



BEGINNINGS

Denmark, Sweden, Belgium | 2025 | 100'

a film by
Jeanette Nordahl



PRESS NOTES

Further press materials can be downloaded [HERE](#)

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Screenings Berlinale

17 Feb 2025 // 18:30 // Zoo Palast1 (world premiere)

18 Feb 2025 // 15:30 // Urania

19 Feb 2025 // 22:00 // Cubix 7

20 Feb 2025 // 21:45 // Filmtheater am Friedrichshain

21 Feb 2025 // 12:15 // Cubix 9

22 Feb 2025 // 18:30 // Zoo Palast 1



Synopsis

Ane and Thomas are in the middle of a divorce, but haven't told their children yet. Thomas is about to move in with his new girlfriend when Ane is suddenly struck by a life-changing stroke. They decide to keep living together until Ane recovers, and while she fights fiercely to regain her former self, they both must face a new reality and find hope in places they never expected.

Director's statement

Beginnings is a love story that explores the unexpected and uncontrollable in everyday life. It is about how difficult love can be and how life relentlessly moves us in new directions despite our best intentions, circumstances, and plans.

The story is inspired by my parents' relationship, where illness has played a central role ever since I was a child, and the questions of how we move forward from what seems impossible feels deeply personal to me.

Beginnings is a tribute to life, where hope is found in the everyday and in daring to face and accept the things we cannot control. And that we, against all odds, might find strength in the places we least expect it.



About the director

Jeanette Nordahl

Jeanette Nordahl graduated from the independent film school Super16 in 2012.

Her critically acclaimed debut feature film **Wildland** had its world premiere at the Berlinale in 2020 and was nominated for the GWFF Best First Feature Award.

In 2021-2022, Jeanette directed the miniseries **The Dreamer** for Viaplay. The series premiered at Cannes Séries in spring 2022 and earned Connie Nielsen an Emmy nomination for Best Actress.

In 2023, Jeanette conceptualized the second season of the BAFTA-nominated TV series **The Responder** for the BBC, starring Martin Freeman.

Beginnings is her sophomore feature.



Picture by Donald Chambers

Filmography

Beginnings, fiction feature, 2025

The Responder, series, season 2 episode 1 & 2, 2024

The Dreamer - Becoming Karen Blixen, series, 2022

When the Dust Settles, series, episode 3 & 4, 2020

Wildland, fiction feature, 2020

About the writer

Rasmus Birch

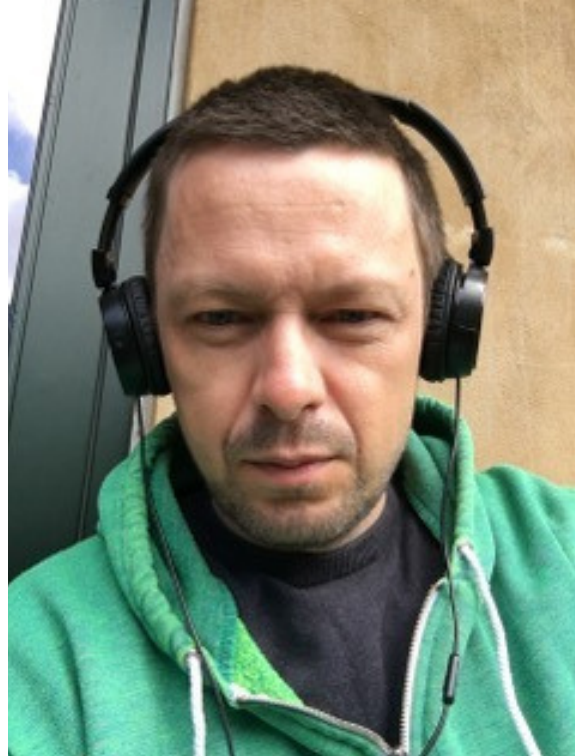
Screenwriter Rasmus Birch holds a B.A. in Film Studies from Copenhagen University.

In 2025 Rasmus Birch has three features premiering; **Acts of Love** (IFFR), **No Rest for the Wicked** (in postproduction) and **Beginnings** (Berlinale).

His feature film debut **Brotherhood** (2009) won numerous awards including the main award at Rome International Film Festival.

When Animals Dream (2014), his sophomore feature, was selected for Critic's Week in Cannes and the screenplay was nominated for the Danish academy awards.

Rasmus wrote the scripts for the critically acclaimed **Suicide Tourist** (2019) and **Miss Viborg** (2022).



Filmography

No Rest for the Wicked, D: Kasper Kalle, 2025

Beginnings, D: Jeanette Nordahl, 2025

Acts of Love, D: Jeppe Rønde, 2025

Miss Viborg, D: Marianne Blicher, 2022

Suicide Tourist, D: Jonas Alexander Arnby, 2019

When Animals Dream, D: Jonas Alexander Arnby, 2014

Brotherhood, D: Nicolo Donato, 2009

About the cast

Trine Dyrholm - Ane

Trine Dyrholm is one of the most acclaimed and awarded actresses of the Nordics today. She has been a shining star in both film and television, captivating audiences at home and internationally. Her big breakthrough came in 1998 with the Danish feature ***The Celebration***, which won The Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival.

In 2016, Dyrholm reunited with Thomas Vinterberg and won the Silver Bear at the Berlin Film Festival for her role in ***The Commune***.

Her other credits include Susanne Bier's Academy Award-winning ***In A Better World*** (2010), the DR family drama *Legacy*, directed by Pernilla August, Susanna Nicchiarelli's ***Nico, 1988***, the winner of The Horizon Award at the Venice Film Festival (2017), and Sundance Audience Award-winning ***Queen of Hearts***, directed by May el-Toukhy (2019), for which she received the first-ever acting award at the Gothenburg Film Festival, the Dragon Award (2019).

Dyrholm continued her impressive streak with projects like ***The Almond and the Seahorse*** (2022), opposite Charlotte Gainsbourg, and ***Poison*** (2024), a chamber play drama with Tim Roth. In 2023, she starred in Michael Noer's acclaimed feature ***Birthday Girl*** and portrayed Queen Anne in the D.C. Moore series ***Mary & George*** (2024).

That same year, she captivated audiences in ***The Girl with the Needle***, directed by Magnus von Horn. The film premiered in competition at the Cannes Film Festival, earning widespread critical acclaim for its haunting storytelling and striking cinematography. Following its Cannes debut, ***The Girl with the Needle*** continued its successful awards journey, securing accolades at the Sevilla European Film Festival and a nomination at the European Film Awards. The film also competed for Best Motion Picture – Non-English Language at the Golden Globe Awards and has now been selected as Denmark's official entry for the Academy Awards, solidifying its place as one of the year's most significant international films.

In 2024, she also starred in the acclaimed mini-series ***Rematch***, directed by Yan England, which won the top prize at Series Mania and received widespread praise for its compelling storytelling and performances.



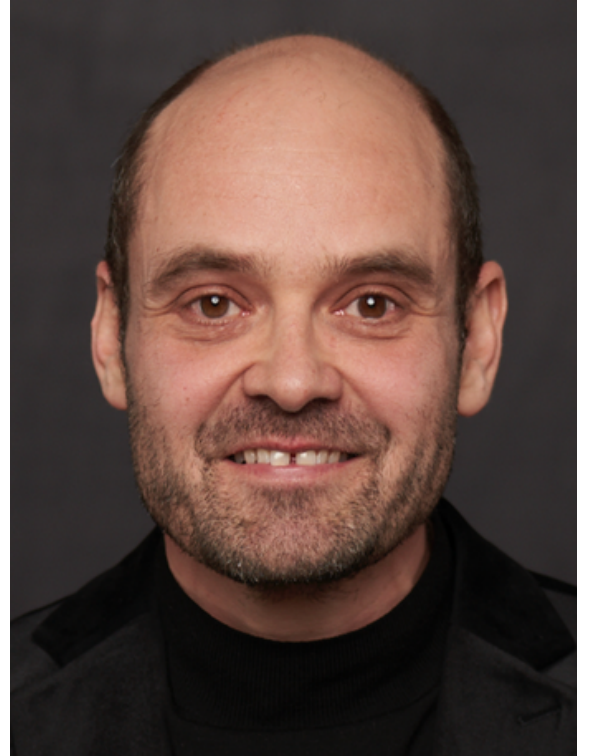
About the cast

David Dencik - Thomas

David Dencik is one of Scandinavia's most versatile actors and has played major roles in both Scandinavian and international productions, for which he has received several awards and accolades. Internationally, he is known for his roles in ***No Time to Die***, ***Chernobyl***, ***McMafia***, ***Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*** and ***The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo***.

Most recently, he starred in DR-series ***Prisoner*** and was awarded the Danish Academy Award for Best Actor in a TV-series. He also received a Danish Academy Award for his performance in the series ***The Chestnut Man***, and he was awarded a Swedish Film Academy Award in 2020 for his work in ***The Perfect Patient***. He also starred in Thomas Vinterberg's ***Families Like Ours***. Other recent titles include ***Together 99***, which premiered at Toronto IFF in 2023, and Lars von Trier's ***The Kingdom - Exodus***.

Up next he is featured in Jeanette Nordahl's ***Beginnings*** and ***Other People's Money*** - both premiering at this year's Berlinale.



About the cast

Björk Storm - Clara

Bjørk, born in 2006, sparked her interest in acting when she joined a children's theater in Copenhagen at the age of 10.

In 2022, she played the lead role in a short film from the National Film School of Denmark.

For several years, she has been an active gymnast, with the last two years at an elite level.

The role of Clara in ***Beginnings*** marks her feature film debut.



Luna Fuglsang Svelmøe - Marie

Luna Fuglsang Svelmøe plays the youngest daughter, Marie, in the film ***Beginnings***. Luna is from Funen and was cast for the role at the age of nine. ***Beginnings*** is her debut film.



About the producers

Snowglobe (DK)

Snowglobe is a Danish film company with strong international roots. Snowglobe is a dynamic production company working with feature films across borders. Snowglobe currently develops, produces and co-produces a nuanced selection of films with an artistic and commercial core by new as well as established directors, who all share a great passion for filmmaking.

In the past almost years, they have produced and co-produced more than 40 films, including Maryam Touzani's ***The Blue Caftan***, ***The Worst Person in the World*** by Joachim Trier, ***Godland*** by Hlynur Pálmason and ***Birds of Passage*** by Cristina Gallego and Ciro Guerra.

Their films have been selected and awarded at numerous international film festivals and distributed in the entire world.

They are currently working on upcoming titles by a diverse slate of directors including Lucrecia Martel, Jeanette Nordahl, Hlynur Pálmason, Carlos Reygadas, Maria Bäck, Cristian Mungiu, Annemarie Jacir, Emilie Thalund and others.

Credits

CREW

Director

Jeanette Nordahl

Writers

Rasmus Birch

Jeanette Nordahl

Cinematographer

Shadi Chaaban

Editor

Rasmus Gitz-Johansen

Production Designer

Nikolaj Danielsen

Sound Designer

Kristian Eidnes

Composer

Nathan Larson

Makeup Designer

Marie Messien

Costume Designer

Catherine Marchand

1st AD

Greta Varts

Line Producer

Barbara Crone

Casting

Anja Philip

Producers

Eva Jakobsen (Snowglobe, DK)

Katrin Pors (Snowglobe, DK)

Mikkel Jersin (Snowglobe, DK)

Co-producers

Nima Yousefi (HOBAB, SE)

Erik Glijnis (Lemming Film, BE)

Dries Phlypo (Lemming Film, BE)

Leontine Petit (Lemming Film, BE)

Executive producers

Rikke Ennis

Trine Dyrholm

Associate producers

Johnny Andersen

Lilja Ósk Snorradóttir

David Claikens

Alex Verbaere

CAST

Trine Dyrholm - Ane

David Dencik - Thomas

Bjørk Storm - Clara

Luna Fuglsang Svelmøe - Marie

Johanne Louise Schmidt - Stine