

We Can Be Friends: The True Story Behind the Groundbreaking Film



We Can't Be Friends: A True Story by Al Desetta M.A.

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1667 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 306 pages



In 1996, a groundbreaking film was released that challenged societal norms and sparked conversations about disability and friendship. *We Can Be Friends*, directed by Thomas McCarthy, told the true story of a group of young adults with disabilities who form an unlikely friendship with a group of non-disabled young adults. The film was a critical and commercial success, and it helped to raise awareness about the importance of inclusion and acceptance.

The film was based on the real-life experiences of McCarthy and his friends. McCarthy, who has cerebral palsy, was inspired to make the film after he realized that there were no films that accurately portrayed the lives of people with disabilities. He wanted to create a film that would show the world that people with disabilities are just like everyone else, and that they deserve to be treated with respect and dignity.

The film follows the story of four young adults with disabilities: Annie (played by Monica Potter), a blind woman; Arthur (played by Bobby Cannavale), a deaf man; Greg (played by Jay Thomas), a man with cerebral palsy; and Sam (played by John C. McGinley), a man with Down syndrome. The four friends meet at a support group and quickly bond over their shared experiences. They decide to form a club called "We Can Be Friends" and begin to spend time together outside of the support group. Their friendship is not without its challenges, but they learn to overcome them together.

We Can Be Friends was a groundbreaking film in many ways. It was one of the first films to feature a cast of actors with disabilities, and it was also one of the first films to portray the lives of people with disabilities in a realistic and nuanced way. The film was praised for its humor, heart, and honesty, and it helped to change the way that people with disabilities are perceived.

The film also had a significant impact on the lives of the actors who starred in it. Potter, Cannavale, Thomas, and McGinley all went on to have successful careers in film and television, and they have all spoken about how the film changed their lives. Potter has said that the film "opened her eyes" to the challenges that people with disabilities face, and it inspired her to become an advocate for disability rights. Cannavale has said that the film "taught him the importance of friendship," and it helped him to overcome his own prejudices about people with disabilities. Thomas has said that the film "gave him a voice," and it helped him to find his place in the world.

We Can Be Friends is a powerful and inspiring film that continues to resonate with audiences today. It is a film that challenges societal norms

and promotes inclusion and acceptance. It is a film that is sure to stay with you long after you watch it.

The Impact of We Can Be Friends

We Can Be Friends had a significant impact on the way that people with disabilities are perceived. The film helped to break down stereotypes and prejudices, and it showed the world that people with disabilities are just like everyone else. The film also inspired a number of other films and television shows that feature characters with disabilities, and it helped to create a more inclusive and accepting society.

Here are some of the ways that We Can Be Friends has impacted the world:

- **It helped to break down stereotypes and prejudices about people with disabilities.** Before We Can Be Friends was released, there were very few films that accurately portrayed the lives of people with disabilities. As a result, many people had misconceptions about what it was like to live with a disability. We Can Be Friends helped to change that by showing the world that people with disabilities are just like everyone else. They have the same hopes, dreams, and fears as everyone else, and they deserve to be treated with respect and dignity.
- **It inspired a number of other films and television shows that feature characters with disabilities.** We Can Be Friends was a groundbreaking film, and it helped to pave the way for other films and television shows that feature characters with disabilities. These films and television shows have helped to increase the visibility of people with disabilities and to challenge stereotypes and prejudices.

- **It helped to create a more inclusive and accepting society.** We Can Be Friends has helped to create a more inclusive and accepting society by showing the world that people with disabilities are valuable members of our communities. The film has inspired people to be more open and accepting of people with disabilities, and it has helped to create a more just and equitable world for all.

The Legacy of We Can Be Friends

We Can Be Friends is a film that has had a lasting impact on the world. It is a film that has challenged societal norms, promoted inclusion and acceptance, and inspired countless people. The film's legacy will continue to live on for generations to come.

Here are some of the ways that We Can Be Friends will continue to have a lasting impact:

- **It will continue to challenge societal norms and stereotypes about people with disabilities.** We Can Be Friends is a film that has helped to change the way that people think about disabilities. It has shown the world that people with disabilities are just like everyone else, and they deserve to be treated with respect and dignity. The film's legacy will continue to challenge societal norms and stereotypes about people with disabilities, and it will help to create a more inclusive and accepting society.
- **It will continue to inspire people with disabilities.** We Can Be Friends is a film that has inspired countless people with disabilities. It has shown them that they are not alone, and that they can achieve anything they set their minds to. The film's legacy will continue to

inspire people with disabilities, and it will help them to live their lives to the fullest.

- **It will continue to make a difference in the world.** We Can Be Friends is a film that has made a difference in the world. It has helped to create a more inclusive and accepting society, and it has inspired countless people. The film's legacy will continue to make a difference in the world, and it will help to create a better future for all.

We Can Be Friends is a powerful and inspiring film that continues to resonate with audiences today. It is a film that challenges societal norms, promotes inclusion and acceptance, and inspires countless people. The film's legacy will continue to live on for generations to come, and it will continue to make a difference in the world.



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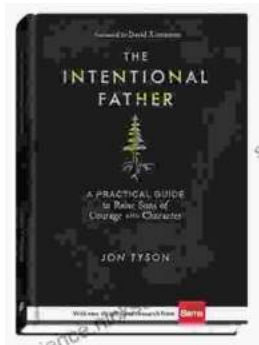
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