

A black and white Christmas-themed background featuring pine branches, ornaments, and a ribbon. The scene is set against a dark, starry night sky. The pine branches are detailed with needles, and the ornaments are smooth spheres of varying sizes. A wide, dark ribbon is draped across the top and bottom of the frame. The overall mood is festive and elegant.

A VERY Black Christmas

by

André Gordon



Logline:

When an interracial couple and their racist families get snowed in, it will take a Christmas miracle to get them through the holidays.





If BET and Hallmark had a baby during Christmas, *A Very Black Christmas* would be its firstborn.



The Klumps (2000)

meets

Look Who's Coming to Dinner (1967)

meets

Meet the Fockers (2004)

Short Pitch

When Daryl, a black genius in his 30s, and his white wife, Emily, go home to make a big announcement, an overbearing mother, racist in-laws, and getting snowed in on Christmas may just pull this family apart... Or together.





Movie Themes

True love transcends color.

Parents must learn to let go of their children.

Arena

The Moore Household is the primary location in this faith-based Christmas film. A comfortable, cabin-style home in Macon, Georgia, features the space where the two families get snowed in on Christmas amid a full-blown race-centered family feud. This property has been in the family for years and becomes somewhat of a character in the film.





Character Profiles

Daryl Moore



André Gordon

- 30s, black, a numbers genius, has been dedicated to his statistical work but even more dedicated to his Caucasian wife, Emily. His commitment to his relationship comes into question when Daryl's overbearing mother decides She will stop at nothing to break up his marriage.

Emily Sinclair

30s, beautiful, white, with light eyes and a face you'd see in a magazine. Emily is determined to gain the acceptance of her mother-in-law, whom she can't seem to be black enough for. When an opportunity arises to earn a promotion that may take her and Daryl out of town, her decision places her in the cross hairs of Mama.



Jillian Murray



A festive red background with a wreath of green pine branches and gold and white lights. The text "Supporting Character Profiles" is centered in white.

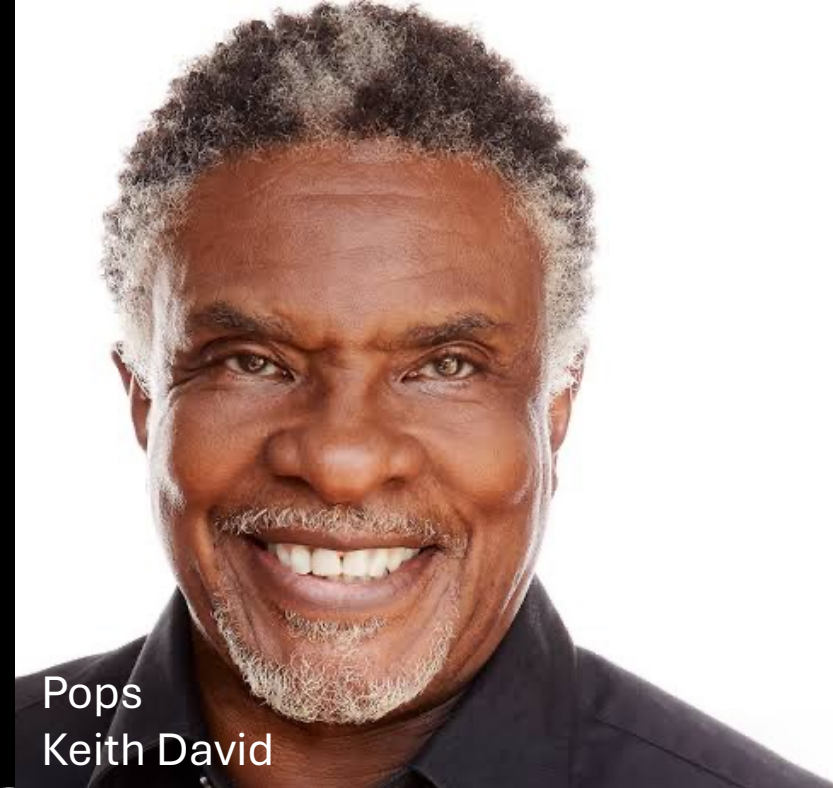
Supporting Character Profiles



Mama
Sharon Conley



Brian
Vincent M Ward



Pops
Keith David

The Families

Mama, the family matriarch, is determined to keep her family in the same city, even if that means compromising her morals. She and Emily are on a collision course set for Christmas Day.

Brian, the older brother who never left home, only plays video games and is starved to feel like he is as important to the family as Daryl risks his brotherly relationship for a moment of recognition.

Pops, never raises his voice, is the quiet source of strength for the family. Always trying to keep the peace, until some family members take things too far.

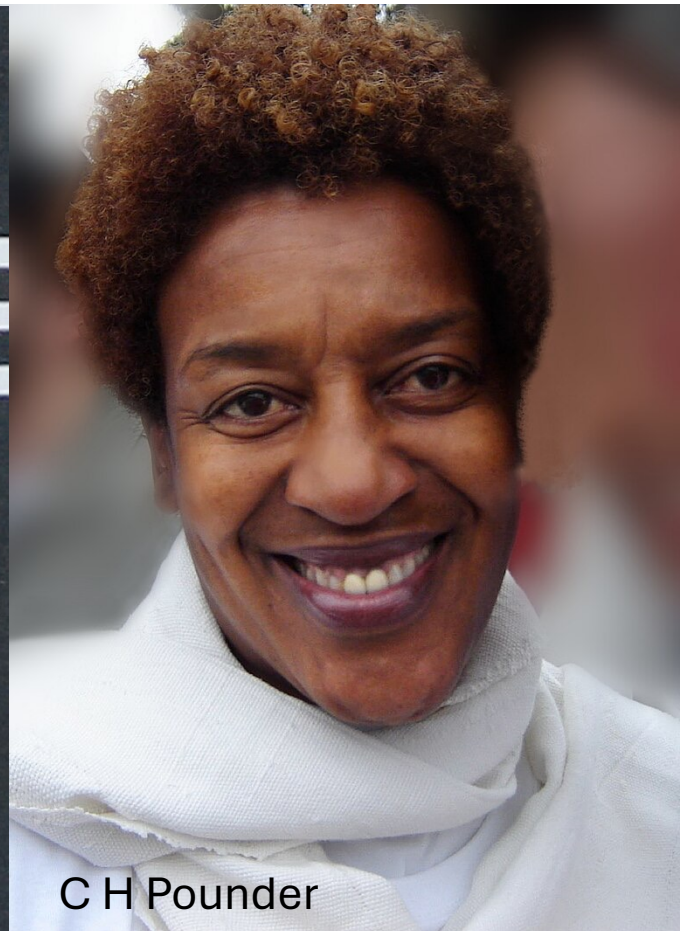
Brian

Grandma

Her wisecracks are sandwiched between her perfectly timed Bible verses and honest truths, too difficult for most to accept. Grandma not only finds herself fighting for the morality of the family, but she also finds herself fighting for her life.



Janet Huber



C H Pounder

The Sinclair's

- Irene – Emily's mother. She is wealthy, elitist, and can't stand to see her daughter with a man of color. After getting trapped inside the home with her daughter's in-laws, she may just have a come-to Jesus.
- William – Retired doctor, nose always in the air, and has been waiting for Emily to apologize for marrying a black man. When it comes time for him to help her daughter, he must decide what type of father he wants to be.



Story Synopsis



Emily Sinclair, from a wealthy white family, and Daryl Moore, a middle-class black family, live a happy life in Austin, Texas. Emily is determined to gain her Mother-in-law's acceptance during their next visit to his family. The challenge is that the couple has to make an announcement that will likely tear the family apart. Ever the optimist, Daryl thinks his family will be fine with their big news, but Emily knows that Mama is a tough cookie to crack.

Emily's motion sickness on the way home leads Mama to believe that she's going to be a grandma! This news of a potential bundle of joy lights a fire of kindness and warmth toward Emily that takes Emily off guard. She chooses not to correct Mama as the positive attention for the first time in their relationship feels good. Daryl, feeling the pressure from Emily to tell the family the actual news, battles with pleasing the two women in his life.

At dinner, the family sits around the table with eager anticipation. Daryl and Emily announce that they are moving to Europe for Emily's new job. Mama is livid. Not only is she not going to be a grandma, but this daughter-in-law is stealing her son and taking him across the pond. That night, Mama hatches a plan to break up the happy couple.

Mama secretly recruits Brian, the video game and computer nerd, to accept a job offer that Daryl has on the table by hacking into his email. Emily knows that something is off and accuses black mothers of being overbearing, especially Daryl's. Mama accuses Emily of being racist. When confronted with the choice of who to believe, Daryl can't decide, even though the evidence points toward something being awry. Emily incensed that her husband won't back him up, asks for space and time away. She calls her parents, who haven't spoken to her since she married a black man, to come and pick her up. When her parents arrive unexpectedly a couple of days before Christmas, Mama and Pop's house is hit with the worst snow storm in years. It snows them in with no power. Grandma, sick because of the cold, fights for her life.

Mama and Emily's mom battle for superiority, while Daryl realizes that Brian and his Mama are in on the hack job. Now, he must win back Emily's trust and find a way to save Mama.

The magic of Christmas unfolds as these two families are forced to face the cold reality that love is color-blind, and eventually, parents must let go of their children.

About the writer

André Gordon has been successfully acting, directing, writing, and producing for over twenty years. He has created TV series starring the great Jerry Rice and directed greats such as Morgan Freeman, James Caan, Armand Assante, Ed Begley Jr., C Thomas Howell, Kathryn Joosten, and more. André has worked theatrically in film and television, including guest appearances on Assisted Living, Modern Family, Beauty in Black, Star Wars Grey Trials, Haunted Hathaways, Raising Hope, MAD TV, Campus Ladies, Scrubs, Phineas and Ferb, Zoey 101, and more. He has over twenty feature films to his credit and has produced films for Sony, Paramount, and other major studios. Gordon has produced films starring actors such as Michael Clarke Duncan, Vinne Jones, and Brian Austin Green. André and the cast of Jungle Bunch won the International Emmy Award for Best Kids Animated Show. Gordon and John Lithgow are the leads. He has also won an MTV Choice Award with the cast of Miraculous Lady Bug. Andre was born in Saint Andrew, Jamaica, and grew up in Miami, Florida. He is an alumnus of the BFA Program at Florida State University and holds an MFA in Screenwriting from Regent University. André is President and CEO of 4Horsemen Films, a long-standing member of the Director's Guild of America (Directing) and the Screen Actors Guild.

Act Three

- Act III
- Christmas Eve. She calls her parents to pick her up. They arrive. They are awkward. Snow falls. They get snowed in. Both families locked in together.
- Mama separates them on either side of the house.
- Power goes out. Grandmama gets too cold. She's gonna die of cold. Pops and Emily's dad work together to fix the heater. Emily's mom and Mama work together to cook with limited food. Daryl gives a count down of statistical chances of making it through the night. Mama goes into the bathroom where Emily has been staying. She finds pregnancy test. Emily is pregnant. Mama feels shame. Grandma is now also on her last leg.
- She prays for a Christmas miracle.
- She asks Emily about the test. Emily breaks down about how much she loves her son. Mama breaks down how she pitted him against her, and knows she is best for her son. Daryl over hears all of this. Hears he will be a dad. Daryl and Emily make up. Daryl and Mama make up.
- Pops and Emilys dad bond over how much they have in common after getting the heat back up and running on Christmas eve night, but hope it will be warm by morning. The families all fall asleep huddled around grandmama who is still unconscious.
- The families wake up to grandmama singing a Christmas hymnal. She claims she was hot and sweaty with everyone around her.
- Snow let up, Santa is in the living room eating cookies and drinking milk. He's Chinese.
- Brother- WHAT THE F-
- Cue:
- Falalalala, la la a la
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