

Under the Skin

By Michael Hollinger

Directed by Colleen Bracken

PLOT

Lou needs a healthy kidney, and he's out of options for a donor match. His adult daughter Raina is his best shot, but...it's complicated. As Raina grapples with her decision to donate or not, new and old lovers show up, old secrets are brought to light, and new possibilities emerge. Time jumps backward, forward and sideways as this contemporary "dramedy" explores the meaning of family, the fallibility of our memories, and the connection we all share.

CHARACTERS

RAINA LAMOTT (around 30) White. Lou's daughter. Slightly neurotic, carries a big resentment toward her father, yet her underlying vulnerability shows through.

LOU ZIEGLER (around 60) White. Raina's father. Born and bred Philadelphian, tough on the outside, good heart on the inside, although that's not always easy to see. Took great pride in making his living as a skilled carpenter before he became ill.

JARRELL HAYES (late 20s) African-American. Marlene's son. Likeable person with easy self-confidence. Ivy League educated with a dry, clever wit, but never condescending. Wise beyond his years.

The actor who plays the role of Jarrell also plays the minor role of **HECTOR**, a nurse who helps take care of Lou in the hospital. **HECTOR** is from the Dominican Republic and speaks with a slight Latino-Caribbean accent.

MARLENE HAYES (around 50) African-American. Jarrell's mother. Recovering alcoholic who possesses the serenity and wisdom of a person who has survived a difficult life, recovered, and built a new one. Shares the wittiness that her son has, but her humor has more of an edge.

The actress who plays the major role of Marlene also plays the role of **DR. BADU**, a physician from a country in West Africa; and the **BARISTA**, who has lines in several scenes in the coffee shop.