

The station agent

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Rather, it explores the possibility and feasibility of strange equations between newly acquainted humans. For example, when Fin moves to the old building left behind by Henry (upon the latter's death), he suddenly finds himself forming an intricate network of social interactions. In this newfound social atmosphere, there are opportunities for creative exploration as well as for personal bonding. The former is attested by the joy Fin derives through observing and studying trains and the latter is borne by the close personal bonds he develops with Joe and Olivia. The most distinct character of this independent film is the lack of sexual interest in any of these relationships. This is a far cry from conventional Hollywood fare whose plots are woven around the sexual/romantic interest of the lead characters.

The Station Agent is simultaneously inspiring and thought-provoking. For example, the film shows the transformation of a physical disadvantage person's attitude toward life and other humans. This way it poses key questions to the viewer as to how they view their own predicaments in life. Fin's near-death experience on the rail tracks is an imploration to the audience to seize everyday moments and make the maximum out of them. This subtle and implicit dialogue that the director Thomas McCarthy strikes with the viewer makes The Station Agent a truly one-of-its-kind independent film.