

# LIFE OF CONSEQUENCES

**Directed by Eva Louis**

**Written by Daniel Blunck**

**Produced by Eva Louis & Daniel Blunck**

**Starring Angie Gomez, Fern**

**McKay-Hoover, & Daniel Blunck**

**Cinematography by Eva Louis**

LOS ANGELES / NEW YORK

*When a man has to face the consequences of having caused a fatal accident, where does he turn? Seeking hope and support from those closest to him causes him to ponder his own mortality. He must make a choice to ease his own suffering and the suffering of others.*



## Critical Analysis

★★★★★

Eva Louis' film *Life of Consequences* is a film about moral conflict, grief, and forgiveness. When the film opens, we see a man clearly down on his luck. He is depressed and in the dark, barely able to move, and heavy with guilt we don't know yet. This is intercut with a woman who is bright, thriving, and cheery.

These characters are Paul and Rachel, whom we get to know quite well in the hour and seventeen-minute film. We know that Rachel is a successful face of fashion and Paul's children died in a drunk driving accident— at his hand.

Paul is isolated from his family and his friends, a social pariah begging for forgiveness that he can't even give himself. He is haunted by the memory of his late daughter, acting as a moral compass for his choice of whether to kill himself or accept his fate of seven years of prison.

However, it's hard to sympathize with him. It's not just that he drove drunk and caused his children to die, it's that Paul lacks depth as a protagonist. Until he's with Rachel, he keeps a poker face, but once he's in her presence, he becomes charming and no longer seems burdened by guilt, giving the impression that he practically doesn't actually care about forgetting and forgiving himself.

When Paul isn't there, Rachel's scenes stand out like a bright spot, bringing light and laughter to a bleak situation; they have all the hallmarks of a Bravo network series. It doesn't belong, but maybe

that's for the better; seeing life from a perspective other than guilt is valuable. In addition, it depicts the lives of a lady who supports a man who is responsible for the deaths of his children. Her brother's confrontation with Paul is cold and uncomfortable as it should be, he tells Paul he must accept the consequences of his actions (and that seven years is not long enough punishment) while also telling Paul to stay away from Rachel.

In Rachel's earnest efforts to assist Paul while he is going through this difficult time, she has coincidentally gotten into a fight with her brother, whom she considers to be violent and cruel. The story's more subtle elements are there, but they aren't particularly well realized in the film. The actors don't seem to have any connection to the remainder of the film.

There is also a separation between the actors themselves. It seems surreal even in the parts of the movie that are supposed to be realistic. We are alone with the sounds of their words, their feet walking, and the pain of silence between conversations and the slowness of the conversations being had. It is an uncomfortable subject and an uncomfortable film that feels unfinished production-wise.

Despite this, we *do* think Director Eva Louis is capable of many amazing qualities in her work, being that she not only directed, produced but also was the director of photography for this project.

We give her a lot of credit for being able to play all three of these roles at the same time on the set of a film; doing so requires a great deal of talent and expertise, and we have no doubt that both her

previous films and the ones that she will make in the future will be memorable for their own individual reasons.

Without a doubt, Director Eva Louis has a deep personal investment in this project, and we have no doubt that she can take it to the next level with some tweaks and improvements.

The film *Life of Consequences* is riveting because it provokes thought and discussion about the things we value most while also touching on significant aspects of such classical literary themes as life and death and coming of age.

---

LOS ANGELES / NEW YORK CITY

**MACOPROJECT**

FILM FESTIVAL

---