

CrownMedia



'CHRISTMAS UNDER THE STARS' Cast Bios

JESSE METCALFE (Nick) – Hollywood leading man Jesse Metcalfe currently stars as Trace Riley in Hallmark Channel's "Chesapeake Shores." Before that, Metcalfe was seen as Christopher Ewing in the popular TNT series, "Dallas." Born in California and raised in Waterford, Connecticut, Metcalfe played in several basketball leagues in his youth. Studying Film and Television at New York University's famed Tisch School of the Arts, his first role on television was starring in the NBC series "Passions" as Miguel Lopez-Fitzgerald. After a successful five-year stint on the show, Metcalfe took a brief break from it to pursue other opportunities. He returned to make his final appearance in January 2005.

Metcalfe went on to star as the teen gardener John Rowland on ABC's hugely popular "Desperate Housewives." His storyline of an illicit affair with Eva Longoria's character, a married housewife, garnered fan and media attention. Metcalfe won a Choice TV Breakout Performance: Male award at the Teen Choice Awards for his role on the show, as well as a nomination for Choice TV Actor in a Comedy and a SAG Award for Best Television Ensemble.

During this time, Metcalfe also played the title character in the 20th Century Fox black comedy film *John Tucker Must Die*. The film, which also starred Sophia Bush, Brittany Snow and Ashanti, followed three friends who set out to break the heart of a serial cheater by setting him up with the new girl in town. Metcalfe's other film roles include *The Ninth Passenger*, *Escape Plan 2: Hades* (with Sylvester Stallone), *God's Not Dead 2*, *Insanitarium*, *The Other End of the Line*, *Beyond a Reasonable Doubt* (with Michael Douglas) and *The Tortured*. On television, he also starred in the Jerry Bruckheimer series "The Chase" for NBC.

Metcalfe plays lead character Chase Carter in the digital films *Dead Rising: Watchtower* and *Dead Rising: Endgame*, which were produced by Legendary Entertainment and are based on the popular video game franchise of the same name. The game has sold 6.5 million copies worldwide and has a huge pre-existing fan base. Metcalfe also recently starred in the Hallmark Channel original movies "Christmas Next Door" and "A Country Wedding." He will also star in the upcoming Hallmark Movies & Mysteries signature "Martha's Vineyard Mysteries."

Outside of work, Metcalfe is a huge professional basketball, football and baseball fan. He also works out religiously and is still a regular on the basketball court. A music lover, Metcalfe is an accomplished guitarist. He is also into classic cars, motorbikes and is an avid poker player. Metcalfe is active in several charities, including North Texas Food Bank, The Go Campaign, Weingart Foundaton and UNICEF.

#

AUTUMN REESER (Julie) – Autumn Reeser is known for her ability to deftly balance comedy and drama, particularly in the roles she’s played as Lizzy Grant on HBO’s “Entourage,” Taylor Townsend on FOX’s “The O.C.” and Katie Andrews on ABC’S “No Ordinary Family.” She was also a series regular on the Shawn Ryan drama series “Last Resort,” opposite Andre Braugher and Scott Speedman. Over the past few years, Reeser has recurred on CBS’ “Hawaii Five-O,” following her arc on USA’s “Necessary Roughness,” as well as memorable arcs on Amazon’s “Salvation” and the E! series “The Arrangement.”

On the feature side, Reeser has appeared in Clint Eastwood’s *Sully*, with Tom Hanks, *The Big Bang*, opposite Antonio Banderas and Sam Elliot, *Valley of Bones*, opposite Rhys Coiro, Sony’s *Kill ‘Em All*, opposite Jean-Claude Van Damme, and Weinstein’s *So Undercover*, with Miley Cyrus and Jeremy Piven. Reeser has starred in eight romantic dramas for Hallmark Channel and is one of their most popular leading ladies. She recently wrapped production on the independent, *La Llorona*, which hit theaters this summer.

In addition to her extensive film and television career, Reeser is a longtime theatre performer and a member of the WorkJuice Players, alongside Busy Phillips and Paul F Tompkins. She currently stars in the West Coast premiere of Nicky Silver’s *Too Much Sun* at the Odyssey Theater.

Now living in Los Angeles with her two sons, Finn and Dashiell, Reeser is a familiar face to Hallmark Channel viewers, having starred in the network’s original movies “Valentine Ever After,” “I Do, I Do, I Do,” “Midnight Masquerade,” “Love at the Thanksgiving Parade,” “A Country Wedding,” “Love on the Menu,” “Season for Love” and “All Summer Long,” as well as “A Bramble House Christmas,” which premiered on Hallmark Movies & Mysteries in 2017.

-- HALLMARK CHANNEL --