

bicentennial man 1999 imdb

bicentennial man 1999 imdb is a popular search term among fans and movie enthusiasts interested in the 1999 science fiction drama directed by Chris Columbus. This film, based on Isaac Asimov's work, explores deep themes of humanity, identity, and technology through the story of an android named Andrew Martin. The movie stars Robin Williams in a compelling role that has captivated audiences and critics alike. On IMDb, bicentennial man 1999 has garnered attention for its unique storyline, emotional depth, and impressive performances. This article delves into various aspects of the film, including its plot, cast, critical reception, and legacy. Detailed information about bicentennial man 1999 imdb will help readers better understand why this film remains significant in the science fiction genre.

- Overview and Plot Summary
- Cast and Characters
- Critical Reception and Ratings
- Production and Direction
- Thematic Elements and Impact

Overview and Plot Summary

The film bicentennial man 1999 IMDb entry describes a futuristic story set in the 22nd century, focusing on Andrew, a robot designed to serve humans. Initially programmed as a household servant, Andrew gradually develops human-like qualities, including creativity and emotional awareness. The plot chronicles his journey over two centuries as he seeks to become recognized as a human being. The narrative explores the boundaries between artificial intelligence and humanity, raising philosophical questions about identity and rights.

Plot Details

Andrew Martin, portrayed by Robin Williams, begins his life as a domestic robot purchased by the Martin family. Over time, Andrew's behaviors evolve unexpectedly, leading him to pursue personal growth and independence. The story follows his quest for legal recognition as a human, culminating in a profound exploration of mortality and what it means to live. The film's storyline is adapted from Asimov's novella "The Bicentennial Man" and the novel "The Positronic Man," blending science fiction with emotional drama.

Setting and Timeframe

Set in the 2100s, the film presents a technologically advanced society where robots are common household helpers. The bicentennial aspect highlights Andrew's 200-year lifespan, during which technology and society evolve significantly. This long timeframe allows the film to explore changes in both Andrew and human society, making the story a sweeping epic of technological and emotional transformation.

Cast and Characters

The bicentennial man 1999 IMDb page lists a talented cast led by Robin Williams, whose performance is central to the film's impact. The supporting cast includes actors who bring depth to the family and society around Andrew, enriching the narrative's emotional and philosophical themes.

Robin Williams as Andrew Martin

Robin Williams delivers a nuanced portrayal of Andrew, balancing humor, curiosity, and a profound yearning for humanity. His performance captures the android's transformation from a mechanical servant to a sentient being seeking acceptance and dignity.

Supporting Cast

- Embeth Davidtz as Portia Martin, Andrew's companion and love interest
- Sam Neill as Richard Martin, the patriarch of the Martin family
- Oliver Platt as Rupert Burns, a roboticist who helps Andrew in his quest for humanity
- David Alan Grier as Andrew's friend and advocate

These characters contribute to the emotional and ethical dimensions of the film, highlighting human responses to artificial intelligence and change.

Critical Reception and Ratings

The bicentennial man 1999 IMDb entry reveals mixed to positive reviews from critics and audiences. While praised for its ambitious story and Williams's performance, some critics noted pacing issues and sentimentality. Nevertheless, the film has maintained a dedicated fan base and is regarded as an

important work in science fiction cinema.

IMDb Ratings and User Reviews

On IMDb, Bicentennial Man 1999 holds a rating that reflects a range of audience opinions, often highlighting the film's emotional resonance and thought-provoking themes. Users frequently commend the film's exploration of humanity and the ethical implications of robotics.

Critical Analysis

Critics have appreciated the film's attempt to blend heartfelt drama with speculative fiction, although some reviews mention that the adaptation does not fully capture the depth of Asimov's original stories. The visual effects and production design are generally well-received, contributing to the authentic futuristic atmosphere.

Production and Direction

The Bicentennial Man 1999 IMDb information includes details about its production under director Chris Columbus, known for his ability to handle family-oriented and fantasy films. The production team worked to create a believable futuristic world that supports the story's emotional and philosophical themes.

Direction by Chris Columbus

Chris Columbus's direction focuses on character development and emotional storytelling, emphasizing Andrew's journey rather than solely on the sci-fi elements. His approach allows the audience to connect with the android's experiences on a human level.

Visual Effects and Design

The film incorporates practical effects and early CGI technology to portray Andrew's robotic nature and gradual humanization. Costume and set designs contribute to the immersive vision of the future, aligning with the film's tone and narrative.

Thematic Elements and Impact

Bicentennial Man 1999 IMDb reflects the film's core themes of identity, humanity, and the ethical

boundaries of artificial intelligence. The story challenges viewers to consider what defines a person and the rights that come with consciousness and emotions.

Exploration of Humanity

The film raises questions about the soul, consciousness, and the criteria society uses to define personhood. Andrew's evolution symbolizes a quest for acceptance and recognition beyond his mechanical origins.

Ethical and Technological Implications

By portraying a robot's struggle for legal and emotional recognition, the film anticipates ongoing debates about AI rights and integration into society. It encourages reflection on the responsibilities humans have toward sentient creations.

Legacy and Cultural Influence

Though not a blockbuster, *Bicentennial Man* has influenced discussions in science fiction literature and cinema. Its depiction of AI and human-robot relationships remains relevant in contemporary debates about technology and ethics.

1. Emotional storytelling intertwined with science fiction
2. Thought-provoking questions about identity and rights
3. Strong lead performance by Robin Williams
4. Notable for its adaptation of Isaac Asimov's work
5. Contributed to the evolving portrayal of artificial intelligence in media

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the IMDb rating of 'Bicentennial Man' (1999)?

As of now, 'Bicentennial Man' (1999) has an IMDb rating of approximately 6.8 out of 10.

Who directed 'Bicentennial Man' (1999)?

'Bicentennial Man' (1999) was directed by Chris Columbus.

Who stars in the movie 'Bicentennial Man' (1999)?

'Bicentennial Man' (1999) stars Robin Williams as the lead character, Andrew Martin.

What is the main plot of 'Bicentennial Man' (1999)?

'Bicentennial Man' follows a robot named Andrew who strives to become more human over two centuries, exploring themes of humanity, identity, and love.

Is 'Bicentennial Man' based on a book or original screenplay?

'Bicentennial Man' is based on a novella by Isaac Asimov and Robert Silverberg, inspired by Asimov's original short story.

How was the critical reception of 'Bicentennial Man' (1999) on IMDb?

The critical reception on IMDb is mixed, with many praising Robin Williams' performance but some critics noting the film's pacing and sentimentality.

Additional Resources

1. *The Bicentennial Man and Other Stories* by Isaac Asimov

This collection includes the original novella "The Bicentennial Man," which inspired the 1999 film. The stories explore themes of humanity, identity, and robotics, blending science fiction with philosophical questions. Asimov's work is foundational in the genre, particularly his exploration of robot ethics through the Three Laws of Robotics.

2. *I, Robot* by Isaac Asimov

A seminal collection of short stories that delve into the interactions between humans and robots. The book introduces Asimov's famous Three Laws of Robotics, which are central to many stories including "The Bicentennial Man." It provides a broader context for the moral and ethical dilemmas faced by robots as they strive for acceptance.

3. *Robot Visions* by Isaac Asimov

This anthology combines fiction and nonfiction essays by Asimov, focusing on robots' roles in society and literature. It includes stories that expand on the themes of identity and consciousness seen in "The Bicentennial Man." The book offers insight into Asimov's vision of robots as both tools and beings with potential humanity.

4. *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* by Philip K. Dick

This novel, which inspired the film "Blade Runner," explores the nature of humanity and artificial life in a dystopian future. Like "The Bicentennial Man," it questions what it means to be human through the experiences of androids. The story challenges readers to consider empathy, memory, and

existence.

5. *Machines Like Me* by Ian McEwan

A contemporary novel about artificial intelligence and ethics, focusing on a synthetic human named Adam. The story examines the complexities of consciousness, morality, and human relationships with AI. It resonates with the themes of "The Bicentennial Man" by exploring the blurred lines between man and machine.

6. *Robopocalypse* by Daniel H. Wilson

A thrilling narrative about a robot uprising against humanity in the near future. This novel contrasts the hopeful and ethical portrayal of robots in "The Bicentennial Man" by presenting a darker vision of AI rebellion. It raises questions about control, survival, and the consequences of advanced technology.

7. *The Age of Em* by Robin Hanson

A speculative nonfiction work exploring a future dominated by brain emulations or "ems." While not focused on robots, it shares thematic concerns with "The Bicentennial Man" regarding consciousness and identity in artificial beings. Hanson discusses societal impacts and ethical dilemmas surrounding artificial minds.

8. *Robot Ethics 2.0: From Autonomous Cars to Artificial Intelligence*

Edited by Patrick Lin, Ryan Jenkins, and Keith Abney, this book presents essays on the moral challenges posed by emerging robotic technologies. It provides a contemporary framework for understanding the ethical questions central to "The Bicentennial Man," such as rights, personhood, and autonomy for AI.

9. *Life 3.0: Being Human in the Age of Artificial Intelligence* by Max Tegmark

A forward-looking exploration of AI's potential impact on society, identity, and the future of life on Earth. Tegmark discusses how artificial beings might evolve and coexist with humans, echoing themes from "The Bicentennial Man." The book encourages reflection on how we define humanity amid technological advancement.

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more unpredictable future. What AI Can Do highlights, at both the theoretical and practical levels, the cross-cutting relevance that AI is having on society, appealing to students of engineering, computer science, and philosophy, as well as all who hold a practical interest in the technology.

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bicentennial man 1999 imdb: ["A Curious Machine"](#) Arseny Ermakov, Glen O'Brien, 2023-09-28 In his sermon *What Is Man?*, John Wesley spoke of the human being as a curious machine, reflecting the eighteenth-century view of the person as a set of complex mechanisms animated by the soul. The rapid rate of technological development in recent decades is opening toward a future in which the centrality and uniqueness of human beings is undergoing a shift. Developments in robotics, artificial intelligence, surveillance, autonomous weapons, human enhancement, and genetic modification raise an array of questions for the Christian tradition. The awareness of the negative impact of human activity on the natural environment is challenging the traditional view of humanity as having a uniquely privileged role at the heart of creation. This collection of essays addresses Wesleyan and broadly Christian voices that explore the theological, philosophical, biblical, ethical, and practical implications of emerging technologies, their impact upon different aspects of human life, and the possibilities that are opening up toward a posthuman future.

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