

Dennis Quaid's Harrowing Escape from the Palisades Fire

Description

In the wake of the Palisades Fire, which has obliterated over 5,000 structures, esteemed actor Dennis Quaid articulated profound apprehensions regarding both his domicile and the broader community's well-being.

As the Golden Globe nominee hastily evacuated his Pacific Palisades residence on Friday evening, he candidly recounted his family's ordeal since the onset of the conflagration earlier that week, acknowledging their fortunate circumstances amidst such adversity.

"On Tuesday, we awoke to an enormous plume of smoke—an unsettling yet captivating sight that signified the fire's escalation in the Palisades," he conveyed to KNBC. "By Wednesday, the flames drew perilously close—within a mere 150 yards from our abode. I must commend the heroic endeavors of the aerial firefighting crew and the local first responders whose unwavering commitment has been nothing short of extraordinary."

Quaid elaborated: "We are doing everything within our power to safeguard our community—a sentiment I never anticipated expressing, yet it reflects the gravity of our situation."

The actor disclosed that his residence was situated "on the very brink of the primary evacuation zone" and voiced his gratitude: "We have been extraordinarily fortunate, especially when considering the plight of my friends. For instance, my agent suffered the loss of both of his properties, while another close associate, having recently relocated, tragically found both homes consumed by flames."



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A view of wildfire as firefighting planes and helicopters drop water over flames in Mandeville Canyon during the Palisades Fire in Los Angeles, California on Jan. 10, 2025. (Tayfun Coskun/Anadolu via Getty Images)

Reflecting on the possibility of reconstruction, Quaid pondered, "What does one truly do to rebuild? The sheer enormity of the task is daunting, overshadowed by the memories of the effort that goes into constructing a home."

Concurrently, wildfires have erupted across Pacific Palisades, Eaton Canyon, Malibu, the Hollywood Hills, and various locales within Los Angeles County, all fueled by a perilous windstorm that commenced on Tuesday.

As of Saturday, the region has witnessed the tragic loss of eleven lives due to these infernos, displacing approximately 105,000 residents and annihilating a staggering 5,316 structures, inclusive of 426 homes. Additionally, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has recorded 13 reports of missing individuals.



In response, President Joe Biden extended his visit to Los Angeles on Wednesday to engage with first responders and victims of the disaster, subsequently declaring a major disaster in relation to the fires.

"Over 100,000 residents have been compelled to evacuate their communities in light of the Southern California wildfires," Biden articulated via X. "Regrettably, two lives have been lost and countless others injured—firefighters among them. This devastation weighs heavily upon us. To the residents of Southern California: You are not alone; we stand with you."

Vocabulary List:

- 1. **Obliterated** /əˈblɪtə,reɪtɪd/ (verb): Completely destroyed or wiped out.
- 2. **Conflagration** /,kpn.flə'greɪ.ʃən/ (noun): A large and destructive fire.
- 3. **Apprehensions** /,æp.rɪ'hɛn.ʃənz/ (noun): Feelings of anxiety or fear about the future.
- 4. Perilously /'per.i.ləs.li/ (adverb): In a way that is full of danger or risk.
- 5. **Devastation** /,dɛv.ə'steɪ.ʃən/ (noun): Severe and overwhelming shock or grief or the state of being destroyed.
- 6. Displacing /dis'plei.sin/ (verb): Forcing someone to leave their home or place.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What event prompted Dennis Quaid to hastily evacuate his Pacific Palisades residence?

Option: Flood

Option: Earthquake Option: Wildfire Option: Tornado

2. How close did the flames come to Dennis Quaid's abode?

Option: 50 yards Option: 100 yards Option: 150 yards Option: 200 yards

3. Which heroic endeavors did Dennis Quaid commend?

Option: Medical personnel



Option: Teachers

Option: Aerial firefighting crew and first responders

Option: Local government officials

4. How many structures were obliterated by the Palisades Fire?

Option: 2,000 Option: 3,500 Option: 5,000 Option: 7,500

5. Where did wildfires erupt concurrently with the Palisades Fire?

Option: Texas Option: New York Option: Florida

Option: Los Angeles County

6. What was President Joe Biden's response to the Southern California wildfires?

Option: Declared a major disaster Option: Requested more wildfires Option: Ignored the situation

Option: Placed blame on the residents

True-False

- 7. Dennis Quaid expressed gratitude for the heroic efforts of the local first responders.
- 8. The wildfires in Los Angeles County were fueled by heavy rainfall.
- 9. President Joe Biden visited Los Angeles after the wildfires erupted.
- 10. Two lives were lost due to the infernos in the region.
- 11. Approximately 50,000 residents were displaced by the wildfires.
- 12. Joe Biden blamed the residents affected by the wildfires.

Gap-Fill



14. The region has witnessed the tragic loss of eleven lives due to these infernos, displacing approximately
residents and annihilating a staggering 5,316 structures.
16. Over residents have been compelled to evacuate their communities in light of
the Southern California wildfires.
17. Dennis Quaid reflected on the possibility of reconstruction, pondering the enormity of the task
overshadowed by the memories of constructing a
18. As of Saturday, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has reported
reports of missing individuals due to the wildfires.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Wildfire 2. 150 yards 3. Aerial firefighting crew and first responders 4. 5,000 5. Los

Angeles County 6. Declared a major disaster

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. True 10. True 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 14. 105,000 16. 100,000 17. home 18. 13

Vocabulary quizzes

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

1. Which word means about to happen?

Option: Accolade
Option: Pontifical
Option: Imminent
Option: Succumbed

2. Which word means an award or privilege granted as a special honor?

Option: Esteemed Option: Accolade Option: Devastated Option: Paramount



3. Which word means intense and passionate feeling?

Option: Fervor Option: Vitality Option: Devastation Option: Irrevocably

4. Which word means to give in to pressure or defeat?

Option: Accumulate Option: Nominee Option: Succumbed Option: Alarming

5. Which word means of chief importance or concern?

Option: Extravagant Option: Ancillary Option: Paramount Option: Perilously

6. Which word means anxiety or fear that something bad will happen? ESL-NEWS.

Option: Apprehensions Option: Obilterated Option: Conflagration Option: Substantial

7. Which word means destroyed or desolated?

Option: Dynamic Option: Candidly Option: Psychological Option: Devastated

8. Which word means the state of being strong and active?

Option: Esteemed Option: Vitality Option: Succumbed Option: Irrevocably

9. Which word means destroyed completely?

Option: Alarming Option: Esteemed Option: Obliterated Option: Controversial



10. Which word means causing disagreement or argument?

Option: Allege

Option: Controversial Option: Elucidating Option: Displacing

11. Over time debt can	and become unmanageable.	
12. The bishop wore elaborate and	robes for the ceremony.	
13. Once a decision is made it is often	binding.	
14. The rise in crime rates is quite	to the residents of the town.	
15. The mountaineers ventured	close to the edge of the cliff.	
16. The celebrity lived a(n)	lifestyle spending lavishly on luxury items.	
17. After years of hard work she achieved a	increase in her salary.	
18. The company offers a range of	services to complement their main products.	
19. The professor gave an	explanation of the complex scientific theory.	
20. The defendant continued to	innocence throughout the trial.	
Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)		
21. The actor was selected as the official candidate for the award.		
22. The professor is highly regarded and respected in the academic community.		
23. The massive fire engulfed the entire building within minutes.		
24. The aftermath of the hurricane left a trail of destruction and despair.		
25. The therapist focuses on the mental well-being and behavior of her patients.		



- 26. His nervousness and fear of failure were evident before the performance.
- 27. The energetic leader brought new ideas and changes to the organization.
- 28. She spoke openly and honestly about her feelings on the matter.
- 29. The prestigious award was a recognition of his exceptional contributions.
- 30. The ancient ruins were completely wiped out by the catastrophic event.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Imminent 2. Accolade 3. Fervor 4. Succumbed 5. Paramount 6. Apprehensions 7.

Devastated 8. Vitality 9. Obliterated 10. Controversial

Gap-Fill: 11. accumulate 12. pontifical 13. irrevocably 14. alarming 15. perilously 16. extravagant

17. substantial 18. ancillary 19. elucidating 20. allege

Matching sentence: 1. Nominee 2. Esteemed 3. Conflagration 4. Devastation 5. Psychological 6. Apprehension

ESL-NEWS. 7. Dynamic 8. Candidly 9. Accolade 10. Obliterated

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL6

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