

## Document Citation

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# AGAINST THE ODDS

(ALSKAR, ALSKAR INTE)

(SWEDISH)

A Svensk Filmindustri release (in Sweden) of a Cinema Art production, in association with Svensk Filmindustri, Four Seasons Venture Capital, Europas Studio, Nordic Film & TV Fund, TV1000, Birgitta & Imme, Filmekonomi, Mabe Consulting, EAC Holding and participation of the Swedish Film Institute. (International sales: Nordisk, Copenhagen.) Produced by Christer Abrahamson.

Directed by Mikael Hylin. Screenplay, Rolf Borjilind, based on a story by Hylin, Abrahamson. Camera (color), Esa Vuorinen; editor, Darek Hodor; music, Stefan Nilsson; production design, Birgitta Brensen; sound (Dolby SR digital), Asa Lindgren-Dawidsson, Stefan Ljungberg; aerial camera (Astrovision System), David Nowell; aerial photography coordinator, Clay Lacy. Reviewed at Svensk Filmindustri preview theater, Stockholm, Oct. 25, 1995. (In Berlin Film Festival — market.) Runningtime: 105 MIN.

With: Thomas Hanzon, Camilla Lunden, Mats Langbacka, Peter Andersson, Suzanne Reuter, Polki Nordstrom, Marika Lagercrantz, Martina Uusma, Peter Gardiner.

**A**n uneven but likable drama about a love affair that suffers when the guy is paralyzed in an accident, "Loves Me, Loves Me Not" is helped by playing from two appealing leads.

Patrik (Thomas Hanzon) is a young pilot in the Swedish air force who's in love with his beautiful g.f., Mia (Camilla Lunden). One day, he happily goes bathing after narrowly escaping death in a flying accident, but breaks his neck when diving. Paralyzed from the waist down, Patrik turns bitter, rejecting Mia no matter how many times she says she still loves him. Eventually, however, he takes a more mature attitude and the pair get back together.

Debuting director Mikael Hylin has crafted a pic with lots of appeal for a young audience. As the two lovers, Hanzon and Lunden are good, and easy on the eyes; there's nudity aplenty (both male and female full frontals), and the air sequences, supervised by some of the American team responsible for "Top Gun," are tops.

The film also poses serious questions about one's life being overturned by disaster, and the possibilities of getting back into the main flow. Despite those pluses, however, the narrative is uneven overall, and the casting of actress Marika Lagercrantz, 39, as the mother of Lunden, 27, is odd.

—Gunnar Rehlin