



*Happily
married
after*

A FILM BY ALISON GUESSOU

 **DJINI PRODUCTIONS**
DREAMS BECOME REALITY

Happily Married After is a satirical short film that takes on the perfections and imperfections that make marriage beautiful. We all too often hold our partners to a high standard, on a pedestal, expecting them to do no wrong. Unfortunately, being humans, we have tendencies to make mistakes and mess up - but how we react to those instances can either make a marriage stronger or pull it apart.

The tone of the film will be in the style of a mockumentary/comedy. The short film is meant to be light-hearted with indirect lessons that can be learned from being in a committed relationship.



The Characters

Meet our star couple - the Sparks

LACI SPARK
Mid 30's

A young ambitious wife who is a perfectionist, and is a few years (4 years) into her marriage.

KIRK SPARK
Mid 30's

A young laidback husband who just wants to keep the peace and see his wife happy.



Synopsis

Laci Spark is your type A wife, married to a type B husband, Kirk. They have been selected by a documentary crew to be followed for 2 weeks and interviewed as part of a series for what makes a marriage successful. Laci is naively blind to the fragility of her marriage to Kirk. She believes that her marriage is perfect, however behind the scenes, we see that both partners (unknown to the other) overcompensate for the shortcomings of the other. That is, until Kirk uncovers this occurrence and decides to come clean - leading to the couple opening up about their hidden flaws, and fessing up to how they cover it up for the fear of disrupting their marriage, and vow to be honest in the future to help their relationship stand the test of time.

A group of diverse people, including men and women of various ethnicities, are smiling and posing for a photo. They are dressed in casual attire like t-shirts and jackets. The background is a simple indoor setting with a white wall and a door.

Director's Statement

My vision is to see this perspective of a relationship from a black couple, mainly because black relationships still feel like they need to be normalized. There are too many stereotypes for reasons why black relationships do not work out - so as part of my quest of being a black filmmaker, my goal is to continue to show these images to help theatrically normalize what is already existent. The reason why I am choosing to portray this as a comedy is that we too often get caught in the drama of what we believe a relationship should be. However, whenever we look back in hindsight, we start to realize how trivial some of the quirks turn out to be.

Finally, as an independent filmmaker from Minneapolis, MN I want to do more for my filmmaker community and build more of those connections. There have been so many people who have volunteered their time to be a part of my previous projects which have gained some traction through film festivals. And as part of that journey, I would like to continue to build my tribe and create those opportunities for collaborative and creative expression.

ALISON

GUESSOU

AN INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER

Is the Director, Producer, and Writer of Happily Married After. As a filmmaker, Guessou's aim is to tell those stories that are not often told, and to bring to light the characters that we rarely see. Her belief in having diverse perspectives represented behind the camera will add to the narratives of today. Her goal is to develop feature films that bring the experience of our communities to life; not only stories which speak to the concerns of our time but also provide entertaining stories through diverse casts and crew.

Prior to filmmaking, Guessou worked as a Project Manager for multiple agencies. As a Bachelor's in Business Administration and Master's in Project Management graduate, she is the founder of Djini Productions dedicated to enhancing the dynamics of film production. Guessou is a writer, director, and producer. Her directorial work includes the 10-time festival nominated short film "911", and 4-time festival nominated short film "What Marilyn Didn't Know".

Cast & Crew

Cast

Jacelyn P. Johnson - Laci Spark

Toussaint Morrison - Kirk Spark

Crew

Justin Christopher Ayd - Producer

Marie-Thérèse Guessou - Associate Producer

Elyse Forbes Moretti - Co-Writer

David J. Buchanan - Cinematography

Brian Few Jr. - 2nd Camera/Photography

Jaclyn Nott - Script Supervisor

Madison Lutz - G & E

Elaina Lee - Sound

Amber Steimer - Production Coordinator

Brian Kibagendi - Production Assistant

Pat Deninger - BTS Photography

Julie Koehnen - Editor

Toni Trussoni - Casting Director



Contact

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