

GOOD SIDE OF BAD

A film by Alethea Root



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RUN TIME: 96 minutes

Press Materials

[website](#)

SYNOPSIS

Three adult siblings are brought back together after a shocking diagnosis forces them to confront harsh future realities regarding the mental state of one of their own. A raw and intimate look into what it means to be a family navigating the waters of mental illness, GOOD SIDE OF BAD film dives into humanity's dark places while illuminating the love, laughter, and light discovered when you reconnect with those closest to you. Based on the bestselling book The Good Side of Bad, this raw family drama touches on our shared human experience of disconnectedness, and how connecting to each other is ultimately the best way to help one another.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

By Alethea Root

To have true empathy and compassion for another person, you must learn to see yourself in that person. When I first read the book, The Good Side of Bad, I saw myself, my family, and my community in the siblings. I loved being inside their unique narratives and stepping into their shoes. Our main characters all have different points of view about their upbringing and family dynamic. When adapting the screenplay, I discovered that overcoming these differences and reconnecting as a family resulted in genuine positive change for the siblings.

My vision as the director of this film is to shed light on how coming together in a crisis can motivate growth within an entire family.

Mental illness can be complicated, mysterious, dark, and scary. I've witnessed the destruction it can wreak upon an individual and their family. Friends and family have also shared their real-world experiences with me, which has helped me bring forth a truthful and powerful depiction of schizophrenia on screen. They've shared the darkness and the light of living with this mental illness.

My mission with this film is the same as my first film Part Time Fabulous, which dealt with clinical depression.

I want to motivate individual and societal change to help end the silence and stigma around mental illness. Good Side of Bad touches on our shared human experience of disconnectedness, and how reconnecting to each other is ultimately the best way to help one another

Standing up for each other and ourselves creates a safe space to heal. Good Side of Bad reveals that a harrowing experience like living with and learning to cope with a

schizophrenia diagnosis, can bring a family together. Our film looks into humanity's dark places while illuminating love, laughter, and light.

CAST BIOS

Lexi Simonsen - Florence

LEXI SIMONSEN is an Actress, Writer, and Content Creator. She grew up in Kansas and moved to Los Angeles when she was 17 years old to pursue a career in the industry. She danced competitively from age 5-18 before deciding to pursue acting full-time. She graduated from Hussian College Los Angeles with a BFA in Acting for Film and Television in May 2020. She can be seen in the Netflix action film THE 2ND as Erin Walton, starring Ryan Phillippe, and in films YEAR OF THE FOX and ADDY DADDY. Her TV credits include HBO's WINNING TIME, MINX on STARS, THE RESIDENT on FOX, and S.W.A.T on CBS. She currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband.

Jules Bruff - Sara

JULES BRUFF was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and raised in Oakland, California. She was awarded a Best Actress Scholarship while earning her Bachelor in Fine Arts/Acting at CU Boulder. Upon graduation, she was cast in the title role in Steven Luff's independent feature film VIRGINIA. The first feature she wrote, produced, and starred in, PART TIME FABULOUS, streaming on Amazon, won numerous awards, including two Best Actress awards for her performance, 2 Audience Choice Awards, the Film4Change Award, and the Exploring Humanity Award. She can be seen in projects ranging from David Fincher's ZODIAC to S.W.A.T on CBS to the Award-Winning comedy FOR MURIAL with Mindy Sterling. Jules is currently developing four feature film projects.

Alex QuiJano - Peter

Alex Quijano can be seen in the upcoming Netflix series My Life with the Walter Boys. He is known for his role as Mike, Ricky's father, on ABC's series HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL. He was also recently seen in Steven Spielbergs THE FABELMANS. Other TV credits include recurring role of Officer Bryson on FRESH OFF THE BOAT, recurring role of Mateo on ONE DAY AT A TIME, series arc on Netflix's 13 REASONS WAY, plus guest roles on LUCIFER, THE FOSTERS, TRAINING DAY, and AQUARIUS. A college baseball player and biology major, Alex never thought he'd end up acting. Since moving to LA, his mentors have been Lesly Kahn, Larry Moss, and Nancy Banks. He attended Summer at Steppenwolf Chicago, class of 2013. Theater credits include GRUESOME PLAYGROUND INJURIES (Portland, Maine) and BETTY'S SUMMER VACATION.

Myles Grier - Dennis

MYLES GRIER is an American, award-winning actor of Nigerian descent with a diverse and eclectic background spanning the arts. Hailing from Atlanta, Georgia, Myles began acting on stage at age 11. After graduating from Atlanta's top performing arts high school, DeKalb School of the Arts, his experience continued into film, television, and commercials, as well as visual arts and tv/ film production. Since receiving his BFA in theatre performance and relocating to Los Angeles, Grier has broadened his horizons with guest starring and recurring appearances on some of television's hit series including FOX's LETHAL WEAPON, NBC's GAME OF SILENCE, Freeform's THE FOSTERS, and more. Also a producer, Myles honed his production skills within the Hollywood studios and his producer/executive skills while personal/ executive assisting Oscar nominated producer Lee Daniels day- to-day in 2018. His debut short film 'REMEMBER TO BREATHE IN THE DARK' premiered early 2020 and entered film festivals, winning Grier a Best Male Performance Award in the UK, the Denzel Washington Award, along with other nominations for his vulnerable performance in what he calls his 'therapeutic' film he also penned, directed and produced.

Kim Estes - Dr. Richardson

Kim is a born and raised native of Los Angeles, California near the Crenshaw district and a graduate of Mount Carmel High School, near Hoover and Florence Blvds. Kim has starred in many films and on many stages, however television captured his heart early since his screen debut at 6 years old with Art Linkletter's House Party. He has been an active participant of the Performer's Group Executive Committee focusing on being one of the pair of eyes and ears for the Governors.

Kim is a graduate of CSU California Maritime Academy and received his Engineering degree and his commission in the US Naval Reserves upon graduation. He earned certification from the US Coast Guard/Dept. of Transportation as a Chief Engineer allowing him to spend over 13 years sailing on cargo/commercial ships of any variety, any horsepower. He earned his MBA at the USC Marshall School of Business. He is a Crisis Management/Emergency Response expert and has responded to catastrophes, events, and training exercises around the globe. Kim is grateful to be of service to his peers in the Television Academy.

Tess Harper - Mary Ellen

Tess Harper was nominated for the Golden Globe® for Best Supporting Actress for her first film role in TENDER MERCIES and for the Academy Award® for Best Supporting Actress in CRIMES OF THE HEART. Her other film appearances include FLASHPOINT, ISHTAR, FAR NORTH, and NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN, which won her a Screen Actors Guild Award®. She also had a recurring role on the first three seasons of BREAKING BAD.

Mildred Marie Langford - Nurse Beverly

Mildred Marie Langford is an LA-based actor, writer, producer, content creator and the Founder & CEO of Little Black Pearl Production. A new faith-based and social justice focused independent production company founded with the aim to spotlight strong female-driven and transformative narratives by women of color in front of and behind the lens.

Her television and film credits include Grey's Anatomy, Amazon original series BOSCH, Delilah, Chicago MED, Masters of Sex, BOSS, Morning Steep, Upload, The Good Side of Bad, Grow Up, Dimensional Shift, Analysis Paralysis, Magic Funhouse, Market Value, Your Beautiful Baby, Concrete Rose, and Egg Day. Other noted works, which she wrote, produced and led, include The Three Phases of Isa, which centers on the story of a woman, who trapped in an abusive marriage, confronts her younger selves to try and gain the freedom she so desperately seeks, and Justice for Ezra, inspired by the senseless shooting of Ahmaud Arbery. Mildred is also the co-creator, co-writer, and co-executive producer of the six-episode dramedy series Commune (YouTube - Commune: The Series) as well as co-writer and co-producer of the new series Ticker.

Mildred is a proud member of SAG-AFTRA & the Actors Equity Association, and currently in pre-production for her next film project titled NOLA: The Beginning. A socially visual narrative exploring the perpetual silence of the Black female voice in America.

Sadie Stratton - PR Berg

Sadie Stratton has had a long career in both film and television. Notable roles include Patty Cannon on WGN's Underground as well as recent guest stars on NCIS, The Sex Lives of College Girls, and Westworld. She can also be seen in Christopher Nolans Oppenheimer this summer and Holiday Twist this upcoming Holiday season.

FILMMAKER BIOS

Alethea Root - Producer, Writer, Director

ALETHEA ROOT is an award-winning producer and director. She produced the Emmy-winning short film, A LOVE STROY and her first feature film, PART TIME FABULOUS, won eight film festival awards, including two Audience Choice Awards, the Film4Change Award, and the Exploring Humanity Award, and is now streaming on Amazon Prime. Root directed the music video, LONELY, which won three best music video awards. She was the production designer for the Oscar Award-winning short film WEST BANK STORY and the art director on the Emmy-winning web series, DR. HORRIBLE'S SING-ALONG BLOG.

Root's second feature film, *Good Side of Bad*, is the open night film of the 2023 Dances With Films Festival in Los Angeles. Her VR short, *SEE ME*, explores the male gaze in a post-MeToo world and had a robust festival tour. Other directorial work includes, *ORPHAN IS THE NEW ORANGE*, which has garnered over 3M views on its YouTube channel. With all her films Root is committed to telling paradigm-shifting stories that help elevate the human condition and effect positive change.

Jules Bruff - Producer, Writer

JULES BRUFF is an actress and filmmaker. Jules penned and led the Indie hit film *PART TIME FABULOUS*. *PART TIME FABULOUS* won the Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature at the Berkshire International Film Festival, the Audience Award at the Awareness Festival, the Film 4 Change Award at the Albuquerque Film Festival, and many others. Jules produced the upcoming feature film *MISSING TIME*, directed by Alex Rotaru. She also produced two award-winning short films *HOW TO GET TO CANDYBAR* and *STATION ZERO*. Her first foray into producing was as the Associate Producer on Kirk Douglas' final feature *ILLUSION*, which also starred Bryan Cranston.

Ciera Danielle - Writer

CIERA DANIELLE is an award-winning actress, screenwriter, and filmmaker. Beginning in the theater, she has traveled worldwide working in film with artists such as James Franco, Lou Diamond Phillips, Dale Dickey, Mark Pellegrino, and more. Her desire to create profound and inspiring content led to her screenwriting and directorial debut of the feature film, *DAISY*. She won Best Screenplay and Best Actress awards for her work on *DAISY*, which also found distribution. From then on, she blossomed into the storyteller she is now, founding a production company and acting, writing, and directing in films worldwide. Her desire to stay on the cusp of what is happening with women in film has led to the creation of her first television series, *THE LEGEND OF LILY SHORE*. Her most recent film work is the 2017 Cannes-screened feature film, *THE LAST TRAIN*, a film for suicide prevention, which she produced and starred in opposite Lou Diamond Phillips.

Jenny Napier - Producer

JENNY NAPIER has produced a variety of features domestically and internationally. She started working on set on large scale Hollywood productions, and then furthered her career at Sony Pictures Animation. She eventually moved over to feature film development working for a variety of independent production companies in Los Angeles including Hollywood Gang Productions, Andrea Simon Entertainment, and Eleven Eleven Films where she Associate Produced her first feature, *The Divide*. Jenny produced the Slamdance 2018 accepted feature, *Savage Youth*. In 2019, she Unit Production Managed the SXSW accepted feature, *I Used To Go Here*. Her film credits since include *Red Winter*, *Zero Road*, *Good Side*

of Bad, Manifest Evil, The Old Way, and the Discovery+ doc feature, Scream: The True Story. She most recently produced American Schemers in Chicago, IL and Lovers in Denver, CO.

Katie Von Till - Producer

Katie holds the distinction of being the 4th official voice of Disney's Snow White since the inception of the character in 1937. She voices the princess for toys, video games, theme parks, and animated programs. She is also part of an elite group of women to have been the voice of a TV network having spent six months as the promo voice for The Style Network for NBCUniversal. No stranger to on-camera work, Katie currently recurs as Kimberly the newscaster on Young Sheldon. She was also among the recurring comedy sketch players on Conan. Other TV appearances include The Middle, NCIS, Anger Management (recurring), How I Met Your Mother, Community (recurring), and others. On film, she played the ghost in The Hunted starring Josh Stewart, was seen in film festival darlings Zombie Prom and Jaq Schaeffer's TiMER, and worked with director Jon M. Chu in When the Kids Are Away. Katie is also a producer. Her recent feature, A Patient Man, was a jury selection for the Austin Film Festival, where Katie also placed in the finals of the live 90-second pitch competition with her comedy pilot "Not Moms." KVT toured the US in the Broadway First National Tour of Little Shop of Horrors (Jerry Zaks, director), and at LA's famed Reprise Theatre Company, she played alongside Kelli O'Hara in Sunday in the Park with George, directed by Seinfeld's Jason Alexander. She is a proud member of Actors Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA. Katie is a graduate of Michigan State University.

Mark David - Producer, Cinematographer

MARK DAVID Mark David is an American Director, Cinematographer and Producer who was born in Houston, Texas to coptic Egyptian parents .The Award winning Filmmaker is of North African descent and has been working in the film industry since 1997 when he directed his first feature film, (Sweet Thing), a dark southern Gothic Drama. Since then he has directed multiple features with amazingly diverse casts ranging from The Late Peter Falk, Val Kilmer, Rip Torn to Academy Award Winner Cloris Leachman. David's directorial efforts range from Dark Dramas Texas Heart (2017) , American Cowslip (2010) to the darkest of comedies "Starf"cker (2022) ", Jonny's Sweet Revenge (2017). In 2022 he directed and photographed the Brian McFadden Bio pic about a bi-polar environmentalist, "Sunlight" (2023). He has lensed almost sixty feature films as a cinematographer having a reputation for creating epic imagery with sweeping landscapes in period pieces in some of the most remote places in the world, from the rocky Mountains to Siberia " The great Alaskan Race (2018), Hostile Territory (2022), Impuratus (2023) .David Started as a Rock and Roll drummer in the 90's and played with several bands over the years . He was signed to Feudal Records in 2010 with his Band "Ultrarev" . He has co - written songs with Coolio and Sen Dog of Cypress hill. Mark named his production Company, Buffalo Speedway Film Co. after the street he grew up on in Texas and has a Post production company called Bombshelter, a complete post facility

that handles editing through deliverables. Markis proud member of local 600 International Cinematographer's Guild, The Director's Guild of America and The producer's Guild of America. In the past few years, his work as a cinematographer has taken him to Siberia, India, Bangladesh and Serbia.

Connie Jo Sechrist - Producer

CONNIE JO SECHRIST is an accomplished American Actress and Emmy® Nominated Producer from San Jose, CA, whose work has been recognized at prestigious festivals such as SXSW, Tribeca, and other Academy Qualifying Festivals around the world. She is well-known for her dynamic and complex roles in drama, action, and sci-fi genre films.

As a passionate advocate for mental health, Connie Jo has produced and starred in over 20 films that explore mental health and personal stories, with the goal of de-stigmatizing mental health issues and breaking down barriers. Her commitment to raising awareness about the prevalence of mental health problems and encouraging greater understanding and acceptance is evident in the impactful nature of her work.

In addition to her acting and producing career, Connie Jo is a Co-Founder of the Coven Film Festival, which is dedicated to showcasing films created by emerging women and non-binary filmmakers. She is also a respected leader and mentor in various independent film groups around the world, where she strives to inspire and support the growth of other aspiring filmmakers.

Cameo Wood - Executive Producer

CAMEO WOOD is the Emmy award-winning screenwriter and director of the short film Real Artists. She is a co-winner of "Best Emerging Artist" at the AT&T Film Festival and won a mentorship with Ava DuVernay. Real Artists screened on PBS, Aspire, and was featured in the Wing Luke Museum's exhibit "Worlds Beyond Here: The Expanding Universe of Asian Pacific American Science Fiction." She is on the board of The Roxie Theatre, SF Bee-Cause, KWMR, COVEN Film Festival, and the Builder Board of BAYCAT. She is also the Co-Founder of the COVEN Film Festival, featuring womxn directors from all backgrounds, now enjoying its fourth year. She is currently completing her master's thesis in Dramatic Arts at Harvard University and will graduate in December of 2023.

Edgar Burcksen, ACE, NCE - Editor

Edgar Burcksen, ACE, NCE moved to California after a successful career in The Netherlands with more than 15 features and a Dutch Film Festival Award. In California, he became the visual effects editor on The Hunt for Red October (1990) and Diehard 2 (1990). Burcksen's collaboration with George Lucas on the pilot Young Indiana Jones and the Curse of the

Jackal (1992) earned him an Emmy® for best editing in 1992. Burcksen edited "500 Nations" (1995) a miniseries for CBS about Native Americans hosted and produced by Kevin Costner.

He edited Colors Straight Up (1997), which was nominated for Best Documentary Feature at the Academy Awards®. Lunker Lake (1997) won at the Santa Clarita Family Film Festival and his teaming up with actor/director Jeroen Krabbé on the feature Left Luggage (1998) which won 4 prestigious awards at the Berlin Film Festival in 1998. Burcksen's diverse experience over the complete spectrum of film genres made him director Ted Braun's first choice to edit Darfur Now (2007) which earned him an ACE Eddie Award nomination.

Edgar Burcksen is a member of the Editors Guild, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, he served for many years on the Board of Directors of ACE and was the Editor in Chief of ACE's magazine CinemaEditor for more than 17 years. For his contributions during his tenure as Editor in Chief of CinemaEditor he received the prestigious Robert Wise Award during the 2011 ACE Eddie Awards.

END CREDITS

8743 Productions and Truth 13 Productions
Charming Stranger with Buffalo Speedway Film Co.

Present
Good Side of Bad

BASED ON THE BOOK "THE GOOD SIDE OF BAD" by Beverly Olevin

DIRECTED BY
Alethea Root

WRITTEN BY
Ciera Danielle
Jules Bruff & Alethea Root

PRODUCED BY
Jules Bruff p.g.a

PRODUCED BY
Alethea Root p.g.a

PRODUCED BY
Mark David p.g.a

PRODUCED BY
Connie Jo Sechrist
Katie Von Till
Jenny Napier

CONSULTING PRODUCERS
Daniel Lawrence Abrams
Lisa Barrett McGuire
Colin Floom

ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS
Grant Fieldgrove
Bradley Tyer
Jocelyn May
Austin Anderson

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Cameo Wood

Staring

Lexi Simonsen
Jules Bruff
Alex Quijano
Myles Grier
With Tess Harper

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Mark David

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
Lorna Larkin

EDITED BY
Edgar Burcksen, ACE, NCE

MUSIC BY
David Poe

COSTUME DESIGNER
Susan Chan

CO-PRODUCERS

Myles Grier
Roseanna Stanley
John G. Root Jr.,
John Kennedy
Veera Mahajan
Beth Von Till
Stephen Von Till
Andrew Goodwillie
Cathrine Goodwillie

Consulting Producer
Daniel Lawrence Abrams
Lisa Barrett McGuire
Colin Floom

Associate Producers
Grant Fieldgrove
Bradley Tyer
Jocelyn May

CAST LIST

Florence	Lexi Simonsen
Sara	Jules Bruff
Peter	Alex Quijano
Dennis	Myles Grier
Mary Ellen	Tess Harper
Dr. Richardson	Kim Estes
Nurse Beverly	Mildred Marie Langford
Principle Berg	Sadie Stratton
Officer Marie	Tiffany Jeneen
Charlie	David Haydn-Jones
Dr. Gardner	Katie Von Till
Dr. Ozel	Hope Shapiro
Ms. Berry	Connie Jo Sechrist
Freya	Emma Von Till
Sebastian	Sebastian Dufraine
Mariel	Storie Blake
Joseph	Clyde J. Bruff
Jen	Jennifer Sorenson
Mark	Mark McClain Wilson
Sharon	Jodi Fung

Pat	Pat McNulty
Nurse Anton	Gloria Gruber
Nurse Jo	Joanne Verbos
Parking Attendant	Zack Haas
Odyssey Woman	Vanoy Burnough
Orderly	Grant Fieldgrove
Orderly	Jared Trevino
Sara's Husband	Jeff Pride
Young Peter	Anthony Ruggieri
Baby Florence	Astrid Ferrie
Young Sara	Jillian Moray
Young Mary Ellen	Kathryn Hollis Peters
Yoga With Adriene	Adriene Mishler

Background Actors

Kristin Von Till
 Christina Root
 Teresa Parker
 Krista Brown
 Chanda Larsen
 Mike Larsen
 Stephanie Selo
 Chase Procter

CREW

1st Assistant Director	Chris Oneliner
2nd Assistant Director	Paola Beck Gisler
1st Assistant Camera	Samuel Emerson Morgan
2nd Assistant Camera	Adam Gan Ci Chan
	Dilyar Sultan
2nd Unit Director of Photography	Samuel Emerson Morgan
B Camera Operator	Adam Gan Ci Chan
Steadicam	Nick Langley
Gaffer	Paul Meehan
Script Supervisor	Lauren Goldstein
Sound Recordist	Michael Colton
	Timothy Vannette
Property Master	Storie Blake
Set Dresser	Remington Brimmer
Set Construction	Mark Mendenhall

On set Costumer Emma Von Till

Location Manager Caryl Eagle
Katie Von Till
Location Scout Freya Von Till

Makeup Department Head Jamie Frasier

Production Assistants Mark Mendenhall
Mike Brunetto
Zach Haas

Director's Assistant Emma Von Till
Personal Costumer Ms. Jules Bruff Buckley Sampson
Additional Material by Bill Narducci
Legal Services Provided by Carol Contes
Still Photographer Chris Oneliner
Poster Photographer Aly Whitman
Covid Compliance Officers Teresa Parker
Margaret Halkin
Shey Lyn Zanotti

Transportation Chris Oneliner
Catering Le Catering
Craft Services Chris Oneliner
Insurance The Barrow Group
Payroll Services ABS Payroll
Payroll Coordinator Violet Romero
Grant Writer Rebecca Hollman

POST-PRODUCTION

Special Effects Austin Anderson
Online Editor Daniel Haff
Intern Assistant Editor Jonah Shortall
Colorist Dilyar Sultan
Post production sound services provided by Tab Sound Design
Sound Designer/Re-Recording Mixer William Tabanou
Dialogue Editor Ruge Sun
Foley Mixer and Artist Greg Mauer
Foley Artist Doug Madick
Foley Mixer Calvin Pfeffer
Mix Technician Itai Levy

Additional post sound services provided by
Main Titles Designed by

Monkeyland Audio
Daniel Haff

Second Unit

Director of Photography
Production Designer
1st Assistant Director

Thaddeus Wadleigh
Emily Palmer
Kristin Dick

3rd Unit Director of Photography
1st Assistant Camera
2nd Assistant Camera/ DIT
Gaffer
Grip
Sound Mixer
Jose Castro
Production Assistant
Still Photographer
Makeup Artist

David Comeaux
Nicholas Fabre
Lauren Barker
Ben Thatcher
Nathan Davis
Jose Castro
Andrea Burish
Kaylee Sommers
Aly Whitman
Andrea Burish

SONGS

Title
Written by
Performed by
Produced by
Courtesy of

I Can't Ever Forget
Bee Ahlers
BeeRoyal
Bee Ahlers and Rob Ahlers
Some People Music