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ALL HELL LET LOOSE

(SWEDEN)

A Triangelfilm release of a Migma Film, Film i Vast production, with support from the Swedish Film Institute. (International sales: Migma Film, Trollhattan, Sweden.) Produced by Anita Oxburgh.

Directed, written by Susan Taslimi. Camera (color), Robert Nordstrom; editor, Lasse Summanen; music, Ale Moller; art director, Linda Jansson; costume designer, Camilla Thulin. Reviewed at Gothenburg Film Festival (Nordic Competition), Jan. 25, 2002. Original title: *Hus i helvete*. Swedish & Arabic dialogue. Running time: 100 MIN.

With: Melinda Kinnaman, Hassan Brijany, Caroline Rauf, Melize Karige, Dennis Onder, Omid Mottaghi, Bibbi Azizi.

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As chaotic as the story it tells, with the camera constantly on the move, "All Hell Let Loose" is a comedy-drama about an immigrant family that focuses on the clash between a father and his freedom-seeking daughter. Despite its faults, this first film by writer-director Susan Taslimi, an Iranian-born actress who's lived in Sweden since 1987, is agreeable to watch — until the abrupt and unsatisfactory ending.

Serbandi (Hassan Brijany), an emigrant from an (unspecified) Middle East country, lives with his family in a Swedish suburb. Back home, he was treated with respect; now, he's trying to make a living by running a catering business from his home. His wife is eyeing the sewing-machine repairman. And his daughter, Gita (Melize Karige), is going to get married but can't wait to have sex. When Serbandi's elder daughter, Minoo (Melinda Kinnaman), returns from the U.S., where she's worked as a stripper, all hell indeed breaks loose, culminating on the day of Gita's wedding. Mixture of pros and amateurs in the cast is not entirely successful, especially with an actress of Kinnaman's quality ("My Life as a Dog") in the lead role.

— Gunnar Rehlin