

ROAD TRIP HOSTAGE

Johnson Production Group Press Kit

One-Liner

When pursuing her dreams leads to a fractured relationship with her mother, a young student angrily leaves home, but soon finds herself the hostage of a deranged criminal who forces her to drive him across the country. Inspired by a True Story.

Synopsis

After accidentally killing his father, the handsome and charming Rick flees the scene of the crime. To avoid getting caught by the police, he asks the innocent Emma, a young student who recently left home after a disagreement with her mom, to drive him to the airport. What started out as a simple request for a ride, quickly turns into an active hostage situation, as Rick does everything he can to avoid getting caught by the authorities.

Producers

Executive Producers
TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON
JOSEPH WILKA

Producer
A.J. KELLY

Co-Producer
JACOB HORN

Line Producer
AMANDA SEARS

Key Cast

<u>CHARACTER</u>	<u>ACTOR</u>
Emma Simpson	VERONICA RAMIREZ
Rick Hoover	LUKAS CHARLES STAFFORD
Hillary Simpson	CHALA SAVINO
Detective Ramirez	GABRIELLA BIZIOU

Key Cast Biographies

VERONICA RAMIREZ



Actress Veronica Ramirez is originally from Toronto, Canada and now living in Los Angeles pursuing her career. She attended the New York Film Academy and has a Bachelor of Fine Arts In Acting for Film. Veronica has studied in various styles and techniques; trained in fighting and stunts; and is also professionally trained in multiple dance styles such as jazz, hip hop, tap and ballet

LUKAS CHARLES STAFFORD



Lukas Charles Stafford is an American actor, singer, and songwriter best known for his work on multiple Lifetime Films, his portrayal as Tom Hawkins in *East of Middle West* (SAG-feature), acting for Carrie Underwood, his popular single, "Still Missin You", and for performing in Broadway's production of "Home for the Holidays".

Born and raised in small-town Anderson, Indiana, Luke began a passionate life in the Midwest working summer labor jobs, playing sports, serving at homeless shelters, and learning music at an early age. Luke is the son of two middle-class parents, Robert Sheldon Stafford Jr., a manufacturing plant manager, and Cathy Elaine Stafford (Putcho), a cafeteria worker and substitute teacher. A small town kid with humble, hard-working roots and big dreams; his deep love for film, music, and entertainment pushed him to move quickly.

At the age of 11, Luke picked up the saxophone and started learning musical theatre. At 18 years old, he graduated high school and began degrees in music, business, and theatre. During his college career, Stafford took every opportunity available outside of the classroom to grow his talents.

At 19, Luke began singing gospel music, playing the piano, and music directing for Celebration Church at Arrow Heights in his hometown. At 21, he took his first lead live-performance role in Cedar Point's, "Luminosity", Cedar Fair's highest-grossing pop show, located in Sandusky, Ohio and produced by Pepsi. At 22, Luke took his first role on screen, joining Carrie Underwood in her 2016 hit music video, "Dirty Laundry". Starting at the top of the following year, he began his first domestic tour with Sheldon Reynolds of Earth, Wind, and Fire, hosted by Kalimba: The Spirit of EWF. Dreams destined for something greater, Luke finished his college degrees and moved to Los Angeles where his career expanded quickly.

In late 2017, he moved to New York City for his Broadway debut in "Home for the Holidays" playing saxophone and singing back-up for (American Idol winner) Candice Glover, (America's Got Talent champion) Bianca Ryan, (The Voice champion) Josh Kauffman, and (YouTube sensations) Peter and

Evynne Hollens. He returned to LA in 2018, where later that year he starred in "By & By", a film directed by Brian Lucke Anderson.

In fall of 2019, Luke made his feature film debut as Tom Hawkins in "East of Middle West" (SAG-feature), produced by Stained Glass Productions in Los Angeles, and filmed in Iowa City, Iowa.

Recently, in late 2022, he released his first original song, "Still Missin You", making it's way quickly to thousands of fresh ears.

This fall, Luke will be seen playing the leading man in the Lifetime thriller, "The Student", directed by Brian Skiba.

Still a simple soul from the Midwest, Luke dreams of sowing back into society with his work supporting homelessness communities and sex-trafficking prevention across the states. His free-time hobbies include playing piano, leading worship music for his local communities, and riding his 2007 Harley Sportster, "Roxanne," across-country. He enjoys writing, reading, football, and smoking his pipe (paired with a fine scotch) whenever there's something worth celebrating.

CHALA SAVINO



Actress Chala Savino obtained her Bachelor's degree in Theater from Wichita State University, attended School For Film and Television and The Second City Conservatory and Music Conservatory, where she honed her skills in Improv, Sketch and Musical Sketch. While she has an extensive live theater career and has been the lead in several short films, she has had several film roles including A Miracle Before Christmas, Honey Boy (w/Shia LeBouef), Barbershop The Final Cut and Soy Nero (w/Johnny Ortiz). She has been a guest star for 10 episodes on Saturday Night Live, had recurring roles on Young and the Restless, Days of Our Lives and All My Children. She has also had roles in Truth Be Told, All American and The Eleventh.

GABRIELLA BIZIOU



Gabriella Biziou is an American born actress from Austin, TX. Her first agent found her after being impressed by her performance in an acting class in Austin and she and began acting professionally in Texas before moving to Los Angeles, CA. She won the "Best of Indi" Actor Award in 2016 and her past film work have claimed 9 awards from independent film festivals and counting.

Production Credits

Full Cast

Actors

VERONICA RAMIREZ
LUKAS CHARLES STAFFORD
CHALA SAVINO
GABRIELLA BIZIOU
CHRISTOPHER SKY
CIRCUS-SZALEWSKI
JENNIFER CASTILLO
LISA LONG
NICOLE ANDREWS

Role

Emma Simpson
Rick Hoover
Hillary Simpson
Detective Ramirez
Detective Graves
Charles Hoover
Katy
Motel Clerk
Linda

Casting By

JEFF HARDWICK CSA

Production Designer

MATT WALKER

Director of Photography

ANDRESSA CORDEIRO

Edited By

QUINN ELSE

Music By

RYAN GARRISON

Written By

JOHN HAYES

Directed By

KAILA YORK

Other Crew

ANDREW JUKES	First Assistant Director
NATHAN DE LORIMIER	Second Assistant Director
NATALIE BRADY	Second Second Assistant Director
ABIGAIL PEREZ	Art Directors
BLOSSOM CHIDDICK	
JARON FLYNN	Set Dresser
EMILY MEFFORD	Key Make-up Artist

SARAH KRASNIANSKI	Key Hair Stylist
CATHERINE BESLER	Additional Stylists
KELLY TORRES	
TYSON GALLAND	Second Camera Op
RYAN MAGRISH	1st Assistant Camera
RUOYU ZHANG	2nd Assistant Camera
MORGAN MILLER	
PEDRO AGUIRRE	Media Manager
KEN SAX	Stills Photographers
ABE ATRI	
TOM LEDUC	Gaffers
JEFF MARLOWE	
TAYLOR HUDDLESTON	Additional Gaffer
AARON ROMO	Best Boy Electric
DEVIN CONNOR	Additional BBEs
NATHAN ALEXANDER	
MAILE EDWARDS	
DUSHENE FOSTER	Key Grips
PETER G HOWELL	
CHENG XU	Best Boy Grip
JOSHUA TOLON	Additional BBG
CHAD MARSHALL	Dolly Grip/Swing
JESSICA MAURICIO	Costume Designer
SOHN GUESSFORD	Wardrobe Assistant
JASON BODILY	Production Sound Mixer
MARIA-CAREY WALTON	Script Supervisor
TRAVIS PILAT	Production Manager
KARIM PHELPS	Safety Coordinator
ARIES LOUIZIA	Production Assistants
BROOKE SHARLAND	
BRANDON HILL	
GABAR CHOLI	
ANDREW SILAGY	Supervising Sound Editor
LUIS MURGUIA	Sound Designer
ARTEM SEMENOV	Re-Recording Mixer
MATÍAS BELTRANDO	Dialogue Editor
PATRICK EVANS	Post Production Supervisor
CHANGING FRAMES	Post Production Services
JEFF SPOTT	Colorist
ANTHONY CAMPAGNA	Finishing Artist
HOLLYWOOD SCRIPT	Script Clearance
PRIVATE ISLAND AUDIO	ADR Facilities
RISING TIDE EFFECTS	Visual Effects
TARANTULA	
GOODFORM	

ABACUS INSURANCE BROKERS, INC	Insurance
BOYS IN THE KITCHEN TOO TASTY CATERING LORI'S KITCHEN	Catering
RARE BREEDS SIMMI SINGH JOHN AUGUSTINI	Cameras Special Thanks

Producer Biographies

TIM JOHNSON – Executive Producer

Tim Johnson is among the most active and reliable producers in the business thanks to top rate productions and global distribution appeal.

Johnson is also responsible for producing the international hit series, DR. QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN for CBS for over 5 seasons. During his 100-episode tenure, he also developed and produced the original docu-drama COLD CASE for CBS network, which was the very first program to integrate television with the Internet.

Johnson has produced over 150 movies, 15 globally released series for every major US network - including ABC, Disney, CBS, NBC, Netflix, FOX and Sony.

JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP

The Johnson Production Group contracts globally to produce television content for international networks, studios and distributors. Based in Los Angeles and Vancouver, British Columbia, the company manages production, facilitates development and financing, procures distribution and guarantees quality and timely execution of its programs. While costs have gone up, so has the demand for quality. No longer is good enough, good enough. Johnson Production Group serves that segment when a show needs to be "A" quality, but produced efficiently enough to meet a locked budget. JPG specializes in value, protection of creative elements, and delivery of a quality finished product.

JOSEPH WILKA – Executive Producer

Joseph Wilka is the Head of Production for Johnson Production Group. Los Angeles-based, Joseph had already produced and directed several feature films before serving as the senior marketing executive for Gravitas Ventures. While at Gravitas, Wilka helped pioneer new distribution models for independent films including day-and-date theatrical releases. It was also at Gravitas where Joseph first worked with Johnson Production Group to facilitate the release of their films to the worldwide Video On Demand audience. After serving as the Director of Distribution and Production for Viva Pictures, where he produced English-language versions of foreign animated titles for DirecTV, Wilka officially joined Johnson Production Group. As Head of Production, he oversees the development, production, and distribution of films from multiple production units for release on broadcast and streaming platforms.

A.J. KELLY – Producer

Producer and co-founder of the creative production company, Goodform, A.J. Kelly has spent the past decade creating film, television, documentary, experiential and branded content. His work has won awards at top festivals including Cannes & SXSW, aired on premium networks and received multi-cultural acclaim.

Based in Los Angeles, A.J. believes in elevating content from diverse creative voices and providing an outlet for filmmakers to bring their stories to life.

JACOB HORN – Co-Producer

Jacob Horn began his career in the entertainment industry by working his way up through Elijah Wood's production company, SpectreVision. With them, he was able to gain producing experience with directors such as Nacho Vigalondo and Josh Waller. After leaving SpectreVision, Jacob went out on his own to produce and direct his own content including several short films, a Christmas feature for Hallmark, and also becoming the Stunt Dept Manager on Once Upon A Time In Hollywood. At present, Jacob is the Head of Production for GoodFlix, a feature film production company where he oversees an annual slate of films.

AMANDA SEARS – Line Producer

Born in Denmark, Amanda has been interested in movies since she was a young kid. At age 15 she joined a 3-year film program, where she worked on multiple internationally award-winning short films, before eventually making her way to Los Angeles to pursue her dreams as a producer. She has been working as a coordinator with GoodFlix since the winter of 2021 before getting the chance to Line Produce her first feature film in the fall of 2022.

In her free time, she enjoys skydiving and martial arts.

Billing Block

Lifetime Presents In Association with Johnson Production Group ROAD TRIP HOSTAGE
starring VERONICA RAMIREZ LUKAS CHARLES STAFFORD CHALA SAVINO GABRIELLA
BIZIOU Casting By JEFF HARDWICK CSA Production Designer MATT WALKER Director of
Photography ANDRESSA CORDEIRO Edited By QUINN ELSE Music By RYAN GARRISON
Line Producer AMANDA SEARS
Co-Producer JACOB HORN Executive Producers JOSEPH WILKA TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON
Produced By A.J. KELLY Written By JOHN HAYES Directed By KAILA YORK

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Lifetime

Meta Data

LONG (max 3000 characters) synopsis

After accidentally killing his father, the handsome and charming Rick flees the scene of the crime. To avoid getting caught by the police, he asks the innocent Emma to drive him to the airport. Emma is a young student who had angrily left home when pursuing her dreams led to a fractured relationship with her mother. What started out as a simple request for a ride, quickly turns into an active hostage situation, as Rick does everything he can to avoid getting caught by the authorities. (491)

MEDIUM (max 500) synopsis

After accidentally killing his father, the handsome and charming Rick flees the scene of the crime. To avoid getting caught by the police, he asks the innocent Emma to drive him to the airport. Emma is a young student who had angrily left home when pursuing her dreams led to a fractured relationship with her mother. What started out as a simple request for a ride, quickly turns into an active hostage situation, as Rick does everything he can to avoid getting caught by the authorities. (491)

SHORT (max 100 characters) synopsis

A rebellious girl becomes hostage to a deranged criminal and has to drive him across the country. (98)

5 KEY WORDS

Dancer, dreams, mother, criminal, car