



**TRYING TO  
REACH 100**

*Comedy/Drama*

## LOGLINE

A Los Angeles man with a flashy job must drive his cantankerous rule loving from Iowa down Route 66 one last time before putting him into a nursing home.



# THEMES

**\*CULTURE CLASH BETWEEN FLASHY LOS ANGELES ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY AND MIDDLE AMERICA, BLUE COLLAR IOWA**

**\*COPING WITH WORKING WITH AN INDEPENDENT AGING PARENT**

**\*DEALING WITH BEING AN ADULT WHO MUST FOLLOW AN ELDERLY PARENT'S RULES**

**\*CONCERN ABOUT A POSSIBLY UNFAITHFUL FIANCÉE BACK HOME IN LOS ANGELES**



# SYNOPSIS

## *ACT I: THE COMFORT OF LOS ANGELES*

The individuals in Son's life are not happy that they will be bereft of their Son as he travels off to Iowa to bring Pops back to Los Angeles and Son is having second thoughts about a road trip with Pops.

## *ACT II: THE BURDEN AND JOY OF A JOURNEY*

It takes some getting used to as cultures, values, and Pops and Son clash along Route 66 in Pops' vintage 1970's Cheyenne pickup truck. The routine of road, diner, motel, then all over again wears on Son as much as Pops' cantankerous personality with each element, even down to the large cartoon style advertising causes Son to wish he had stayed in Los Angeles. Yet on this trip, Son gained the opportunity to reminisce about and with his old man.

## *ACT III: SAYING GOODBYE*

It's a poignant goodbye as Son and Pops finally reach the nursing home, at least until Pops sees the next lady love of his dreams.



# *DIRECTOR*

Mari Bengston will be the Director. *Trying to Reach 100* will be her first feature film. She is currently working on AI generated short films and children's animation. Mari will bring an emotional connection to the audience by getting them to laugh, then bringing them to tears as they root for Son and Pops.

# *WRITER*

Mari Bengston wrote and completed the screenplay for *Trying to Reach 100* in 2024. Mari has over forty screenplay concepts with five completed screenplays (*Trying to Reach 100, Bump It Up, Grasshopper, Facing the Devil, & My Brother's Lover*). Mari Bengston started Mainsheet Productions, LLC and is the Owner/CEO.





## *CHARACTERS & ATTACHED TALENT*

- **Character 1:** Son is moody, hot, loves his flashy job in Los Angeles, but he lies, he's jaded about the world, he says mean things when his feelings are hurt. He holds a deep love for his father, Pops, and large guilt about locking his independent father away in a nursing home, which drives him to want to spend special time with his father, possibly one last time, before his father dies.
- **Character 2:** Pops, Son's father, is onery, cantankerous, hard smoking, hard drinking, always good with the ladies, who's willing to pick a fight just to annoy everyone around him. And that's just his good qualities. Pops has always lived in Iowa and embraced Middle American values.
- **Character 3:** Dylan, Son's fiancée, is immature, girly girl, needs constant attention, doesn't like to be alone, very self centered, LA hot, and loves to flirt to the point where Son questions her fidelity.
- **Character 4:** Rockstar, Son's friend, is the type of friend that you tell all your troubles to as your smoking pot together, but he's usually the one that got you into the trouble in the first place. He's aging, devout Catholic, trying to convert Son, loves it when Son behaves like him, but also knows that his life is not the direction that Son should go.
- **Character 5:** Ruth, waitress in Arizona, is the working-class girl who at one point in time had a husband who yells, so she knows exactly how to comfort Son at his lowest point.

NO ATTACHED TALENT

# *PRODUCTION PLAN*

## Pre-Production

- Some of the possible background locations have already been scouted and the motels/diners will need to be contacted for permission.
- Looking into studio packaging deals for locations to shoot principal photography (possibly renting Stage 7 at Disney Studios).
- Crew will be hired based upon tax breaks from each state and/or packaging deal.
- Looking into funding with product placements along Route 66.
- Possibly a Union film.



## Production Logistics

- The film will take 32 days to shoot using IMAX 3D film cameras.
- Filming in studio will use a green screen and background shots will be taken on location and combined during editing.
- A new negative will be printed on film that combines all four film strips (left eye foreground, left eye background, right eye foreground, right eye background) to be one single film strip that can be shown on 2D projectors without 3D glasses in 3D format.

# *PRODUCTION PLAN (CONTINUED)*

## Production Timeline

- Pre-Production will be 5 months.
- Production will be one month.
- Post-Production will be 1-2 months.

## Distribution

- The film will be in over 3,300 theatres Domestically and over 500 Worldwide.
- It will be distributed by a major studio (ex. Disney).
- It will be released in theatres first, then via streaming (ex. Disney+ and Hulu) with several options in format including a home 3D viewing experience for 2D televisions (without 3D glasses).



# *BUDGET*

## *\$25 MILLION*

Several key large portions of the budget include:

Cast salaries (\$12.2 million)

IMAX 3D cameras (\$1.5 million)

Sound (\$1.7 million)

Director (\$1.5 million)

Set Construction (\$1.2 million)

Film and film processing (\$800,000)

Set Construction (\$1.2 million)

Insurance (\$750,000)

Digital Media Remastering (DMR) &

Visual effects (\$500,000)

With a projection of 32 shooting days, the total costs come in at a little over \$780,000 per shooting day due to the 3D IMAX cameras.



# COMPARABLES

Movie titles were chosen due to their use of technology when making the film, their ability to show on a large screen (mainly IMAX), and their unique story perspective which draws the audience into experiencing the film, instead of just watching the film.

\*Sources IMDb Pro (December 16, 2025) and Box Office Mojo (December 16, 2025)

\*\*Rough ROI is calculated using (Worldwide Box Office less double the Budget) divided by double the Budget, changed into a percentage.

Movie Title	Worldwide Box Office*	Budget*	Rough ROI**
Zootopia 2	\$1,137,444,817	\$150,000,000	279.15%
Oppenheimer	\$975,811,333	\$100,000,000	387.91%
Avatar: The Way of Water	\$2,343,477,301	\$350,000,000	234.78%
Everything Everywhere All at Once	\$142,804,136	\$14,300,000	399.31%
Twisters	\$372,262,265	\$155,000,000	20.08%

# *THANK YOU*

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