away for two weeks and took on the seemingly impossible task of making our one location lockdown film. We were spread thin, wore all the hats and funded this movie with pennies from our unemployed pockets simply because we love movies and wanted to tell this story.

In the end, what we had was nothing short of amazing. A movie that was filled with laughter and joy, sadness and loneliness, happiness and hope. It was the movie we needed to make during those historic times. It was how we were going to make it through all the dread and dismay.

The last few years have been the hardest and yet somehow the most fulfilling of my life. I am so proud of this little movie and of the efforts of so many hardworking and talented people. This movie means the world to us and I hope you love it as much as we do.

Dominic López
Director, Writer, Cinematographer

The Producers



**Kelsey Gunn &
Dominic López**, Writers, Producers

Another bio?! We should have hired more people.

Before *Little Jar*, Kelsey and Dominic had mostly written and produced short films. They also wrote and shot a TV pilot (*Assisting Navarro*) starring Jane's Addiction guitarist, Dave Navarro. Now that they've managed to ink out a feature, Dominic is forcing Kelsey to wake up early yet again and work on 2 more.

She still hates mornings.



Tomm Jacobsen, Producer

A member of the online comedy troupe 5 Second Films, Tomm co-directed the cult classic *Dude Bro Party Massacre III*. Above all else, Tomm likes to cook, make movies, watch horror films, and work in his wood shop. If you'd like to talk to him about any of these topics, you'll quickly become his best friend. He also thanks you for reading his bio and hopes you have a great day.



Michael Rousselet, Producer

A founding member of 5 *Second Films* est. 2008, Michael is a co-writer & co-director of the horror-comedy feature film *Dude Bro Party Massacre III*, writer for Shudder's *CREEPSHOW*, *Cyanide & Happiness*, & *MAD Magazine* (RIP). Unfortunately, or fortunately, depending on how you look at it, Michael is also "patient zero" of Tommy Wiseau's *THE ROOM*, having (inadvertently) launched its cult popularity in 2003 and is now currently working on a book about Cult Cinema in the Internet Age.



Nicholas Anthony Reid, Producer

Nicholas Anthony Reid's producing credits include *The Mandalo*...kidding. Nicholas is a budding first time (now highly seasoned) producer, established actor, and the best hype-man in the biz. Nick cannot wait to continue developing and sharing meaningful stories and looks forward to a lifelong creative relationship with the highly sought after creative team of Grey Rabbit Films.

Also, we totally didn't photoshop him into the same matching background.

A Little Q&A with the Filmmakers

What was the biggest challenge making this film?

A 5 person crew all living and sleeping in our shoebox of a location, the sound of Lake Arrowhead home renovations, shooting on a budget of Hail Mary favors, mountain fire evacuations and oh right, there was that whole pandemic thing. There were quite a few obstacles we had to overcome.

What did you learn making this movie?

You have to trust the process. As a first time director, I had a very clear vision of what I imagined the finished movie would be. However, I realized keeping that preconceived notion was limiting not only to my actors but to the story itself. When I let go of that desired outcome and let my actors explore, it gave them the freedom to make choices that surprised me and gave the story permission to become what it was always destined to be.

I (Kelsey) learned that there is no education in filmmaking that can quite compare to actually making a feature film with two people at the helm. Going into this process I truly believed that my sheer determination and love of filmmaking would carry us through. You can argue that it did, but only by the skin of our teeth. One moment we were filled with joy and wonder like we were the first humans to walk on the moon and the next we were drowning in the ocean with no shore or help in sight. It was a movie of blind firsts, one I will never forget, one that can never be truly duplicated and I am exceedingly grateful for every moment.

If you could do it all again, is there anything you wish you could do differently?

Every filmmaker wishes they could do certain things differently and although the temptation to play the what-if game is definitely there, we honestly wouldn't change a thing. Every issue, obstacle and setback made this movie what it is today. A time capsule. A unique, weird little gem that was born from a pandemic and took shape because the world was lost. It was our outlet and our safe haven. Some people baked bread, some people had babies, we made a feature film.

What are you working on next?

Can't we just live our lives?! We're so tired...

Who are we kidding? We're gluttons for punishment. We're currently working on two other features right now, both dark comedies. We're going to make them fight each other to the death to see which movie gets made.

Why a dead mouse?

Why not? Quit being speciest. Actually the two mice were Kelsey's childhood toys given to her by her German grandmother. All German grandmother's love taxidermy animals and eerily dark tales they call childrens' stories.

A Little Q&A with the Filmmakers

Kelsey, who was easier to work with on set? The mice or the director?

I mean... the mice? If you have seen the movie it is abundantly clear that Penelope was clearly my favorite growing up. My love for that toy is visually obvious by her massive amount of hair loss. Apparently, I love hard and forever. Anyway, there are always challenges when working with your significant other, but luckily for us we are both professional filmmakers and have made numerous projects together. Of course, this being our first feature made all the other projects feel super easy in retrospect, but overall we were lucky that we already had a production shorthand. It also helps that Dominic is a brilliant director who sees the world differently than anyone I have ever met. It makes it easy to believe in his vision.

Dominic, same question.

The mice were a breeze compared to the director.

What's next for Little Jar?

After an award-winning festival run, Little Jar has found it's home with Good Deed Entertainment. Little Jar will be available across digital platforms September 12, 2023.

What's your advice for filmmakers looking to make their first indie feature?

"Why do it now when there's tomorrow?" is great advice for dirty dishes. Horrible advice for chasing your dreams. Making your first low budget feature isn't going to be easy however, and we truly mean this, if you stick with it and you really love your story, you just might make something so great you'll blow yourself away and there's nothing in this world more rewarding than that.

Where can people learn more about this movie?

You can see more information, festival news, and how to follow us at our website
www.littlejarmovie.com.
www.gooddeedentertainment.com
Scan the QR code below.



Additional Cast

Neighbor.....Michael Rousselet
Wayne.....Anthony Ma
Tammy.....Jennifer DeFilippo
Gary.....Doug Hurley
Co-Worker.....Mike James
EMT.....Cameron Gordon

Additional Credits

Written by.....Dominic López & Kelsey Gunn
Cinematographer.....Dominic López
1st AC.....Pavel Gazdyuk
2nd Unit Camera Operator.....Mike James
1st Unit Gaffer/Grip.....Pavel Gazdyuk
2nd Unit Gaffer/Grip.....Shimon Galiley
Sound Mixer.....Bobby Vonghom
2nd Unit Sound Mixer.....Zach Matchem
Editor & Colorist.....Dominic López
Visual Effects.....Shanalysé Barnett
Sound Designer & Re-recording Artist.....Brian Peters
Sound Designer & Foley Artist.....Amber D. Bruce
Music Mixing.....Chris Sangster

