

## **BOY**

Spring Season 2018

**Release:** 2010 **Cert (UK):** 15

Country: New Zealand

Language: English and Maori Runtime: 1 hour 27 mins Director: Taika Waititi Writer: Taika Waititi

**Cinematographer:** Adam Clark

Cast: James Rolleston, Taika Waititi, Moerangi Tihore



'A film that is about children rather than strictly for them; the crucial ingredient for success is to make adults see things from a kid's perspective. Thanks to the freedom of imagination and painfulness of the truth, his life as told by him is awash with adventure.

Waititi picks a quote from ET to open the movie:

"You could be happy here. We could grow up together." It is a perfect choice, since the ideas of responsibility, friendship and growing up form the strongly beating heart of his film - throbbing with poignancy and emotion, yet simultaneously desperately fragile.

Almost everything about this film is a joy from beginning to end, the fantasy sequences flow seamlessly from Boy's narrative and never feel forced or tacked on, while there is a perfect sense of the New Zealand setting, with Waititi not shying away from local slang when it suits the mood. The acting, too, is wonderful. James Rolleston, as Boy, and Te Aho Aho Eketone-Whitu's Rocky have fantastic chemistry together as the kids at the story's hub, while Waititi manages to keep surprising amounts of sympathy with Boy's dad, even as his actions become increasingly reprehensible.

This is an upbeat, often hilarious, but never mawkish, celebration of love, that burns as fiercely and captivatingly as one of Boy's treasured sparklers. Stick around through the credits or you'll miss a treat' – Amber Wilkinson, Eye for Film.

This was Taika Waititi's second full length film, but it was 'Hunt for the Wilderpeople' that brought him real success, since when has moved on to the USA with 'Thor: Ragnarok'. Enjoy this one as the root of his ideas.

