

Oscar Nominations for Love

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The Oscar ceremony of 2018 showed the real interest of viewers in complex and incomprehensible plots, unexpected directorial decisions, and spectacular visual effects. Despite the importance of many societal themes, the Oscars' favorites turned out to be films that showed a problem through fiction that turns out to be close to real life—not devoid of romance, differences, and life dramas. The nominees for the Oscar in 2018 deserved each of the nominations, but the choice of jury members showed that often the idea and its embodiment could have different advantages for the world of cinema.

Nine films that got the nomination of "Best Picture" competed among themselves for the implementation of ideas of the modern world, moral values, and historical treasures. One of the most anticipated films of 2018 was "Call Me by Your Name" by Luca Guadagnino. Film critics and spectators expected the embodiment of the idea of love in the union of two men who were afraid of their feelings and simultaneously could not resist them. Relations occur between the 17-year-old Elio (Timothée Chalamet), who lives in Italy, and the 24-year-old scientist Oliver (Armie Hammer), who is visiting his parents' villa. This is a movie about growing up in the form of a typical story, except for the fact of the courage of the main characters and their secret desires. Exquisite images that were created by Hammer and Chalamet can be easily recalled in memory after viewing. Thus, this nominee was one of the strongest films.

The second nominee is the film "Get Out" by Jordan Haworth Peele. Jordan Peele not only wanted to create a standard horror film, but also talk about extremely serious topics. This approach to racial issues looks original, given the number of dramas on this topic. The notion of racism and its manifestation in American society, where everyone is accustomed to multiculturalism, is a basic idea. Moreover, the implementation of the principle of discrimination

inspired viewers to see the problem as horror in the lives of black people. The film won the award for Best Original Screenplay.

The third Oscar contender is the movie "Darkest Hour" by Joe Wright. This film received a large number of reviews about the historical themes and the image of Winston Churchill. Deeper research of the problems of government became the reason for the nomination. Despite this, the film did not receive an Oscar for "Best Picture" but was awarded a prize for Makeup and Hair.

The fourth nominee is "Dunkirk" by Christopher Nolan. In the late spring of 1940, British and French soldiers numbering 400,000 were trapped on the coastal strip near the town of Dunkirk in the north of France by the superior force of Germans. The story tells about the "miracle" that the director skillfully intertwined with the personal tragedies of the heroes. The film was marked by 20 different awards and nominations. Despite this, it did not receive the nomination for "Best Picture."

The fifth nominee is "Lady Bird" by Greta Gerwig. The film tells about the life of a girl called "Lady Bird." Her rebellious nature and vivid imagination singled her out among her peers. This is a touching story about first love, real friendship, and an attempt to escape from a provincial town to find the place in life. The idea of the film and its embodiment became the main attributes of the female view of cinema. Moreover, the director became one of the few women in the Oscar short-list.

The sixth candidate is "Phantom Thread" by Paul Thomas Anderson. It is an incredibly beautiful film about the British tailor Reynolds Woodcock, who dressed the Queen of England and important personalities of Great Britain in 1950. His character and attitude towards work shows the importance of his role for the court masters. The costumes and cast have made this

film a sensation. Despite this, the idea seemed to not be original enough for an Oscar.

The seventh nominee, "The Post" by Steven Spielberg, became a possible winner because of the cast, idea, and talent of Spielberg. This American biographical drama tells of the scandal in 1971 after the decision of the editor of The Washington Post, Ben Bradlee (Tom Hanks), and the publisher Katharine Graham (Meryl Streep) to reveal Pentagon documents and show that the Johnson administration lied to Congress and society as a whole about US participation in the war in Vietnam. The idea of the Vietnam War and crushing victims in its result affected viewers and film critics. However, the film did not receive an Oscar for this nomination.

The eighth contender is "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" by Martin McDonagh. It has developed into a sensation in its simplicity and laconic approach. The brilliant play of the main actress, which became the reason for the Oscar in the nomination of "Best Actress," and the dramatic idea that the film portrays is perceived as genius by audiences and critics. The film tells about a woman (Frances McDormand) who tries to force the police to find the killer of her daughter, ordering billboards with the inscriptions: "Dying, was raped," "Still no arrests?" and "How did it happen, Chief Willoughby?"

The winner of the Oscar for Best Picture was the movie "The Shape of Water" by Guillermo del Toro. The director in the film showed a universal, volumetric, and fundamental fairy tale about right and wrong, good and evil, about monsters in a human guise and true love (Barnes, 2018). Melodrama, spy thriller, and a fairy tale, the winner designated love outside of all laws. This film created a new atmosphere for the film world, where love is beyond prejudice.

The winner earned positive feedback during the presentation and had all the chances to win in many other nominations. Moreover, the idea of the film meets modern issues more than other contenders have shown in their films. For example, "Call Me by Your Name" also reveals

the theme of love, despite bias and public condemnation. However, the idea of this film is too leaning towards the modern LGBT community. "The Shape of the Water" is a more significant system of images and symbols that denote the same essence without being tied to apparent manifestations of adherence to sexual orientation (Barnes, 2018). The winner's idea is more meaningful and broader in context. Thus, the choice of the jury and spectators at this year's Oscars ceremony is entirely justified in terms of the value of cinema art.

This year's Oscars ceremony showed a clear preference in cinema style based on love. The winner of Best Picture and nominees had similar ideas and sometimes intertwined motifs. However, the quintessence of the image of love as a feeling for someone was the history of a deaf woman and an Ichthyander. Unusual forms, romantic plots, and continuous struggles became the main features of winning cinema in 2018.

Reference

Barnes, B., & Buckley, C. (2018, March 4). 'The Shape of Water' Wins Best Picture as Oscars Project Diversity. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/04/movies/oscars-academy-awards.html>

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