

THE WATCHERS

Things to Watch | Places to Watch | How to Watch

Mr Warrington's Choices

KS3 Choice (Y7-9)

Aeronauts on Amazon Prime

Eddie Redmayne and Felicity Jones fly a hot air balloon very high in order to study the weather. A simple structure for a film but gripping danger and some seriously vertigo inducing shots make a fine Sunday afternoon viewing. Look out for: climbing the balloon.

KS4 Choice (Y10-11)

The Man From UNCLE on Netflix

Not a smart film, but a very stylish and good looking film filled with stylish good looking people doing very cool things. Look out for: Henry Cavill's studied sociopath.

KS5 Choice (Y12-13)

Prisoners on Netflix

Occasionally brutish, frequently rain-soaked and fraught with the kind of panic a parent can feel when a child goes missing. *Prisoners* is Denis Villeneuve's Hollywood calling card and it is filled with extraordinary tension and cruelty. Look out for: there is a spot of torture in here, I warned you.



Having a Go?

This last few weeks I have decided that I should get better at editing. It's something that I teach people to do but something I also, very rarely, do myself. But, like anything, the more you do, the better you get. Editing software isn't especially forbidding anymore either. Most computers come pre-loaded with it. Even your phone will edit footage in a basic sense. For an industry level experience I've been using DaVinci resolve: a free editing package that even has sound, motion graphics and colour grading tools built in. That's a bit complex for me. At the moment I'm just trying to get the editing bit worked out. Here's a link if you want to have go at using it too...

<https://www.blackmagicdesign.com/uk/products/davinciresolve/>

Mr Warrington.



Mr Moreno-Melgar's Choices

KS3 Choice (Y7-9)

Kinky Boots on BBC iplayer

This is only on iPlayer for a limited time but is well worth making the time for. Somewhat unremarkable in it's filmmaking given how intent it is on presenting Britain outside of London as cold and grey, but it's full of memorable performances and a truly touching story. There's a lot of "Working Title" in this and *The Full Monty* was clearly an inspiration but this is a class above in its message, it's inclusivity and outstanding cast.

Ks4 Choice (Y10-11)

10 Cloverfield Lane on Amazon Prime

A film about people stuck indoors arguing and struggling to work their way through a deadly but invisible situation outside? How timely! This isn't about a pandemic though. Or is it? One of the great things about this film how it really captures the sense of claustrophobia through the tight, busy internal shots, but also how the careful manipulation of editing and score create the paranoid unease needed to make this kind of film work.

Ks5 Choice (Y12-13)

You Were Never Really Here on Netflix

A film about a man caring for his elderly mother in New York but who struggles with his own mental health and ultimately takes out his issues on others, played by Joaquin Phoenix? This is a much better film than *JOKER* though. Released to near-universal praise in 2017, this uncomfortable, methodical and brutal film wasn't seen by enough people at the time but deserves at least as much success as *JOKER*. A fearsome, fearless and unflinching film that's supremely tense but in a thoroughly enjoyable manner.

YouTube Channels

This week's YouTube channel we are recommending is the loquacious Lindsay Ellis. Lindsay's channel combines her years of video content creation, massive love for Disney, excellent research team, scathing humour and exceptional insight into how different philosophical theories work in modern film. They can range for how feminism works in *Transformers* to how

Her videos are so good I watched the 50 minute video about *Cats*. There can be no bigger recommendation.

Here are links to a few of her best episodes:

[The Death of the Hollywood Movie Musical](#)

[Mel Brooks, The Producers and the Ethics of Satire About Nazis](#)

[The Whole Plate](#) This is a series of videos that explore Film Studies through the lens of Michael Bay's awful *Transformers* films. And it's amazing.

