



Blake Lively Discusses “Gross” Experience During *It Ends With Us* Shoot

Description

Jenny Slate described the filming of *It Ends With Us* as “a really gross and disturbing shoot,” in a 2023 text revealed in recently unsealed court documents. This statement emerged two days before a crucial hearing regarding Blake Lively’s yearlong sexual harassment and retaliation lawsuit against Justin Baldoni and the movie’s producers, distributed by Sony.

Lively’s allegations against Baldoni include accusations of harassment during production, alongside details of a campaign aimed at discrediting her. Throughout the extensive documents, critics labelled Baldoni variously as a “rabid pig” and a “doofus.” The filings include insights from Lively, Slate, *IEWU* author Colleen Hoover, screenwriter Christy Hall, and others, revealing a culture perceived as a boys’ club under Baldoni’s leadership.

In a text from June 4, 2023, Slate bluntly referred to Baldoni as “the biggest clown and the most intense narcissist.” The documents support Lively’s claims that after voicing concerns regarding inappropriate conduct, she faced vilification from Baldoni and Wayfarer CEO Jamey Heath.

Lively, who filed a complaint with the California Civil Rights Department in December 2024, seeks around £500 million in damages for harm to her reputation and career. The trial is set for May if a settlement is not reached during court-mandated discussions next month. Baldoni’s own countersuit for £400 million was dismissed last year.

Recent filings clarify Sony Pictures’ involvement, emphasising that Lively oversaw a distinct edit of *IEWU*, which was primarily released in August 2024. This contradicts previous claims by Baldoni’s team that portrayed Lively as having hijacked the project. Lively’s assertion that she was encouraged by Sony afforded her an active role in the film’s editing process.

On the brink of a key hearing, Lively’s lawyers are optimistic, asserting that the newly unveiled documents substantiate their case against Baldoni. However, representatives for Baldoni and his co-defendants have not yet responded to these developments.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Allegations** /ˌæl.ɪˈɡeɪ.ʃənz/ (noun): Claims or assertions that someone has done something illegal or wrong.
2. **Retaliation** /rɪˌtæ.lɪˈeɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The action of returning a hostile act.
3. **Vilification** /ˌvɪl.ɪˈfeɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The act of speaking or writing about someone in an abusively disparaging manner.
4. **Substantiate** /səbˈstæ.n.ji.ɛɪt/ (verb): To provide evidence to support or prove the truth of something.
5. **Discrediting** /dɪsˈkrɛd.ɪ.tɪŋ/ (verb): The act of harming the good reputation of someone or something.



6. **Boys' club** /bɔɪz klʌb/ (noun phrase): An exclusive group dominated by men where women may be excluded or overlooked.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the role of an advocate?
Option: A person who recommends for a cause
Option: A person who designs buildings
Option: A person who writes books
Option: A person who judges a game
2. Which word means "to become worse"?
Option: Improved
Option: Deteriorated
Option: Strengthened
Option: Enhanced
3. What is a campaign typically for?
Option: To win a game
Option: To promote a cause or agenda
Option: To create a product
Option: To run an organization
4. What does the word "poignant" refer to?
Option: Humorous
Option: Emotionally moving
Option: Irritating
Option: Exciting
5. Which term refers to a difficult effort?
Option: Struggle
Option: Victory
Option: Rest
Option: Success
6. What is meant by contributions?
Option: Gifts given to charity
Option: Efforts made for a common goal
Option: Achievements in sports



Option: Monetary donations only

7. What does ambition signify?

- Option: A lack of motivation
- Option: A strong desire to achieve something
- Option: A state of contentment
- Option: Feeling discouraged

8. What does the term "legacy" refer to?

- Option: An inheritance from the past
- Option: A new beginning
- Option: A temporary situation
- Option: A random event

9. What is a ceremony generally conducted for?

- Option: To complete an event with formalities
- Option: For a casual gathering
- Option: For a fun fair
- Option: To do paperwork

10. What do allegations refer to?

- Option: Unproven claims or accusations
- Option: Confirmed evidence
- Option: Official documents
- Option: A type of legal agreement

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. An _____ is someone who publicly supports a particular cause or policy.

12. The quality of the food _____ due to improper storage.

13. She is running for office and has started her election _____.

14. The film had a _____ ending that brought tears to the audience.

15. Life is often a _____ between aspirations and reality.

16. His _____ to the project were invaluable and greatly appreciated.

17. Her _____ drove her to work long hours to achieve her goals.



18. The artist left behind a lasting _____ that influenced many generations.
19. The graduation _____ will take place at the university auditorium.
20. The investigation was initiated following several serious _____ against the company.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Her contributions to the community have made a significant impact on many lives.
22. He is remembered for his legacy of innovation and social justice.
23. To be an advocate for change one must be willing to challenge the status quo.
24. The book contained a poignant message that resonated deeply with its readers.
25. The struggle for civil rights inspired many to fight for equality and justice.
26. The ceremony celebrated the achievements of outstanding students from the past year.
27. The condition of the building deteriorated over the years due to lack of maintenance.
28. The dynamic nature of technology requires constant adaptation and learning.
29. The campaign aimed to raise awareness about environmental conservation.
30. Her ambition to become a leader inspired many of her peers.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. A person who recommends for a cause 2. Deteriorated 3. To promote a cause or agenda 4. Emotionally moving 5. Struggle 6. Efforts made for a common goal 7. A strong desire to achieve something 8. An inheritance from the past 9. To complete an event with formalities 10. Unproven claims or accusations

Gap-Fill: 11. advocate 12. deteriorated 13. campaign 14. poignant 15. struggle 16. contributions 17. ambition 18. legacy 19. ceremony 20. allegations

Matching sentence: 1. contributions 2. legacy 3. advocate 4. poignant 5. struggle 6. ceremony 7. deteriorated 8. dynamic 9. campaign 10. ambition

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL6



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2. ESL learning
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