

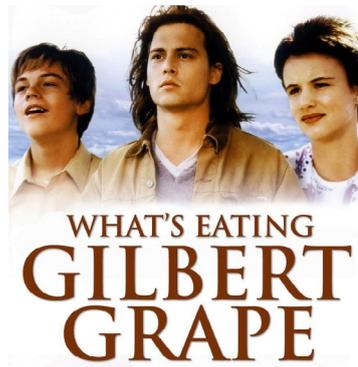
BP Supports - Film Club Disability on our Screens

BP Support would like to see more Actors with disabilities cast in more mainstream movies. As this is a far-reaching issue, rather than tackling the politics surrounding it, our Film Club is championing Actors and Movies by watching films that touch on this cause.

It's not until we started having a good look that we found all sorts out there surrounding this topic, this article has just touched the very surface.

"It was good to see an actor with a disability in this movie, which is something you don't see very often."

Peanut Butter Falcon
- Charley M, BPSupports



Here's What We Watched...

Jo watched [What's Eating Gilbert Grape \(1993\)](#) and says.. "I first watched this after its initial release, and was very moved by the portrayal of Arnie. I later learnt Leonardo DiCaprio wasn't an actor with Autism as I read his performance had been highly praised by parents and carers of Autistic children. Oscar nominated for the role of Arnie at only 19, Leonardo DiCaprio said, "I had to really research and get into the mind of somebody with a disability like that. So, I spent a few days at a home of mentally challenged teens. We just talked and I watched their mannerisms."

The brilliant, authentic performance of Bonnie Grape is played by Darlene Cates. Cates battled obesity for most of her life, and like her film character, had been housebound for five years. In her other roles, Cates went on to embrace being cast as a mom, "I can do moms real well. I don't have to delve very deep to find Mom in there."

Elaine and Charley watched [The Peanut Butter Falcon \(2019\)](#) Elaine says.. "Peanut Butter Falcon is such a feel good film about a friendship that is formed between Tyler and Zak, a young man who has down syndrome. Zak has been told all his life that he is different, and Tyler taught him to believe in himself and that he can achieve his dreams."

We liked how these sites/articles explored the casting inequality situation:

Please click the logos to read more.





Performers we'd love to see more on our screens...

Millicent Simmonds
Michael J Fox
Ade Adepitan
Liz Carr
Rosie Jones
RJ Mitte
Sarah Gorder
Lee Ridley
Alex Brooker



So over to you for recommendations!

Do let us know via Twitter; @BuildersProfile



Vicky watched [The Imitation Game \(2014\)](#) and says.. "Cumberbatch is a brilliant actor and portrayed Turing as the script described and I believe if Turing's character been written accurately Cumberbatch would have portrayed him as such. I do think it would have been more appropriate for an autistic actor to portray Turing, as they would have been able to try and break down how Hollywood wrongly portrays a person with autism - socially awkward, arrogant and apathetic and shown how real people with autism see the world differently to someone who is neurotypical."

Hannah watched [Wonder \(2017\)](#) and says.. "Jacob Tremblay portrays Auggie, a 10 year old boy born with Treacher Collins syndrome. Tremblay plays the role disguised by an artificial face that was shaped from his own. the actor does a fabulous job and it's a brilliant movie which helps children understand that some people are different, and that's okay. Although there are some emotionally difficult scenes, ultimately, it's about choosing to be kind and appreciating everyone for who they are."

Rosie watched [A Quiet Place \(2018\)](#) and says "Millicent Simmonds cast as the character of Regan Abbott. While the producers did not specifically plan to cast a deaf actress to play the deaf daughter, Krasinski, who was also the director, pushed to have a deaf actress."

Other films and TV we have enjoyed:

The Accountant
Fundamentals of Caring
Les Intouchables
Rosie Jones Live at the Apollo
The Last Leg

Organisations to Celebrate...

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