



Mother, Couch! (2024): A Forlorn Family Drama That Fails to Find Its Groove

Description

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Mother, Couch! (2024), directed by Niclas Larsson, is a film that promises an intriguing blend of absurdist comedy and family drama but ultimately fails to deliver a [cohesive narrative](#). Starring Ewan McGregor, Ellen Burstyn, Taylor Russell, and F. Murray Abraham, this movie tries to explore deep-seated family issues and personal absolution within the confines of a vintage furniture store. Unfortunately, despite its promising premise, the [film struggles](#) with its tone and character development, leaving viewers feeling as empty as the deserted parking lot that opens the movie.



The film kicks off with Dave (Ewan McGregor) frantically walking across a deserted parking lot, dressed in a black suit, towards a furniture store filled with vintage, handcrafted pieces. Inside, he meets the bubbly Bella (Taylor Russell) at the front desk, whose father Marcus and Uncle Marco (both played by F. Murray Abraham) are away. Dave's mother (Ellen Burstyn) is seated on a green couch with deep personal significance and refuses to leave. His brother Gruffudd (Rhys Ifans) is also present, and soon their sister Linda (Lara Flynn Boyle) arrives to try and coax their mother away from the sofa.

As the family members gather, the film unfolds as a series of forced bursts of energy, nightmarish dream sequences, and strained attempts at self-absolution. The narrative is peppered with flashbacks that add context but often stall the dramatic momentum, making the story feel both overstuffed and underdeveloped.

Niclas Larsson's direction in *Mother, Couch!* is ambitious but ultimately lacks coherence. The film is set mostly within the furniture store, utilizing its myriad showrooms as one continuous liminal space. This ambiguous temporality recalls the work of Charlie Kauffman, with its mundane settings interrogating hidden anxieties. The escalating deadpan absurdity is reminiscent of Roy Andersson, while the entire

film suggests the influence of Paul Thomas Anderson's *Punch-Drunk Love*. However, unlike PTA's oddball rom-com, *Mother, Couch!* lacks a soul worth investing in.

Ewan McGregor leads the cast as Dave, a character who is difficult to empathize with. From his uneasy relationship with his soon-to-be ex-wife Linda (Lake Bell) to his neglect of his young daughter, Dave is portrayed as passive, shallow, and uninteresting. Ellen Burstyn delivers on-the-nose monologues but fails to elevate the material. Taylor Russell, who seems to be there solely to ogle McGregor, is underwritten, and F. Murray Abraham's dual roles lack the depth needed to make a significant impact.

The cinematography in *Mother, Couch!* attempts to create a disorienting, dreamlike atmosphere but falls short. The film's setting—a furniture store that seems to exist at the end of the world—recalls the surreal environments of Kauffman and Anderson but lacks their visual and thematic cohesion. The overactive score by Christopher Bear desperately tries to emulate the quirky charm of *Punch-Drunk Love* but fails to find its rhythm.

Mother, Couch! is a film that grapples with unresolved family issues and [personal redemption](#) but ultimately feels unresolved itself. The film's ambiguous motivations and lack of clear direction make it difficult for viewers to invest in the characters or their journey. By the time the narrative reaches its climax, with Dave arriving at a pond for a moment of supposed absolution, it feels too little, too late.

***Mother, Couch!* (2024) FAQs**

Q: Where can I watch *Mother, Couch!* (2024)?

Mother, Couch! (2024) is available for streaming . You can also watch it online at [iWatchOnline](#).

Q: Who directed *Mother, Couch!* (2024)?

The film was directed by Niclas Larsson.

Q: Who stars in *Mother, Couch!* (2024)?

The film stars Ewan McGregor as Dave, Ellen Burstyn as his mother, Taylor Russell as Bella, Rhys Ifans as Gruffudd, and Lara Flynn Boyle as Linda.

Q: What genre is *Mother, Couch!* (2024)?

Mother, Couch! is an absurdist family drama with elements of dark comedy.

Q: Is *Mother, Couch!* (2024) suitable for children?

The film is rated [Rating] and contains mature themes and language, making it unsuitable for children. Parental discretion is advised.

Q: What are the main themes of *Mother, Couch!* (2024)?

The [film explores themes](#) of unresolved family issues, personal redemption, and the inability to move on from past traumas.

Q: Is there a sequel planned for *Mother, Couch!* (2024)?

As of now, there has been no official announcement regarding a sequel.

Q: How long is *Mother, Couch!* (2024)?

A: The runtime of *Mother, Couch!* is approximately 96 minutes.

Sources

1. [iWatchOnline](#)
2. [Director's Previous Works](#)
3. [Lead Actor's Previous Works](#)

Mother, Couch! (2024) aims to delve into the complexities of family dynamics and personal absolution but ultimately falls short of its lofty ambitions. For those intrigued by the premise, it's worth a watch, but it may not fully satisfy those seeking a deeply engaging and coherent narrative.

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