

CELEBS

Will Smith almost died in terrifying North Pole dive

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Will Smith narrowly dodged death while scuba diving in the Arctic as part of his Disney+ travel series.

Minutes into the 57-year-old actor's underwater adventure under thick ice, an emergency abort forced him to ascend into solid ice, and he

accidentally pulled off his mask.

Will recalled the terrifying incident that happened whilst filming Pole to Pole on Tuesday's (20.01.26's) episode of NBC's The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.

He told the 51-year-old host: "We went scuba diving at the North Pole. So we did a dive under the ice. So you go under the ice, and the ice can be up to 10 feet thick. So we're under, we went out about 40 yards away

... It's like an upside-down ice mountain range.

"We went under, and I start hearing, 'Abort dive! Abort dive! Abort!' And I'm like, 'Oh no.'

"So I went to ascend and hit ice. I was like, 'Oh no, Will, calm down. Calm down.' You have a tether on, and you have to grab your tether and pull yourself back to the hole. I grabbed and accidentally pulled my mask off."

Amid oxygen loss, Will immediately put the mask back on his

face, and he tried his best to calm himself down.

He continued: "I was like, 'Oh no. Will, calm down.'

The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air alum then joked: "And I was like, 'If I get out of here, I'm only gonna do Black stuff from here on out.' I promise, Lord! African American behaviour from here on out!"

Amid calming his nerves, Will felt someone grab "my tether up top and started pulling" him to

safety.

He added: "And when I realised I was good, I just relaxed and I looked around and when I tell you, the sun is coming through the ice, and it went from terror to the most spiritual, beautiful thing. And I was just like, 'Whoever's up there, don't let go of my tether!'"

Will Smith



Taylor Swift among inductees of Songwriters Hall of Fame

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Taylor Swift will be the youngest woman to be inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

The 36-year-old pop singer has qualified for the honour this year because it has been 20 years since the release of her first single, Tim McGraw, and has made it through the ballot ahead of the organisation's 2026 Induction and Awards Gala in New York City on 11 June.

Taylor received the Songwriters Hall of Fame's Hal David Starlight Award, which honours promising songwriters, in 2010 and will

Taylor Swift

be the first winner of the accolade to receive full Hall of Fame status.

Also set to be inducted later this year are Alanis Morissette, KISS' Paul Stanley and Gene Simmons, and Kenny Loggins, as well as non-performing writers

Walter Afanasieff, Terry Britten and Graham Lyle, and Christopher 'Tricky' Stewart.

Walter is best known as Mariah Carey's co-writer on her hits including My All, Hero, and All I Want for Christmas is You, while Terry and Graham penned Tina Turner's We Don't Need Another Hero and What's Love Got To Do With It.

Tricky is responsible for Rihanna's Umbrella and Beyoncé's hits Single Ladies and Break My Soul.

Songwriters Hall of Fame chair Nile Rodgers said in a statement: "The music industry is built upon the incredible talent of songwriters who

create unforgettable songs. Without their artistry, there would be no recorded music, concert experiences, or engaged fans. Everything originates from the song and its creator.

"We take great pride in our ongoing commitment to recognising some of the most culturally significant composers in history. This year's line-up not only showcases iconic songs but also celebrates unity across various genres."

Among the writers who failed to make it through the ballot this year were LL Cool J, Pink, Talking Heads' David Byrne, Sarah McLachlan, and the Go-Gos' Charlotte Caffey, Kathy Valentine and Jane Wiedlin.



Kristen Bell to return as Actor Awards host

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Kristen Bell is to host the Actor Awards for the third time.

The Nobody Wants This actress is thrilled to have been invited back to host the ceremony - which was formerly known as the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Awards - and has pledged to show off her musical talents again.

She said

joyed hosting the show every time, so it was an easy decision to come back for a third. What I'm most excited for is the fact that I'll be doing what every actor does best...sing:)

And awards bosses think the 45-year-old star is the perfect host for the ceremony.

Showrunner and executive producer Jon Brockett said: "Kristen Bell knows this show, she knows this community and she knows how to keep everyone entertained and laughing without ever losing the heart of the night.

"Having Kristen return to host feels like welcoming back a member of the family. One you actually hang out with."

The Frozen actress

was the awards' first-ever host in 2018, 23 years after the first ceremony, with Megan Mullally taking over presenting duties the following year. However, there was no official host again until Kristen returned last year.

One Battle After Another leads the nominations for the Actor Awards.

The hit action thriller film has earned a record-breaking seven nominations in total, including individual nods for Leonardo DiCaprio, Chase Infini, Teyana Taylor, Sean Penn, and Benicio del Toro.

Kristen Bell



Chris Pratt insists AI will not take his job as an actor

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Chris Pratt will not let artificial intelligence (AI) actors end his acting career.

The 46-year-old star has hit out at AI 'actress' Tilly Norwood and insisted the panic within tinsel town about the computer-generated creation replacing humans in roles is "bulls***".

Chris - who has been acting professionally for over two decades - told Variety: "I don't feel like someone's going to replace me that's AI. This Tilly Norwood thing, I think it's all bulls***. I've never seen her in a movie, I don't know who this bulls*** is. It's all fake, until it's something."

The actor - whose new film, Mercy, shows viewers a future where AI is in charge - thinks it can be an "amazing tool" for filmmakers to tell stories, and

could enable cost-effective productions.

Chris added: "It's inevitably going to disrupt the industry. We're in the midst of an intellectual revolution. We are not the first or last industry to be disrupted by AI, and I think we just keep chugging forward. Great filmmakers are going to keep making great films, and they're probably going to implement these tools if it helps streamline productions, if it helps bring

the cost of production down, it's inevitable."

But, ultimately, the Guardians of the Galaxy star says AI will not replace the "human soul" - which he thinks is vital in productions.

Chris continued: "And I don't think you're going to replace the human soul of a director or a writer, or an actor, or a singer, or any of this stuff that requires human learning, and suffering, and vision, and art."

"There's a soul connection when you're watching a movie. You might not be able to put a finger on what you're digesting, the way you can by saying, 'Oh, my eyes are seeing this. My ears are hearing this.'

"Our hearts also connect to material, and we might not fully comprehend that sense, but it's there, and in the absence of a true connection there, it's just not going to feel right. It's not going to feel good."

