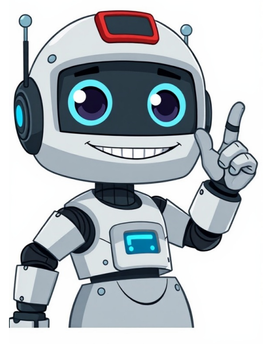
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In Netflix's Fractured movie, a man is forced into a nightmare situation when his family goes missing at a hospital. Directed by Brad Anderson (The Machinist), Ray Monroe's (Sam Worthington) journey to find his wife and daughter after they mysteriously disappear is delivered in an unsettling fashion as the truth slowly comes to light. It starts when, on the way home from a tumultuous Thanksgiving with his in-laws, Ray, his wife Joanne (Lily Rabe), and daughter Peri (Lucy Capri) stop by a gas station. While there, Ray and Peri fall into a pit, leaving Peri with a fractured arm. As frustration turns to worried exacerbation, the parents take their daughter to a nearby hospital, where, after some slightly odd questioning by staff, Peri is eventually seen, and Ray passes out in the waiting room. When he wakes up, however, he finds himself in a confusing situation. Nobody in the hospital can recall his wife and daughter, only treating him for a small head injury. Determined to get his family back, Ray goes down a paranoid rabbit hole. Related Netflix is home to some of the most unique, tense, and incredible thrillers in cinema history but what are the best ones on the platform? What Happens in Fractured's Ending After Ray manages to break free from from hospital security in Fractured, the personnel bring in Dr. Jacobs (Adjoa Andoh) a psychiatric doctor to help calm him down and get to the bottom of what happened. Ray had alerted nearby police, and had the doctor that admitted his daughter for a CAT scan called in, as nobody currently on duty could remember him or find his or his family's names on record. The psychiatrist manages to make some breakthroughs in Ray's psyche, discovering that he's been carrying trauma from a car crash eight years ago that claimed the life of his first wife. Dr. Jacobs convinces him to lead her and the officials on his case back to the gas station where the incident took place. There, they discover a bloodstain from the fall Peri took on a patch of construction work, and they come to the conclusion that Ray accidentally killed his spouse and child and is having a severe psychotic break to process it all. Ray's just broken out some poor person still knocked out from the anesthetic. Ray, however, doubles down on his perspective, firm in the belief that something nefarious is happening at the hospital. He sneaks into the basement, kills a security guard in the process, and finds an organ-harvesting operation. He manages to interject and breaks his family out. As the sun begins to rise, Ray starts singing with his family in the backseat as the camera fades to the truth: the area he was in was an operating theater, and Ray's just broken out some poor person still knocked out from the anesthetic. The fall Ray took with Peri killed her, and he accidentally killed his wife by pushing her head onto a nail. Their bodies were in the trunk of his car, where he'd left them. Fractured ends with Ray driving off, likely to soon be arrested, in full psychosis that he'd finally managed to do something right as a father and husband. Ray's Wife & Daughter Are Dead He Accidentally Killed Them & Put Them In His Car Trunk A key early moment in Fractured comes when Ray, having fallen after Peri, blacks out from a blow to the head. This is where reality gives way to Ray's warped point of view. In all the exhaustion from arguing with Joanne, and now this, where his failures seemed perpetual and unending, he snaps. Peri was dead, and Joanne was distraught. Ray had had enough of her, so he shoved her to the side, where her head landed right on an outward-facing nail amid the debris of construction. What happens next is the big Fractured twist: having reached his limit, Ray compartmentalizes, puts the bodies in the trunk of his car, and drives to a hospital to get his head looked at. While doing this, he imagines he and Joanne are getting treatment for Peri. Ray passes out, and when he wakes up, he's back in the real world, where the bodies are in his trunk, and he comes in to get a few stitches in his head. But he maintains his memories of the imagined version, creating chaos in the belief there's some conspiracy against him. Related The vast collection of Netflix thrillers can seem daunting when selecting your next watch. These low-key film picks may make the process a bit easier. Ray Is Completely Mentally Broken By The End Ray Has No Concept Of Reality As He Leaves Hospital As the truth closes in, Ray becomes more and more irrational in order to maintain his version where Joanne and Peri are still alive. He steals weapons, fakes identities, and murders a police officer. What started as a heinous crime becomes unimaginably worse the more Ray carries on. Ray's story in Fractured is a grim, harrowing reminder that people need to be mindful of trauma. After eight years of carrying around the pain of watching his first wife die, Ray can't take anymore and decides the world must change when he's faced with yet another tragedy. When he finally manages to get back in his car with his family in the backseat, he's in full belief that he's done the right thing and starts singing with his now imaginary family. Ray's story in Fractured is a grim, harrowing reminder that people need to be mindful of trauma and to seek help when faced with horrendous tragedy. The Real Meaning Of The Fractured Ending Ray Is Incapable Of Processing His Grief There was one final shot in the movie that Brad Anderson said he added to emphasize that Ray might be about to realize everything he's done and return to reality. If this happens, the ending could be even more tragic than anyone could have suspected. That scene had Ray's grin as he imagined he was singing with his family suddenly turning into a grimace. It is as if he might have realized something wasn't right. Anderson explains this last shot (via Fresh Fiction). "The last frame of the movie is a close up of Ray's face after he's just sung a song to his child in the backseat and his wife. It's a sense of accomplishment and being a hero. 'I did it! I saved them from the bad guys at the hospital.' But then we kept it rolling, and in the last frames, you start to see his face fall, like it just dawned on him." In the movie itself, up until that final moment, it seems that Ray is living in his own delusions. When the police finally catch up to him and arrest him, he will likely end up in a psychiatric hospital as doctors try to help him regain his grip on reality. He killed a police officer, so his wife and daughter's deaths are the least of his worries. The ending shows that he is a broken man. However, that last shot in Fractured suggests that he might be snapping back into reality, and his horrors are just beginning. How The Fractured Ending Was Received The Final Moments Were All-Too-Familiar For Most Viewers The critical and audience responses to 2019's Fractured were divided, with just as many praising the psychological thriller as there were thsoe who felt it was underwhelming. This is perfectly illustrated by its score on Rotten Tomatoes, with the film clocking in at 56% on the Tomatometer (critic score) and 53% on the Popcornmeter (audience score). However, the reason that some found Fractured to be a less-than thrilling viewing experience wasn't the fault of the ending - or, at least, it wasn't because the ending was seen as poorly executed. The key issue that many critics and viewers had with Fractured was that it, at best, lacked any innovation and, at worst, was seen as derivative. Even the positive and even-handed reviews of Fractured couldn't shy away from the fact that director Brad Anderson's Netflix movie didn't really deliver anything that hadn't been seen before. For example, the 3-star review of The Guardian critic Benjamin Lee offers this fairly balanced appraisal of Fractured and its finale: "It never feels like much of a stretch for [director Brad Anderson] but it's also never less than watchable thanks to some unexpected directorial choices and a curious, compelling mystery at its centre. Given the familiar territory, it's less a question of "Where will this go?" and more of "Which similarly plotted film's twist ending will it most closely resemble?", a less surprising game but a fun one nonetheless." However, other critics were less forgiving in their take on the ending of Fractured and the predictable plot that leads to it. Writing for Roger Ebert, Brian Tallerico is scathing in his response to the ending of Fractured. While many critics acknowledged that Fractured did handle its by-the-numbers twists and turns well, Tallerico met them with a strong and palpable anger: "I was excited at the prospect of a filmmaker I admire playing with a classic mystery/thriller structure in the Netflix Original "Fractured," released today. That excitement quickly turned to boredom and then outright anger at a twist that really thinks you're an idiot. This atrocious movie never makes a lick of sense, wearing its "message" on its sleeve like a bad term paper, and then ending in a way that should make you angry more than eager to see if it makes any sense." Overall, it seems that the ending of Fractured was seen as a well executed rehash of many similar psychological thrillers. While it wasn't done sloppily, it did play things too close to its inspirations for the majority of critics and audience members. Fractured could have been much better than it was, and the unsatisfactory finale was a key contributor to the underwhelming viewing experience. Release Date September 22, 2019 Runtime 101 minutes Director Brad Anderson Writers Alan B. McElroy Producers Billy Higgins, Neal Edelstein, Paul Schiff, Ian Dimerman Brad Anderson has made a career out of being as reliable as they come as a film and TV director, able to switch genres easily. The workmanlike career has led to several stand-outs, including "Session 9," "The Machinist," and "Transsiberian." So I was excited at the prospect of a filmmaker I admire playing with a classic mystery/thriller structure in the Netflix Original "Fractured," released today. That excitement quickly turned to boredom and then outright anger at a twist that really thinks you're an idiot. This atrocious movie never makes a lick of sense, wearing its "message" on its sleeve like a bad term paper, and then ending in a way that should make you angry more than eager to see if it makes any sense. Ray Monroe (Sam Worthington) is traveling with his wife Joanne (Lily Rabe) and daughter Peri (Lucy Capri) when tragedy strikes. They stop off at a gas station and Peri wanders away to look at a part of the site that's under construction. She's startled by a stray dog, who moves toward her as Peri backs up to the edge of the construction site. Ray turns around to see her, throwing a rock at the dog as Peri falls backward, landing on the concrete below. As Ray jumps to save her, he also falls. He wakes up in a daze with Joanne yelling at him, and the trio quickly speeds off to a nearby hospital. From the minute they arrive, "Fractured" turns into a leaden commentary on our broken health care system. Despite Peri likely having at least a broken bone and possibly much worse with internal bleeding, the hospital workers are cold and downright cruel. After a long wait, some workers finally agree to see Peri, and a kind doctor (Stephen Tobolowsky) appears to change their fate. Peri and Joanne are taken to the basement for imaging, and Ray waits … and waits … and waits. And then "Fractured" becomes a riff on "The Lady Vanishes" (or "Flightplan" for modern audiences), in which we have to decide if Ray is crazy or if everyone at the hospital is conspiring to make him so. The receptionist and doctors claim that Ray came in alone with his own head injury, which was then treated. There was no Peri. There was no Joanne. Most of "Fractured" consists of Ray trying to convince authorities that his wife and daughter are being held captive somewhere in the hospital, possibly even being used for an illegal organ donor operation. It becomes numbingly repetitive. What's most startling is how little energy Anderson and company bring to it visually. For "Fractured" to work, it needs to feel like a waking nightmare. Anyone who has been in a big hospital knows there's something inherently creepy about those long hallways down which it's easy to believe loved ones could literally disappear. But there's so little visual personality in "Fractured" that it's startling. No sense of dread or atmosphere. It's almost a single-setting piece, and that setting is flat and dull. Start to consider what someone like John Carpenter or David Cronenberg would have done with this space and concept and you'll realize how much is missing here. The script by Alan McElroy, the man behind the "Wrong Turn" series, isn't exactly blazing with sharp dialogue, and so without any interesting production design elements and forgettable, flat characters, we're left with nothing to hold onto except the inevitable twist. And then that twist comes like a clanging bell, and all the stuff that didn't make sense before makes even less sense now, and you realize this whole movie has been a cheat. Roger Ebert notoriously panned "The Usual Suspects" because he felt manipulated by it. I don't necessarily agree with him there, but I can relate more after watching "Fractured." Signed in Username Continue By joining, you agree to the Terms and Policies and the Privacy Policy and to receive email from Fandango Media Brands. Email change successful You are signed out for your security. Please sign in again. 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Read Critics Reviews Brian Tallerico RogerEbert.com What's most startling is how little energy Anderson and company bring to it visually. Rated: 1/4 Oct 11, 2019 Full Review Benjamin Lee Guardian When I wasn't busying myself making an internal checklist of films I was reminded of, I was happily playing armchair detective, curious enough to engage with the pieces I was given. Rated: 3/5 Oct 11, 2019 Full Review Frank Scheck The Hollywood Reporter The sort of psychological suspenser that proves grueling for all the wrong reasons. Oct 9, 2019 Full Review Scott Phillips The Screen Scene It's not bad, but it's not particularly good. It tries to be a paranoid, conspiracy thriller with an issue about the reliability of its narrator, but I found it too predictable to be truly effective. Jul 29, 2020 Full Review Luke Whiston TheShiznit.co.uk Basically what I'm saying is we've seen this film several times before - but that's not necessarily a bad thing. There's plenty of room for contemporary remakes/re-tellings/rehashes... Rated: B- Jan 8, 2020 Full Review Isaac Feldberg Fortune Without the star charisma or narrative ingenuity necessary to propel its story forward, this one never lets audiences out of the waiting room. Nov 21, 2019 Full Review Read all reviews Audience Member Terrible movie worst movie I've watch in a while waste of time don't watch it Rated 0.5/5 Stars • Rated 0.5 out of 5 stars 11/11/25 Full Review elián q Está película es absolutamente cine, me recordó a hotline Miami en la parte del hospital, tiene buenas tomas y aveces te confunde de quien es el verdadero bueno. Simplemente es buena. Rated 5/5 Stars • Rated 5 out of 5 stars 11/07/25 Full Review Dani G Just another popcorn flick Rated 2/5 Stars • Rated 2 out of 5 stars 09/12/25 Full Review Aluna U *Fractured* is a psychological thriller with a compelling premise and emotional core, centered on Ray's desperate quest to save his daughter and repair his marriage. While Sam Worthington delivers a strong performance, the film's reliance on narration and some unrealistic plot points weaken its impact. Despite effective tension-building through cinematography and sound, the story lacks clarity and believable character portrayals, leaving several mysteries unresolved. Read the full review here: (Indonesian version : alunauwie.com) and (English version : uwiepuspita.com) Rated 3.5/5 Stars • Rated 3.5 out of 5 stars 08/31/25 Full Review Agape K This movie is a masterpiece let no one full you It actually deserved a 10/10, it had the best scenes if you enjoy psychological thriller movies this one I recommend it Rated 5/5 Stars • Rated 5 out of 5 stars 08/28/25 Full Review carolina s Not bad, but i found it Very predictable. Perfect movie to watch with your parents, neither the worst nor the best I've seen. The direction is quite good, although it's a bit pretentious for what it really is a popcorn movie Rated 2.5/5 Stars • Rated 2.5 out of 5 stars 07/23/25 Full Review Read all reviews Read More Read Less POST RATING WRITE A REVIEW EDIT REVIEW Chain of Death 60% 40% Chain of Death Watchlist Through the Glass Darkly 75% 82% Through the Glass Darkly Watchlist TRAILER for Through the Glass Darkly Number 37 94% 75% Number 37 Watchlist Discover more movies and TV shows. 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