

Film guide

Room

Canada, Ireland | 2015 | Cert. 15 | 118 mins
Director: Lenny Abrahamson

Five-year-old Jack has spent his entire life in "Room", with just his mother and a few cherished objects for company. Ma is devoted to keeping her son safe, and hides from him the awful truth of their imprisonment. When an opportunity arises for the two to escape, Jack must face his greatest fears. This sensitive adaptation deals with a horrifying scenario with warmth, hope and love.



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You will like this film if you liked

Boyhood (2014, 15)



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Watch next

Short Term 12 (2013, 15)



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Talk about it (before the film)

What sort of film do you expect this to be? From what you know about the story, where do you expect it to go?

Talk about it (after the film)

- Ma refers to Jack as being "plastic" – what does she mean by this? Do you think the effects of Jack's first five years are irreparable?
- Do you think Ma was right to hold back information about the world from Jack? Was it protective or damaging? Could her actions be interpreted as selfish on any level?
- Much praise has gone to both lead performers for their work in this film. Do you concur? What qualities do you think helped create this environment, both on and off-screen?
- How do the filmmakers use the camera to convey a sense of tight space and claustrophobia? What techniques are used throughout to ensure the film is cinematic?
- *Room* is an adaptation of an acclaimed novel, written for the screen by the book's author. Research other titles where this has been the case. What are the pros and cons of a writer adapting their own book?

Write about it

Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs' website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it's similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

Extension Activities

Choose your favourite novel that has yet to be adapted for the big screen. What would you change? Can you think of any challenges in making the story visual? Who would you cast in the leading roles and why?