

# THE WATCHERS

Things to Watch | Places to Watch | How to Watch

## Mr Warrington's Choices

### Choice 1

*Leave no Trace* on Netflix

*Winter's Bone* director Debra Granik makes another amazing rural drama. PTSD suffering veteran Ben Foster lives in the woods with his daughter. When they're discovered they start a journey to survive on the run from the authorities. Quiet and sparse, it's a beautiful film. Look out for: two amazing central performances.

### Choice 2

*The Fountain* on Amazon Prime

I love this film. It might seem confusing at first but the strange fractured triple timeline tells the story of love and loss in a stunning visual style. The score is incredible too. It might break your heart, it might bore you to tears. But I loved it. Look out for: non CGI effects using micro-photography.

### KS5 Choice (Y12-13)

*Internal Affairs* on BBC iPlayer

Richard Gere plays the bad guy crooked cop for basically the only time in his career and he's incredible. What a horrible guy! No spoilers, enjoy!



## Films For Everyone

I've had a go at picking films that I think everyone will like. I watch a lot of films with my son who is ten. Aside from a mistake where I let him watch *The Thing* (don't do that) it means I've been trying to exercise some reasonable judgment. There's quite a lot of good stuff available in the 12+ range on streaming services so i've tried to pick three films that most of the people in a house can enjoy.

It's a lot harder than it sounds.

And I failed, because *Internal Affairs* only has 11 days left on BBC iPlayer.

Mr Warrington.



## Mr Moreno-Melgar's Choices

### KS3 Choice (Y7-9)

*Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging* on Netflix

Most 'coming of age' or teen films are set in America in giant houses and with lifestyles that, even if slightly dysfunctional, are aspirational. This isn't that film. But is all the more funny for it. Set in Britain and with many aspects of teen life that viewers will recognise, it's the snappy dialogue and the likeable characters that make this worth a watch.

### KS4-5 Choices (Y10-13)

*Easy A* and *Edge of Seventeen* on Netflix

In a previous issue we've recommended *Booksmart*. It's brilliant. Maybe go and watch again. But both of these films are also excellent, female-led coming of age films that deserved to be watched and loved. Both feature excellent lead performances and a cynical humour that belies the age of the protagonists but not to the detriment of the film. *Easy A* is the lighter of the two films, revelling in caustic, snappy dialogue to show how a lie can quickly spiral out of control. *Edge of Seventeen* is generally less aspirational and the lead character isn't as likeable as you tend to find in these sort of films. However, it's these moments of contrast that make the film worthwhile and an enjoyable contradistinction to other films in the genre.

## YouTube Channels

This week's YouTube channel we are recommending is *Movies with Mikey*, recently renamed *FilmJoy*. Mike Neumann is a fantastic analyst of popular films, picking out incredible and subtle parts of the film making process and repackaging them to make you feel smarter. He was the first YouTube channel to really open my eyes to the possibilities of video essays. Sometimes the language is a bit... much, so parental advisory there.

The first video I saw of Mikey's was his excellent dissection of [Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves](#)

Of all of Mikey's dissections of Edgar Wright's trilogy, his [Hot Fuzz video](#) is possibly the best.

His look back at [Jarhead](#) was a great suggestion to re-evaluate a forgotten film.

