

# celebs



## Ryan Reynolds reveals why he had to 'let go' of the idea of earning big money for Deadpool

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Ryan Reynolds had to "let go" of the idea of being paid a huge amount for 'Deadpool'.

He told The New York Times: "When I finally got to make it, it had been almost 10 years at that point. No part of me was thinking when 'Deadpool' was finally greenlit that this would be a success. I even let go of getting paid to do the movie just to put it back

on the screen: They wouldn't allow my co-writers Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick on set, so I took the little salary I had left and paid them to be on set with me so we could form a de facto writers room." But the Hollywood star learned while on set of the film - which eventually grossed \$782.6 million at the box office and spawned two

sequels - that sometimes money can be the "enemy" of creativity, so by doing away with a focus on the financial side of things, he was able to hone in on the character. He said: "It was a lesson in a couple of senses. I think one of the great enemies of creativity is too much time and money, and that movie had neither time nor money.

It really fostered focusing on character over spectacle, which is a little harder to execute in a comic-book movie. I was just so invested in every micro-detail of it and I hadn't felt like that in a long, long time. I remembered wanting to feel that more - not just on "Deadpool," but on anything.

Ryan Reynolds

## Keanu Reeves 'didn't write' new novel

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Keanu Reeves "didn't write any" of his new novel. The 'John Wick' actor has teamed up with one of his favourite authors, China Miéville, on 'The Book of Elsewhere', which is inspired by his own 'BRZRKR' comic books and features the series' protagonist, immortal warrior Unute aka B, but he left penning the story to his collaborator. He admitted to The Guardian newspaper: "I didn't want to write the book. I wanted another creator to take that journey. So, ultimately, China has written the novel. It's not, like, we could look at page eight and say, 'Oh, I wrote

this section.' I didn't write any of the novel." The pair first met face-to-face in Berlin in 2021, and went through China's first draft in a series of Zoom meetings, with the 51-year-old author admitting it took him some time to grasp Keanu's ideas, but ultimately he realised the 59-year-old star's suggestions were "absolutely right". He said: "What I felt he was particularly particular about was questions of character - which shouldn't be a surprise because of the acting. "But the way we talk about things structurally, and in terms of character, isn't necessarily the same. We don't come with the same vernacular. "So there was a process where I had to learn to understand what was being put to me. I remember a couple of times when you were saying things about B, and I was like, I know I'm not getting what he's saying.



Keanu Reeves

**"I didn't want to write the book. I wanted another creator to take that journey. So, ultimately, China has written the novel. It's not, like, we could look at page eight and say, 'Oh, I wrote this section.' I didn't write any of the novel."**

KEANU REEVES

"Then after a couple of goes around - oh, OK, I get it. And every time that happened - I can think of three times very particularly - I was, like, oh: he's absolutely right." The 'Speed' actor couldn't be happier with the end result of their collaboration. He said: "I'm reading a 'BRZRKR' China Miéville novel! Yeah! What, what, what? And then like, why am I crying? Why am I feeling so much? And then what is that? And then? Wait, I need to like ... what's that f\*\*\*\*\*word? Oh, yeah. Great." Keanu released the first volume of 'BRZRKR' - which he created with writer Matt Kindt and artist Ron Garney - in November 2021. The second volume in the series was released in 2022 and the third volume was released in October 2023. In 2021, it was announced that Netflix would develop a live-action film based on the comic book, which Keanu is attached to star in. 'The Book of Elsewhere' will be released on 23 July.

## Armie Hammer thinks being cancelled saved his life

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Armie Hammer thinks he would have died if he hadn't been cancelled. The 37-year-old actor faced accusations of sexual misconduct including rape in 2021 - while no charges were filed following a two-year investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department - as well as claims of cannibalistic fantasies. Hammer denied all allegations and insisted facing "a career death" saved his life, as he acknowledged his "s\*\*\*\*\* behaviour" including cheating on his wife and using "people to make me feel better". He told Bill Maher on the 'Club Random' podcast: "My life would have kept going exactly as it was. And I know that that would ultimately only lead in one place, and that's death."

**"I experienced an ego death, a career death, a financial death, all of these things, right? You got to die. And once you die, you can then be reborn"**

ARMIE HAMMER



Armie Hammer

insisted being cancelled has been "incredible liberating" because he was no longer "preoccupied with how [he] was perceived". He added: "Once everyone just decides that they hate you, you go, 'Oh, well, then I don't need anything from you people anyway. I guess I should just learn to be content with myself.' "And then you go do that, and it feels f\*\*\*\*\* amazing." Hammer admitted he was "callous and inconsiderate" towards other people - including being unfaithful to his now ex-wife Elizabeth Chambers, who he split from in 2020 after over eight years of marriage - but he has repeatedly denied the allegations against him. He said: "I used people to make me feel better. I was callous and inconsiderate with people and their emotions and their well-being. "And I wanted what I wanted, and I was going to take it at any cost, even if it was at an emotional cost of someone else. And that is s\*\*\*\*\* behaviour."

## Halle Berry 'leaves Kim Kardashian's legal drama'

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Halle Berry has reportedly left Kim Kardashian's upcoming legal drama. Just a week ago, the 57-year-old star was reported to be part of the cast for 'All's Fair' - which has been created by 'American Horror Story' boss Ryan Murphy - alongside Glenn Close and reality star turned actress Kim. Now, Variety has reported that she has "bowed out of the show due to a scheduling conflict". She had also been attached to executive produce, but will no longer be attached to the show in any capacity.

The series is set to focus on an all-female law firm in Los Angeles, while specific details regarding Halle's planned character had been kept under wraps. Ryan will write, direct and executive produce the project, which is the first of his series announced under his new Disney deal after his Netflix agreement came to an end. Kim and Glenn are both executive producers, along with Kris Jenner, Alexis Martin Woodall, Scott Robertson and Eric Kovtun. Kim made her acting debut as publicist Siobhan Corbyn in 'American Horror Story: Delicate', and the spooky anthol-

ogy show's creator was delighted with the praise for her performance. In a recent episode of 'The Kardashians', Ryan told her: "You were really, really good to the point where they called me and were like, 'Do you think Kim would want to do her own show?'" In a confessional after the chat, Kim joked she wasn't should what she "got herself into", and wondered if she could "really pull this off". Ryan - who also created the likes of 'Glee', 'Nip/



Tuck', 'Ratched' and more - then revealed his pitch for Kim's potential series. He suggested: "Kim is the world's best, most expensive divorce lawyer, and she has her own firm, and the thing about her firm is it's an all-female firm." Kim - who filed from divorce from ex Kanye West early in 2021 before finalising the split the following year - joked she "has some experience" in the field.

Halle Berry

**SUDOKU**  
Yesterday's solution  
How to play  
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**CROSSWORD**  
Yesterday's solution  
Across  
Down