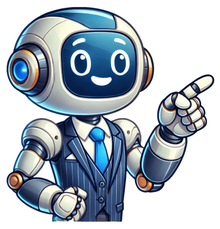
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Cast & crewUser reviewsTriviaFAQOriginal title: Don't Breathe 2A blind war veteran trains his adopted daughter to face any danger, but they are ambushed when a vengeful stranger emerges from the past.A blind war veteran trains his adopted daughter to face any danger, but they are ambushed when a vengeful stranger emerges from the past.A blind war veteran trains his adopted daughter to face any danger, but they are ambushed when a vengeful stranger emerges from the past.563User reviews163Critic reviewsSign in to rate and Watchlist for personalized recommendationsSign inSuggest an edit or add missing contentYou have no recently viewed pages Jump toSummaries (4)Synopsis (1)EditSuggest an edit or add missing contentYou have no recently viewed pages Synopsis The sequel is set in the years following the initial deadly home invasion, where Norman Nordstrom (Stephen Lang) lives in quiet solace until his past sins catch up to him. Director Rodo Sayagues Mendez Producer Fede Alvarez, Sam Raimi, Rob Tapert Screenwriter Fede Alvarez, Rodo Sayagues Mendez Distributor Screen Gems, Sony Pictures Entertainment Production Co Bad Hombre, Screen Gems, Stage 6 Films, Ghost House Pictures, Sony Pictures Worldwide Acquisitions (SPWA) Rating R (Language|Gruesome Images|Strong Bloody Violence) Genre Mystery & Thriller, Horror, Action Original Language English Release Date (Theaters) Aug 13, 2021, Wide Release Date (Streaming) Sep 3, 2021 Box Office (Gross USA) $32.6M Runtime 1h 38m Sound Mix Dolby Digital Aspect Ratio Scope (2.35:1) “Don’t Breathe 2” is a sequel to the 2016 thriller “Don’t Breathe,” which follows the story of blind veteran Norman Nordstrom (played by Stephen Lang) as he navigates a dangerous world filled with criminals. The sequel picks up years after the events of the first film, with Norman living a quiet life in a secluded cabin with a young girl named Phoenix (played by Madelyn Grace) who he has taken in and raised as his own daughter. The film takes a dark turn when Phoenix is kidnapped, leading Norman on a mission to rescue her and confront his own dark past. The ending of “Don’t Breathe 2” leaves viewers with a shocking twist and several unanswered questions. In this article, we will explore the ending of the film and delve into 7 interesting facts about the movie. Trending Now: Photograph Movie Ending ExplainedEnding Explained: The ending of “Don’t Breathe 2” reveals that Phoenix is actually Norman’s biological daughter, born as a result of a traumatic event in his past. It is revealed that Norman was involved in a car accident that killed his wife and daughter, leaving him blinded and traumatized. In a twisted turn of events, Norman kidnapped Phoenix as a baby, believing her to be a replacement for his lost family. Throughout the film, Norman struggles with his guilt and the realization that he has become the very thing he feared most. Trending Now: Red Election Season 1 Ending ExplainedAs Norman confronts the truth about Phoenix’s identity, he is forced to make a choice between protecting her and facing the consequences of his actions. In a climactic showdown, Norman must outsmart a group of ruthless criminals who are determined to take Phoenix away from him. The film ends with Norman and Phoenix escaping to a new life, leaving behind the darkness of their past. 7 Interesting Facts: 1. Stephen Lang performed many of his own stunts in the film, including intense fight scenes and chase sequences. This added an extra layer of authenticity to the character of Norman and made the action sequences even more thrilling for viewers. Trending Now: Ending Of White Lotus Season 2 Explained2. Madelyn Grace, who plays Phoenix, underwent extensive training for her role, learning martial arts and stunt work to convincingly portray a young girl who is skilled in self-defense. Her performance adds depth to the character and showcases her resilience in the face of danger. 3. The film was shot on location in Detroit, Michigan, adding a gritty and atmospheric backdrop to the story. The city’s abandoned buildings and urban decay serve as a haunting setting for the characters’ struggles and add to the overall sense of tension and unease in the film. Trending Now: When Crickets Cry Ending Explained4. Director Rodo Sayagues, who co-wrote the screenplay with Fede Alvarez, brings a fresh perspective to the thriller genre with his innovative storytelling and bold visual style. His direction adds a sense of urgency and unpredictability to the film, keeping viewers on the edge of their seats until the very end. 5. The film’s score, composed by Roque Baños, enhances the tension and suspense of the story with its haunting melodies and atmospheric soundscapes. The music serves as a powerful tool to heighten the emotional impact of key moments in the film and adds an extra layer of depth to the characters’ experiences. Trending Now: Far Cry 5 Walk Away Ending Explained6. “Don’t Breathe 2” explores complex themes of redemption, forgiveness, and the consequences of one’s actions. The film challenges viewers to confront their own moral dilemmas and consider the true meaning of family and sacrifice. 7. The ending of the film leaves room for interpretation and raises questions about the nature of trauma, guilt, and redemption. Viewers are left to ponder the choices made by the characters and the impact of their decisions on their future. Common Questions: 1. What is the significance of the title “Don’t Breathe 2” in relation to the film’s plot? The title “Don’t Breathe 2” references Norman’s heightened senses and his ability to navigate the world without sight. It also serves as a warning to the characters to stay silent and avoid detection by their enemies. Trending Now: Mortal Movie Ending Explained2. How does the character of Phoenix challenge Norman’s beliefs and motivations throughout the film? Phoenix’s presence in Norman’s life forces him to confront his past traumas and the darkness within himself. She becomes a symbol of hope and redemption for him, ultimately leading him to make difficult choices to protect her. 3. What role does the city of Detroit play in the film’s setting and atmosphere? Detroit serves as a bleak and foreboding backdrop to the characters’ struggles, reflecting the decay and despair that permeate their lives. The city’s abandoned buildings and urban landscape add to the sense of isolation and danger that the characters face. Trending Now: The Thing 2011 Ending Explained4. How does the film explore the theme of family and its complexities? The film delves into the idea of chosen family versus biological family, as Norman grapples with his guilt over kidnapping Phoenix and raising her as his own. The characters’ relationships are tested as they navigate the blurred lines between love, loyalty, and betrayal. 5. What are some of the standout moments in the film’s action sequences? Trending Now: Kill Your Darlings Ending ExplainedThe film features intense fight scenes, chase sequences, and suspenseful moments that keep viewers on the edge of their seats. Standout moments include a tense showdown in an abandoned warehouse and a thrilling escape through the city streets. 6. How does the film address issues of morality and ethics in relation to Norman’s actions? The film challenges viewers to consider the moral implications of Norman’s choices and the impact of his past traumas on his present actions. It raises questions about the nature of redemption and whether it is possible to atone for past sins. 7. What are some of the key themes explored in the film’s narrative? Trending Now: Unsheltered Movie Ending Explained RedditThe film explores themes of trauma, survival, sacrifice, and the lengths to which people will go to protect those they love. It delves into the complexities of human nature and the ways in which past experiences shape our present choices. 8. How does the character of Norman evolve throughout the course of the film? Norman undergoes a transformation from a haunted and guilt-ridden man to a determined and selfless protector. His journey of redemption is a central focus of the film, as he grapples with his past mistakes and strives to make amends. 9. What are some of the standout performances in the film? Trending Now: 1899 Netflix Ending ExplainedStephen Lang delivers a powerhouse performance as Norman, capturing the character’s complexity and inner turmoil with nuance and intensity. Madelyn Grace shines as Phoenix, bringing a fierce and vulnerable presence to the role that adds depth to the character. 10. How does the film’s cinematography enhance the storytelling and atmosphere? The film’s cinematography creates a sense of claustrophobia and tension, drawing viewers into the characters’ struggles and creating a palpable sense of unease. The use of lighting, framing, and camera movement adds to the overall intensity of the film. 11. What are some of the standout visual motifs and symbols used in the film? Trending Now: 1899 Netflix Ending ExplainedThe film incorporates visual motifs such as mirrors, reflections, and shadows to underscore the characters’ inner conflicts and the duality of their personalities. These symbols add layers of meaning to the story and deepen the audience’s understanding of the characters’ motivations. 12. How does the film’s pacing and structure contribute to its suspenseful tone? The film’s tight pacing and non-linear structure keep viewers on the edge of their seats, as the narrative unfolds in unexpected ways and keeps them guessing about the characters’ fates. The film’s use of flashbacks and foreshadowing adds depth to the storytelling and builds tension throughout. Trending Now: Far Cry 5 Walk Away Ending Explained13. What are some of the key differences between “Don’t Breathe 2” and its predecessor? While the first film focused on a home invasion scenario, the sequel delves deeper into the characters’ backstories and motivations. “Don’t Breathe 2” explores themes of redemption and forgiveness, adding layers of complexity to the story and its characters. 14. What are some of the unanswered questions and loose ends left by the film’s ending? The film’s ending raises questions about the characters’ future and the consequences of their actions. Viewers are left to ponder the emotional and moral implications of the choices made by Norman and Phoenix, as well as the long-term impact of their decisions. Trending Now: The Thing 2011 Ending ExplainedFinal Thoughts: “Don’t Breathe 2” is a gripping and intense thriller that challenges viewers to confront their own moral dilemmas and consider the complexities of human nature. The film’s ending leaves room for interpretation and raises thought-provoking questions about redemption, sacrifice, and the power of forgiveness. With standout performances, innovative storytelling, and bold direction, “Don’t Breathe 2” is a worthy sequel that expands upon the themes and characters of the original film. As viewers reflect on the twists and turns of the story, they are left to ponder the true meaning of family, loyalty, and the lengths to which we will go to protect those we love. Trending Now: Kill Your Darlings Ending ExplainedQuotes from Professionals: 1. “The ending of ‘Don’t Breathe 2’ challenges viewers to reconsider their preconceived notions of right and wrong, as the characters grapple with the consequences of their actions.” – Film Critic 2. “The film’s exploration of trauma and redemption adds depth to the characters and elevates the storytelling to a new level of emotional resonance.” – Screenwriter 3. “Stephen Lang’s performance as Norman is a tour de force, capturing the character’s inner turmoil and moral ambiguity with raw intensity.” – Director Trending Now: Photograph Movie Ending Explained4. “Madelyn Grace’s portrayal of Phoenix brings a fierce and vulnerable presence to the screen, showcasing the character’s resilience and strength in the face of adversity.” – Acting Coach In conclusion, “Don’t Breathe 2” is a thought-provoking and thrilling sequel that keeps viewers on the edge of their seats until the very end. With its complex characters, intense action sequences, and bold storytelling, the film is a worthy successor to the original and a standout entry in the thriller genre. As audiences continue to dissect the film’s ending and contemplate its themes, they are left with a haunting reminder of the power of guilt, redemption, and the enduring bonds of family. Fede ÁlvarezSam RaimiRob Tapert Robo SayaguesFede Álvarez Characters by:Robo Sayagues &Fede Álvarez Stephen LangBrendan Sexton IIIMadelyn Grace Screen GemsStage 6 FilmsGhost House PicturesBad Hombre Don't Breathe 2 (also known as the alternative title is Don't Breathe 2:The Blind Man Strikes Back) is a 2021 American Action Horror film directed by Robo Sayagues as a directional debuted with written by Himself and Fede Álvarez, based on the characters by themselves and sequel to the 2016 film Don't Breathe. It stars Stephen Lang was portrayed The Blind Man as a main protagonist, while Brendan Sexton III and Madelyn Grace we're reprising the supported role. After the critical and commercial success of the first film, talks for a sequel began in November 2016, with Álvarez returning as the film's director. In January 2020, the project was green-lit by the studio, with Sayagues replacing Álvarez as director and Lang reprising his role. Principal photography began on August 7, 2020, in Belgrade, Serbia, and wrapped on October 8, 2020. In addition, the film is scheduled to be theatrical released in August 13, 2021 by Sony Pictures Releasing. It received mixed from critics. Plot[] Eight years after the events of the first film, Norman Nordstrom lives in relative solitude with his 11-year-old daughter Phoenix and his Rottweiler, Shadow, in the suburbs of Detroit. Norman tells Phoenix that they used to have another house, which burned down in a fire, and that her birth mother died in that fire. Norman gets a supply drop from his friend, former Army Ranger Hernandez. Hernandez, who is Norman's only connection with society, convinces a reluctant Norman to let her take Phoenix with her to run errands in town, so that she can have some time out of the house. While running errands together, Hernandez stops at a gas station to refuel. Phoenix is ambushed by a gangster when she goes to use the bathroom. Shadow scares the man away, but he and his men secretly follow Hernandez's van back home. They wait for Hernandez to drop Phoenix off, before ambushing and killing her. The gang lures Shadow away and shoot him dead. Norman, who suspects something happened to Shadow since his food bowl is still full, goes outside to look for him, while the gang silently breaks into the house to kidnap Phoenix. Norman finds Shadow's body and realizes that he's been shot, before running back to the house to defend it. A struggle ensues between Norman and the gang members. Eventually, the gang leader shows up and tells Phoenix, who is hiding with Norman, that he is her real father, confirming it by showing they both have a streak of white hair on the right side of their head. It is revealed that eight years prior, Phoenix's house burned down because a meth lab in the basement exploded. Phoenix's father, a notorious drug dealer, was immediately taken into custody after the explosion and sentenced to eight years in prison for various crimes. Norman found Phoenix unconscious while examining the burned house with Shadow and he took her home to fulfill his desire of having a daughter again. After being released, the dealer realized Phoenix was still alive after seeing her leave flowers for her mother's memorial at the burned house. A conflicted Phoenix tries to run away, but is knocked unconscious by a gangster named Raul. Meanwhile, Phoenix's father releases his dog to kill Norman, who is reluctant to kill it and decides to trap it in the attic instead. The gang starts a fire in the house and drive off. Unbeknownst to them, Norman, having bonded with the dog, manages to escape with it from the burning house. He finds Hernandez's van, arms himself with the weapons inside, and leashes the dog so that it can lead him to the gang's location. At the gang's hideout, Phoenix's father reveals that her real name is Tara and introduces her to her mother, alive but terminally ill. Tara's mother explains that eight years ago, she accidentally triggered an explosion while cooking meth. The accident exposed her to lethal chemicals, poisoning her internal organs. It turns out that Tara's parents kidnapped their daughter not because they love her, but because they need an organ transplant. The couple drugs Tara and takes her to a crude operating room, where the back-alley surgeon they hired explains that due to the lack of proper equipment, he'll have to remove Tara's heart while she is fully conscious. A blackout stops the surgeon from extracting the heart. Tara's father orders his men to restore the power, where they're ambushed by Norman, who picks them off one by one by exploiting the darkness. Raul, being the last man standing, decides he doesn't want to take part in Tara's killing and sides with Norman, pointing him to where she is. Norman finds the operating room and kills the surgeon. A scuffle between him and the father ensues; a stray gunshot hits Tara's mother and she bleeds to death. Norman then gouges the father's eyes out and leaves him for dead. A tearful and severely injured Norman tells Tara that everything her father said was true. He confesses his crimes, including murder and rape, and tells her to run away from him. The father, despite being completely blind, suddenly appears and fatally stabs Norman. Before he's able to finish him off, Tara stabs her father to death. Tara attempts to help Norman and tells him she can save him, to which he replies "you already have" before dying. Tara leaves the hotel and heads to a park she had seen at the beginning of the film. She sees kids playing and introduces herself as Phoenix. In a post-credits scene, the dog comes by Norman’s body and it is implied he might still be alive. Cast[] Stephen Lang as Norman Nordstrom / "The Blind Man" Brendan Sexton III as Raylan Madelyn Grace as Phoenix Adam Young as Jim Bob Bobby Schofield as Jared Rocci Williams as Duke Steffan Rhodri as The Surgeon Stephanie Arcila as Hernandez Diaana Babnicova as Billy Christian Zagia as Raul Production[] In November 2016, writer Fede Álvarez announced that a sequel was in the works, returning as director. Producer Sam Raimi was quoted saying, "It's only the greatest idea for a sequel I've ever heard. I'm not kidding." In November 2018, Álvarez said, "They're just ideas right now. Nothing to announce officially. We do have a script for Don't Breathe 2. That's the only difference. We don't have a script for Evil Dead 2. But we do have a script for Don't Breathe 2 that we wrote." He also said, "When I tweeted that I was interested in seeing what people prefer. We were having some internal debates about what people would be interested in most. Unfortunately, Evil Dead 2 won. Which, I guess I would have preferred Don't Breathe 2 to win because it's one of my own creations. Obviously Evil Dead has the bigger following." In January 2020, Álvarez was replaced as director by co-writer Rodo Sayagues, making his directorial debut. In a March 2021 interview, Stephen Lang, in preparation for reprising the role of Norman Nordstrom, worked with The Northeastern Association for the Blind in Albany, New York to accurately depict the mannerisms of someone afflicted with being blind. Principal photography began on August 7, 2020, in Belgrade, Serbia, with Pedro Luque serving as cinematographer, returning from the previous film. In July 2020, prior to filming, Stephen Lang quarantined himself for ten days after arriving in Serbia. Production was previously set to begin in April 2020, but was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Lang revealed that filming wrapped on October 8, 2020. By March 2021, post-production on the film was said to be finished, according to Álvarez, who "watched it not too long ago and is fantastic". In May 2021, Roque Baños was revealed to have composed the score for Don't Breathe 2, having returned from the first film. During post-production, Jan Kovac served as lead editor. Release[] Don't Breathe 2 was theatrically released in the United States on August 13, 2021, by Sony Pictures Releasing. Home Media[] After the film's release, The film was rent on September 2021 while Sony Pictures Home Entertainment received DVD, BluRay and Ultra HD BluRay will be October 2021. Reception[] Box Office[] In the United States and Canada, Don't Breathe 2 was released alongside Free Guy and Respect, and is projected to gross $8–12 million from 3,000 theaters in its opening weekend. Don't Breathe 2 earned $965,000 from Thursday night previews. Critical Reception[] On review aggregator Rotten Tomatoes, the film holds an approval rating of 50% based on 30 reviews, with an average rating of 5.60/10. The website's critics consensus reads: "Stephen Lang remains a thrillingly imposing presence in Don't Breathe 2, but this sequel's story strains to find a sensible way forward for his character." On Metacritic, the film has a weighted average score of 45 out of 100 based on 14 critics, indicating "mixed or average reviews". Audiences polled by CinemaScore gave the film an average grade of "B" on an A+ to F scale, down from the "B+" earned by its predecessor, while PostTrak reported 73% of audience members gave it a positive score, with 55% saying they would definitely recommend it. Subscribe Now to our newsletters and get updates from Sony Pictures delivered right to your inbox.SIGN UP NOW Don’t Breathe 2 in theaters on August 13, 2021. Rodo Sayagues, who co-wrote both Don’t Breathe scripts with Alvarez, is taking over as director. Click To Watch Free Don’t Breathe 2 Full Movie Don’t Breathe 2 hits theaters Friday, August 13th. In the meantime, we’re answering some questions about how and where to watch this sequel to the breakout horror flick. Think you’re ready to pay another visit to the home of Norman “The Blind Man” Nordstrom—hardened veteran and skilled bringer-of-pain? Better pack your first aid kit! Just because he’s completely blind, that doesn’t mean Norman (Stephen Lang) won’t completely wreck your world if you (foolishly) try to take advantage of him. The character showed us in 2016’s Don’t Breathe just how far he’ll go—and how depraved he’ll get—to enact revenge on the people who have stolen the things he covets the most, and he’s back in Don’t Breathe 2 with an even more precious possession to protect. Where Can I Watch ‘Don’t Breathe 2’? With theaters reopening their doors this summer to eager audiences, Sony Pictures opted for an exclusively theatrical release for Don’t Breathe 2. You can search local showtimes and purchase tickets online at Atom Tickets, Fandango, Flixster, MovieTickets.com, or by visiting your local theater’s website. Be sure to check current local Covid-19 policies before snagging your tickets for the in-person showing. Will ‘Don’t Breathe 2’ Stream Online? No, unlike some other movies this year, Don’t Breathe 2 will not be released to streaming platforms simultaneously with the theatrical release. While Warner Bros., for example, has an arrangement with HBO Max for streaming titles on the same day as the theatrical release, the Don’t Breathe films’ parent, Sony Pictures, is not currently using a specific platform for simultaneous streaming of their films. A date for streaming Don’t Breathe 2 has not been released yet, nor has a platform been announced, but we’ll be sure to let you know of these details when we find out. Is ‘Don’t Breathe’ Streaming Right Now? Unfortunately, Don’t Breathe isn’t streaming right now, but it is available online for rental and purchase. You can rent Don’t Breathe on demand through Amazon Prime or Redbox+, or by making a quick search on the Redbox website to find out if the movie is stocked at a kiosk near you. If all else fails, call up your local video store or library and find out if you can get Don’t Breathe to watch the old-fashioned way! What is ‘Don’t Breathe 2’ About? “In Don’t Breathe, Norman Nordstrom (Stephen Lang) was underestimated by everyone because of his blindness: he revealed an unflinching will to survive and get what he wants… but also a monstrous, evil side of his personality, as nothing – no person or conscience – will stand in his way. Now, in Don’t Breathe 2, eight years later, Nordstrom lives with 11-year-old Phoenix; he has recreated the family that was stolen from him by a drunk driver and has found the twisted justice he’s always felt was his due. When intruders once again come to his home, this time focused on Phoenix, Norman will reveal for a second time what’s hidden inside him… and again, it will be in new and unexpected ways.” Why Isn’t Jane Levy in ‘Don’t Breathe 2’? Lang’s Blind Man is the only character returning for Don’t Breathe 2, and according to the producers, there are a few reasons why Jane Levy didn’t return for the sequel. At a press event for Don’t Breathe 2, producer Fede Álvarez described Levy’s commitment to her work as being part of the decision, Producer Rodo Sayagues explained the decision to not have Jane Levy in Don’t Breathe 2 being strictly movie business, as the sequel story simply doesn’t require Levy’s character. Jane Levy, however, didn’t exactly agree with the producers’ explanation of their decision, and took to Twitter to deem the situation as “people choosing what the ‘best decision’ is for me without asking what I think or want.” Levy also added that Álvarez was indeed correct in his assumption that Levy wouldn’t have returned for the Don’t Breathe sequel, and posits, “maybe we should be asking why these films are made in such a way that their directors are averse to having committed actors participate?” What is the MPAA Rating for ‘Don’t Breathe 2’? Don’t Breathe 2 is rated R by the MPAA due to strong bloody violence, gruesome images, and language as if that wasn’t made pretty clear by the trailer. Even though Don’t Breathe was praised for breaking away from the overzealous use of blood and gore in the horror genre, we should expect to squirm a bit watching Don’t Breathe 2. Final words The first Don’t Breath film involved a group of young home invaders who think they’ve found an easy score, only to discover that the blind man they’re robbing, who was underestimated by everyone because of his blindness, is very skilled at murdering people. It’s a well-made film. Don’t Breathe 2 is coming out on August 13, 2021, by Sony Pictures Releasing, but don’t expect a repeat of the first movie, according to star Stephen Lang, who will be reprising his role from the 2016 horror/thriller. But, if you want to watch any horror/ thriller movie at this time, so you can visit horror movies hub for the latest features. *CUT TO THE CHASE* NOTE: This spoiler was submitted by Jeremy The film opens on a house fire, while a little girl with a white streak in her hair walks away from it before collapsing on the street. Jump to eight years later where the girl, now named Phoenix (Madelyn Grace), is running away from a dog. She climbs up a fence and finds a car with a gun inside, before Norman Nordstrom/The Blind Man (Stephen Lang) comes up from behind her and takes the gun. This was a training exercise that he has her prepare for survival, and the dog is his own named Shadow. Norman has been raising Phoenix like a daughter all these years, but he is depriving her of a regular childhood by refusing to let her attend public school. She is taken out for a day by a friend of Norman’s, former army ranger Hernandez (Stephanie Arcila). She takes Phoenix out to the park, but while she wants to play with the other kids, she stays behind. When they stop at a gas station, there is a news report of a surgeon being arrested for his involvement in a black market organ donor scheme. Phoenix goes to the bathroom and is found by a man named Raylan (Brendan Sexton III), who appears to be making a creepy pass at her, but Phoenix has Shadow stand by so he won’t bother her. Hernandez brings Phoenix home and tells Norman that she deserves a normal childhood, but also tells him not to feel that he is a bad man because of the mistakes of his past while serving as a Seal. On her way home, Hernandez sees a truck blocking the road. She honks but gets no response and has to step out. She finds Raylan and his goons – Duke (Rocci Williams), Jared (Bobby Schofield), and Raul (Christian Zagia) – in the car and tells them to move. They do so, but when Hernandez goes back to her car, a fifth goon, Jim Bob (Adam Young), attacks Hernandez and bludgeons her to death with a hammer. Phoenix is getting ready for bed. Shadow hears something and starts barking. When Norman tries to feed Shadow, he realizes he isn’t coming to him. He goes outside and feels around to find Shadow dead with a bullet in his body. Norman realizes something is wrong. The five goons make their way into the house, but Phoenix spots them and makes her way through the room undetected. Unfortunately, she ends up coming across Jim Bob, who nearly gets her, but Norman breaks through the door behind Jim Bob and attacks him, allowing Phoenix to run. Norman is injured and goes to tend to his wound where Jared comes up on him. Norman fights him and super-glues his mouth and nose shut to suffocate him. Jim Bob (who is also Jared’s brother) comes and punctures a hole through his cheek to help him breathe before Jared uses broken glass to cut the glue off. Phoenix runs to the basement but Duke breaks through the door. She runs into a container and locks herself in, but Duke starts to fill it with water. Norman makes his way down there and tries to smoke Duke out, but he retaliates by putting a live wire above the container, waiting for the water to fill up so Phoenix will either drown or be electrocuted. Norman fights Duke, who keeps trying to reach for a knife. Norman manages to pull the wire away from the container and hide behind a table before throwing the wire to ignite the gas, creating an explosion that fries Duke. Norman tips the container over the get the water out and pull Phoenix out safely. As the two try to make their way to safety, the other four goons try to find them. Raylan calls out to Phoenix and says that Norman is not her father and that he has been lying to her. He finds them and takes off his hat, revealing that he also has a white streak in his hair like Phoenix does, meaning he is her biological father. He explains that he was blamed for the explosion of their home and was in jail for years, waiting to find Phoenix again. Jared finds Norman and tries to attack, but he smashes Jared’s whole skull with a shovel. Jim Bob finds his brother’s body and is devastated. Raylan’s dog goes after Norman while Raul knocks Phoenix out with a chloroform rag. Once they are out and Norman is incapacitated, the goons set the house on fire and leave Norman and the dog for dead. Raylan brings Phoenix back to his home, which is basically a drug den. He tells her that her real name is Tara and gives other details to her background. Phoenix doesn’t want to stay and starts to leave until she hears a woman in a wheelchair singing a song, “Blackbird”, that she remembered from childhood. The woman is Phoenix’s biological mother and Raylan’s wife, Josephine. They bring Phoenix to a room and explain that their house was a meth lab that blew up, and the chemicals from the explosion caused serious damage to Josephine’s heart, and she needs a donor…and they had Phoenix in mind. They sedate her with drugs from orange juice and she passes out. Norman wakes up and finds the dog, managing to get her to help him walk back to Raylan’s house while he gathers supplies. The heart surgery nearly takes place, with Raylan using the surgeon seen on the news earlier. Raul expresses his disgust with the procedure, though he is the only one who seems to have a problem with it. Just before the surgeon can cut out Phoenix’s heart, the power gets cut out. The goons go after Norman, but when Jim Bob tries to fight him in retribution for Jared’s death, Norman gets little rattling balls and shoves them into Jim Bob’s throat, which allows him to hear wherever he goes so that Norman can throw a hammer at Jim Bob’s head. Raul goes with three other gunmen to find him, but they step on water that he senses while laying down, and Norman shoots them dead. Raul tells Norman about what Raylan and Josephine are trying to do, and he wants no part of it, so he tells Norman to catch them before they take Phoenix away. The villains almost get out until Norman slashes the surgeon’s throat. He sets off smoke bombs while Raylan goes after him. He fires his gun like crazy and ends up shooting Josephine dead. Her wheelchair starts rolling toward a deep empty pool, and Phoenix is handcuffed to her. Phoenix grabs a machete and starts hacking off Josephine’s arm but still ends up falling down the pool with her. Norman catches Raylan and gouges his eyes out with his thumbs. Phoenix climbs out of the pool, and Norman tells her to stay away from him as he admits the evils he has committed, stating he is just a bad man. After it appears she has left, Raylan stabs Norman in the back and nearly slashes his throat, but Phoenix impales Raylan with the machete, and he falls into the pool next to Josephine. Phoenix holds Norman in her arms until he appears to die. Phoenix leaves the facility and goes to the park where she finds the kids from earlier, asking if she can join them. They allow her to join, and she tells them her name is Phoenix. After the credits, the dog comes by Norman’s body, and it is implied he might still be alive. *CUT TO THE CHASE* Brought to you by Several years after the ordeal with home intruders, former Navy Seal/kidnapper/rapist Norman Nordstrom (AKA "The Blind Man") has taken in a young girl that he named Phoenix after her home was destroyed in a fire. Her biological father, Raylan, has gathered a few goons to get her back from Norman. After they kill his dog, Norman manages to kill two of the goons, but Raylan still takes Phoenix with him after revealing the truth to her. Phoenix learns her real name was Tara, and she meets her biological mother Josephine. However, the parents' motives for finding their daughter turns out to be because Josephine's organs were severely damaged after the explosion of their house (which was because they had a meth lab), and they want Phoenix's heart for a transplant. Norman uses Raylan's dog to guide him to Raylan's home, where he kills all but one of the remaining goons since he was the only one who had a problem with what they were going to do with Phoenix. Norman kills the surgeon about to perform the task and causes Raylan to accidentally kill Josephine. Norman gouges out Raylan's eyes before confessing his crimes to Phoenix. Raylan stabs him in the back, but Phoenix impales him before he can slash Norman's throat. Phoenix stays by Norman's side as he appears to die. Phoenix goes off on her own to spend time with kids her age. It is also shown that Norman might still be alive. Spoiler Alert: This summary and review contains spoilers. Additionally, some images and text may include affiliate links, meaning we may earn a commission or receive products if you make a purchase. Don’t Breathe 2 improves on the original while revisiting certain scenarios The Blind Man put people through in the first film. Director(s) Rodo Sayagues Screenplay By Rodo Sayagues, Fred Alvarez Date Released 8/12/2021 Where Can You Watch? In Theaters Genre(s) Action, Crime, Drama Duration 1 Hour 38 Minutes MPAA Rating R Noted Cast Norman (The Blind Man) Stephen Lang Phoenix Madelyn Grace Hernandez Stephanie Arcila Raylan Brendan Sexton III Please Note: We only include pertinent spoilers in the review Film Summary Somehow, Norman, aka The Blind Man, has gotten himself a child. Granted, with the way he is raising the girl, Phoenix, she has no friends beyond Shadow, Norman’s dog from the first film, and a woman named Hernandez, who is a veteran like Norman. But perhaps that’s for the best? For with a man named Raylan, and his crew, seemingly part of a gang of local organ harvesters in Detroit, not getting to leave the house often, and Norman homeschooling Phoenix, might have been the safest way to go. However, all it took was Phoenix going out for the day with Hernandez to end Norman’s bliss and for Phoenix’s life to be put at risk. Things To Note | Question(s) Left Unanswered Reason(s) for Film Rating Blood: Expect blood being spit up, coming from wounds, and being splatted due to gunshots Gun Violence: People get shot, but guns are less of a focus compared to the first film Gore: From a hand getting cut off, eyes being gorged, and seeing burnt skin, you will get some graphic visuals Violence Against/ Done By Children: Phoenix gets involved and fights in the movie, which leads to her being harmed once or twice Violence Against Animals: It’s mainly implied, but you can also see situations where an animal could be under duress Things To Note You don’t have to watch the first film to enjoy the second. The only thing the first film provides is a bit more background on Norman and what happened to his first daughter and the method he used to try to cope. Review Highlights It Weirdly Feels Like A Reboot Norman aka The Blind Man (Stephen Lang) If you watched the first film and then quickly watch this one, it’ll feel like the first film was a trial focused on having some recognizable faces to compensate for lack of development. Don’t Breathe 2 isn’t like that. It makes sure to have twists throughout the film and complicates how you should feel about Norman, Raylan, and the situation they have put Phoenix in. Also, with putting Norman on the defense, you are more drawn into his story and wanting to forgive his actions, rather than focus on him whipping people’s assess and killing them in brutal ways. But what really pushes the reboot vibe is that certain scenes Norman is put in reminds you of what Rocky and Alex had to go through in the first movie. Which feels less of a homage to itself and more like, with knowing what worked and what didn’t, Alvarez and Sayagues wanted to keep some of the best parts of the first film and bring it to a new audience. There Are No Heroes Raylan (Brendan Sexton III) The weird thing about the Don’t Breathe franchise is that it doesn’t necessarily have innocent characters or a hero. Yes, due to being a child, Phoenix is innocent, but only up to a certain point in the movie. As for everyone else? If they aren’t making meth, they are a murderer, rapist, have no issues harming children or animals, and as we learn more and more about each person, you realize there isn’t necessarily anyone to root for. You’re just meant to enjoy the action and hope the worst-case scenario doesn’t happen to Phoenix. While The Hand To Hand Combat Still Has Weird Audio Moments, The Violence Is Upped While the sound effects for blows landed aren’t as forced to the point of being comical, like in the first film, there are still moments you feel like the sound of impact is artificial. However, I will admit that sometimes the sound is on point, which may lead to flinching occasionally. However, the visuals may also get to you, like when Norman glues someone’s mouth and nose shut. Combine that with someone being set on fire, being gouged in their eyes, and Norman being shown as someone who can’t take bullet wounds and stabbings and still fight as if nothing happened, and it makes for quality action scenes. In This Film, You Can Get Emotionally Invested Phoenix (Madelyn Grace) and Hernandez (Stephanie Arcila) Don’t Breathe, the original film, kept you on a need-to-know basis. This person is going through this, hence why they do that. Because this happened, that’s why the basement holds a secret. It was very cut and dry and made the fear of Alex and Rocky the focus, alongside how far Norman would go to keep his secret and get to be a parent again. In this film, things are different for with how Phoenix and Norman’s relationship is, you see he is a good dad. Overprotective? Absolutely! But considering the film doesn’t add any details to make it appear he lost his first child due to any fault of his own, it almost makes you forget his crimes. Yet, there is also Raylan, who comes with his own twist. So watching the sweet and innocent Phoenix be torn between two very flawed men and who they are to her, it gets you in your feelings. Mainly since, even with Norman training Phoenix to survive, it isn’t like she has become like Hit Girl in Kick-Ass. She is very much a tween girl who wants friends and more than just her weird caretaker. Overall Our Rating: Positive (Worth Seeing) Don’t Breathe 2 has everything the original has, minus some of its top criticisms. Thus, the sequel feels like a reboot with the budget and lessons learned from the first film, including quality action, twists, and emotional moments you may not have expected. [ninja_tables id=”46802″] Don’t Breathe 2 (2021) – Review/Summary (with Spoilers)Anyone who enjoys gory action movies but that don’t treat having a story or developing its characters as a necessary evil.It Weirdly Feels Like A RebootWhile The Hand To Hand Combat Still Has Weird Audio Moments, The Violence Is UppedIn This Film, You Can Get Emotionally Invested Stephen Lang returns as a blind man who’s nobody’s victim in Rodo Sayagues’ ‘Don’t Breathe’ sequel. A sequel that can’t be faulted for lack of ambition, Rodo Sayagues’ Don’t Breathe 2 attempts to turn the hero/boogeyman of Fede Alvarez’s 2016 original — “The Blind Man,” played by Stephen Lang — into a nigh-unstoppable thriller icon like Jason Voorhees or Michael Myers. In doing so, Sayagues and Alvarez (cowriters of both pics) say goodbye to the lean, self-contained format of the original in both setting and narrative, eventually taking a turn into campy menace that might be described as Detroit Gothic. Where the first film offered genuine scares, this one is suspenseful at best, snicker-worthy at worst, and will beg viewers to recall the time Fonzie got on water skis and tried not to get eaten by a shark. Taking place at least eight years after the last film, this one finds the Blind Man living in the woods, far from the deserted Detroit neighborhood he once haunted in grief after losing his beloved child. He’s raising a new daughter, Phoenix (Madelyn Grace), who knows nothing of the mother who died eight years back. There was a fire, Dad tells her, and he could only manage to save one of their lives. So did the Blind Man finally find the, um, surrogate mother he was looking for in the first film, or is he telling the truth? That’ll be revealed in time, but for now we see the parenting style of a man who lost one daughter to tragedy and has done horrible things trying to become a father again: He homeschools Phoenix, of course, and puts her through survivalist training appropriate to his military background. (We’ll learn he was a Navy SEAL.) Though loss had made him an atheist in the last film, now he teaches Phoenix that God is fair but harsh, ready to steal away anything you take for granted. Maybe the girl takes her kidneys for granted. Because after a bit of dramatic buildup, a crew of ex-soldiers descends on the house, employees of a rogue doctor who runs an organ harvesting ring. Caught in the house alone, Phoenix evades the intruders with ninja-like stealth, the camera nicely tracking her clever moves in a nearly silent sequence. Dad comes home soon enough — in a crash-through-the-door attack that jettisons the first film’s pretense of believability — and makes life painful for the men, sometimes in novel ways. Soon the sprawling home plays host to a gory cat-and-mouse game, and the intruders’ numbers are shrinking. I haven’t kept up with the market for illicit human organs, but surely they don’t sell for enough to make all this worthwhile? Turns out that the group’s leader, Raylan (Brendan Sexton III), has a bigger agenda than selling some corneas. It takes some doing, but he manages to get father and daughter separated, turning this into a save-the-girl flick with a side course of man’s-best-friend sentimentality. (The Blind Man has a real soft spot for mean-ass dogs.) Grace proves a fine match for the action early on, but Sayagues and Alvarez aren’t that interested in making Phoenix an action hero. The character becomes more passive over time while the filmmakers focus on what Lang’s character will endure to save her. The Blind Man takes enough punishment here to make Mel Gibson envious, and as his tolerance for injury creeps toward the superhuman mark, so do his fighting skills. The first Don’t Breathe tested our credulity a bit, but let us pretend we believed a sightless vet could kill three would-be thieves on the strength of his smarts and training. Here, when we see the man whip out a pistol and shoot three soldiers from across the room, disbelief gets a bit harder to suspend. Lang is a great fit for the part, intensely physical and almost preverbal, but the filmmakers ask too much. That goes double (make that quintuple) for a post-credits tag that asks viewers to believe this film could have a sequel. A prequel would make much more sense, if box office receipts demand it; one suspects Lang would welcome the chance to follow his character’s descent from happy fatherhood into lonely, vindictive rage. But it’s unlikely anything Alvarez and Sayagues could hatch would equal their fantastic first outing, which only veered off its minimalist path when it knew the twist would knock your socks off. Distributor: Screen Gems Production company: Bad Hombre Cast: Stephen Lang, Brendan Sexton III, Madelyn Grace Director: Rodo Sayagues Screenwriters: Fede Alvarez, Rodo Sayagues Producers: Fede Alvarez, Sam Raimi, Rob Tapert Executive Producers: Joseph Drake, Rick Jacobson, Nathan Kahane, Stephen Lang, Andrew Pfeffer, Erin Westerman Director of photography: Pedro Luque Production designer: David Warren Costume designer: Carlos Rosario Editor: Jan Kovac Composer: Roque Baños Casting directors: Rich Delia, Rory Okey Rated R, 1 hour 38 minutes Sign up for THR news straight to your inbox every day Subscribe Sign Up Sign up for THR news straight to your inbox every day Subscribe for full access to The Hollywood Reporter SEE MY OPTIONS Sign Up Don’t breathe 2, directed by Rodo Sayagues, takes us once again into the life of the old assassin Norman. The character played by Stephan Lang is once again the prime attraction and the pivot around whom the narrative revolves. If I tell you that a self-sufficient blind man, who is a former U.S Navy seal, tries to fight the odds and protect the only thing that he treasures, it will be enough to captivate your attention. The premise that was created in Don’t Breathe 1, left a lot of people wanting to know more about this trained assassin. It was fascinating to explore Norman’s world. How even after being blind, he had the kind of ferocity that no sane person would want to make him his enemy. Shadow, the Rottweiler, is still his trusted ally as he was in the first part. In the first instalment of Don’t Breathe, the narrative focused on how a group of youngsters planned on robbing an old blind man living a secluded life. They thought they could steal the settlement money that was given to him by the defendants in the case of a car accident. He had lost his daughter in the accident. The youngsters, who were small-time scammers, thought it was a jackpot. Little did they know that the man from whom they wanted to steal would become the biggest nightmare of their lives. In the starting sequence, we see a house burnt to the ground, and a little girl is seen walking on the adjoining road. We see the same girl living with Norman in his house eight years later. She does not go to school and does not have a lot of friends. She is envious of how other children could move around freely and have friends with whom they could talk. Norman had fabricated a story for the little girl whom he had named Phoenix. He told her that he was his dad and her mother had died when their house had caught fire. Norman knew that the past would haunt him, and someday or the other, he would have to face it. Norman taught Phoenix combating skills and made her ready for an impending war. A gang leader named Raylan breaks into Norman’s house. A gang doing illegal trafficking of organs had amped up their operations, and one believes that Raylan and his group members had entered Norman’s for a similar pursuit. Norman finds out that his beloved dog, Shadow, has been shot by someone. He senses that a group of people have broken into his house. The goose chase begins, and the gang realizes that it is not a commoner they are dealing with. A bruised, cut, and tattered Norman defies all the odds and makes sure he hears the groans and moans coming out from each one of them. But their numbers were many. They hurled gunshots at the old man and attacked him from all sides. Raylan then breaks his silence and tells Phoenix that Norman was not her real dad. He tells her that he did not come to hurt her but take what was rightfully his. He reveals to Phoenix that he was his real father, and Norman had abducted him eight years back. He leaves with the little girl and burns the house with Norman inside it. When Raylan brings Phoenix into his house, his real motive is revealed. He tells her that her real name is Tara and that if she wished, she was free to go. As Tara is about to leave, she sees her mother for the first time. She stops as she is overwhelmed by seeing somebody she had wished to see for her whole life. It seemed as if everything would get better from here. But it all seemed too good to be true. Josephine needed a heart transplant to survive. She was paralyzed, and her body had suffered dramatically after the fire had broken out. She was the cook of the meth lab that the couple used to run. Her staying alive was of utmost importance for the whole gang. Tara is intoxicated and put on the surgery bed where a doctor is ready to do the transplant. But as soon as he was about to begin, the lights went out, and everybody knew it was the old Hitman who had come for their lives. Credits: Bad Hombre/ Ghost House Pictures Norman makes a war cry and kills everything that comes in his way. He saves Tara and sets her free. He tells her to not come near her as he didn’t deserve her. Tara leaves the wounded old man as he tells her that he does not wish to be saved this time. Tara goes to the covenant shelter, where she finally gets to make friends for the first time. But something unexpected happens in the end. Raylan had left his dog to burn in Norman’s house. The dog was saved by Norman, and that’s why he had pledged his loyalty to him. It was the dog who had helped Norman reach Raylan’s hideout. In the end, the dog sniffs and licks a wounded Norman who is believed to be dead. But his hands twitch, and the screen turns black. The makers have clearly indicated that Norman is alive, and an instalment of Don’t Breathe is on the cards. Don’t Breathe 2 is a tantalizing thriller that banks heavily upon Stephan Lang’s character, and he doesn’t disappoint. Heavy with grief and racked with pain, Norman is deadlier and even more fatal this time. It would be interesting to see the direction in which the makers head now. Don’t Breathe 2 is a 2021 Drama Thriller film directed by Rodo Sayagues.