



Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman are no longer Hollywood's power couple. Cruise filed for divorce on Wednesday, citing "irreconcilable differences."

# Cruise, Kidman conflict shocks all

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES - Tom Cruise filed for divorce Wednesday, citing irreconcilable differences as the reason for splitting with actress Nicole Kidman after 10 years of marriage.

The Superior Court petition, filed two days after the couple disclosed their separation, said they will share custody of their adopted children Connor, 6, and Isabella, 8.

"It is Tom Cruise's desire that the dissolution of the marriage be handled amicably," attorney Dennis Wasser said. "His major concern is the welfare of the parties' children."

The couple separated in December, the filing said. On Monday, the couple blamed "difficulties inherent in divergent careers" for keeping them constantly apart.

Publicists said the actors would have no additional comment.

It is the second failed marriage for Cruise, who divorced Mimi Rogers in 1990 after three years. That same year, Kidman and Cruise met on the set of "Days of Thunder" and were married that Christmas Eve in Telluride, Colo.

Cruise, 38, has starred in a number of high-grossing and critically acclaimed films, including "Born on the Fourth of July," "A Few Good Men," "Jerry Maguire," "Mission: Impossible," "Rain Man," "Top Gun" and "Magnolia." Kidman, 33, spent three

months in Spain last fall filming "The Others," and Cruise was one of the executive producers. Her movie credits include "Batman Forever," "Malice" and "To Die For."

The couple also starred together in the films "Far and Away" and 1998's "Eyes Wide Shut," the erotic final film of Stanley Kubrick.

The couple divided their time between homes in New York, Los Angeles, Colorado and Kidman's native Australia, where news of the breakup hit hard. A front-page headline Wednesday in The Australian read: "Tom and Nicole admit it's mission impossible."

The couple were the toast of Sydney last year, living in a sprawling mansion while filming separate projects. They appeared regularly at social functions and Cruise won the hearts of sports fans by throwing his support behind a local rugby league team.

Ros Reines, a gossip columnist with the tabloid Sunday Telegraph, said she was shocked.

"They were the Hollywood dream couple—our Nic and Tom," she said.

However, not all papers were sympathetic.

"Balancing work and family life is a formidable challenge for us all, but Tom and Nicole are among those best-equipped to do it," The Australian said, pointing out the couple was worth an estimated \$250 million. "Who do Tom and Nicole think they're kidding?"

# 'Hannibal' adds new flavor to tale

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - Imagine that your favorite restaurant has reopened under new management. The cuisine is different, the hostess unfamiliar and the decor a little exotic.

You miss the old place, until you notice that the same old chef is behind the stove, simmering and grilling, and your favorite waiter ambles over with a crooked smile.

Now it might seem rude to flee.

In a similar way, the producers of "Hannibal" also hope you'll stay.

Their sequel to "The Silence of the Lambs" has a new director, screenwriter and female lead, but they hope you'll sample the fare nonetheless.

This time, director Jonathan Demme, screenwriter Ted Tally and Jodie Foster are out. Replacing them are director Ridley Scott, screenwriters Steven Zaillian and David Mamet, and Julianne Moore as FBI agent Clarice Starling.

But two key ingredients remain: Thomas Harris, who provided a new menu with his best-selling follow-up novel, and Anthony Hopkins, who's back for another feast as the urbane cannibal, Dr. Hannibal Lecter.

"I know the expectations of the audience," says Hopkins, who won the 1991 best-actor Academy Award for playing Lecter and sent theatergoers into the night mak-

ing fava bean and Chianti jokes.

"I did make a conscious decision not to repeat the same tricks of 'The Silence of the Lambs' - to introduce bits and pieces of his character, but not to go on playing the same old, 'Ahhh, Clarice ...'" he says, momentarily slipping into character.

Moore, on the other hand, faced a different dilemma. Her character had already been broken in by another actress who had done such a good job that she'd also been rewarded with an Oscar.

"My biggest concern always, whenever I take any kind of role, is am I going to be able to do the part justice?" Moore says. "That was particularly the case with this because it was played to perfection by Jodie Foster."

Two others who weren't in the original also grabbed meaty parts: Gary Oldman, as a former victim of Lecter's, and Ray Liotta, who plays Starling's boss.

Liotta got the job after button-holing the director outside a Los Angeles gym.

"To work with Anthony Hopkins playing this part is like working with Martin Scorsese doing a Mafia movie," says Liotta, who starred in Scorsese's mobster masterpiece "Goodfellas." "It's their forte. What can be better than that?"

The new \$80 million movie begins 10 years after Starling and Lecter last battled wits. He's laying low in Italy, while she is souring on the FBI and its bureaucracy.

But as the title implies, this time there can be no doubt who the real star is, says Dino De Laurentiis, who produced the film with his wife, Martha, and Scott. The monster is front and center.

"When people ask me, 'Dino, this is the sequel of 'The Silence of the Lambs' - I say, 'You're wrong!' This has nothing to do with 'The

Silence of the Lambs,' except for the same character."

The De Laurentiis owned the screen rights to Harris' work and would fly to Miami every few months to nudge Harris along as he wrote "Hannibal."

Another six months, he would tell them. Years would pass.

Finally, in 1999, Harris called. "Dino, I did it!"

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# Mylow brings energy to Royal Grove's stage

BAND from page 8

night has been a thrill for Stump. "It's like being Batman," Stump says.

Mylow performs a high-energy live set, drawing off of the dynamics of the crowd. The set list of each show is determined as the performance progresses, creating a spontaneous feel for the band as well as the crowd.

Mylow strives to send listeners away happy and believes they hit the spot.

"They leave feeling like valued Wal-Mart customers," Lloyd quips.

Although Thursday nights at the Grove don't draw a large crowd, Mylow enjoys the regular gig. They hail the Grove's sound system as the best in Lincoln and find the weekly commitment to playing is like an added rehearsal.

Mylow thinks that the Grove's new "Mylow Drink Specials" will draw a larger crowd, offering 10-cent draws from 9 to 10 p.m.

Lloyd says, "If you've got a couple bucks laying around, I highly suggest you have your Mom drop you off (at the Grove)."

Having played with various groups like Grasshopper Takeover, Angry Salad and the Corey Feldman Band, Mylow knows the importance of exposing their sound to various audiences and invites promising local acts to join them every Thursday

at the Grove. This week, Common Rare Deformity will be the opening band.

Mylow is putting the finishing touches on their first full-length album, "On This Side." They plan to send the album to record labels around the country and sell them at their shows.

Lloyd, Stump and Lahman are ready to take their sound to a larger audience. Although, Stump points out that it's rare to be a professional musician "as long as B.B. King's been at it," Lloyd says he's willing "to do this as long as they let me."

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