

The Butler

«To show the new generation the segregation between black and white people! To be sure that this never happens again in the future.»

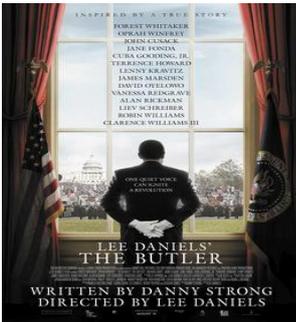
It's a film directed by Lee Daniels, and the scenario was written by Wil Haygood and Danny Strong. In this movie, we can see Oprah Winfrey, Forest Whitaker, Mariah Carey, Lenny Kravitz, Robin Williams. And few other characters like Alex Pettyfer, Isaac White...

Inspired by a true story, The Butler tells the story of a black man born in a cotton field. (Cecil Gaines played by Forest Whitaker) and who worked in the White House. He served during 20 years the presidents of the United-States during the segregation. His son (Louis Gaines played by David Oyelowo) didn't agree with his father and his work, because he was an activist of the Black Panthers. He fights for the rights of black people. In 1865 the 13th Amendment to the US constitution was voted by the congress. His son was a friend of Martin Luther King before his assassination. In this movie, we can see many important moments of both segregation and desegregation like, the attack of the bus by the Ku Klux Klan, or the demonstration for Mandela's release.

I really like this movie, because it focuses on segregation, and I think that is a really fascinating period. I'm well aware that it's a really sad period but it is very interesting to show the new generation the segregation between black and white people! To be sure that this never happen again in the future. We should keep in mind these dark periods for black people, and for all the United-States, because everybody present in America during this period, is responsible for the atrocities committed against the Blacks. I particularly like when Cecil, changed his opinion on the life of his son Louis. And when she went to his meeting for Mandela's liberation. It's a really moving moment! I have the feeling that this movie can change the way of thinking of many people, who think that the black people were only objects, animals, without a soul! It's really moving too when the mother (Gloria Gaines) died at the end of the movie because of her old age. To finish, I recommend this movie to people able to see it, because it makes us reflect upon the world and makes us think.

Théo Baroux

The Butler



What happened in America in the twentieth century.

This movie was produced by Lee Daniel and he had been written by Danny Strong. He released in 2013. The main actors are: Forest Whitaker (Cecil Gaines), Oprah Winfrey (Gloria Gaines), David Oyelowo (Louis Gaines, the elder), Isaac White (Charlie Gaines, the youngest son), Yaya DaCosta (Carol Hammie, Louis' girlfriend).

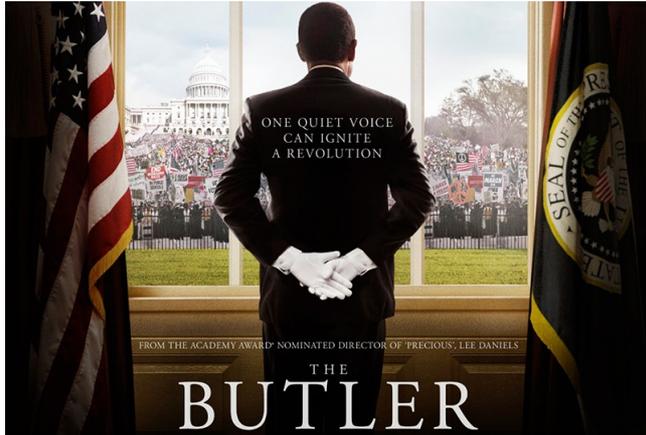
At the beginning, we see Cecil Gaines, when he was a child in a cotton field with his dad and his mother. He grew up on this field. Later, he decided to leave the field after that Annabeth Westfall (field's director) taught him to be a "house nigga". After, Cecil will wander on the streets, he's a poor men. One day, when he was hungry, he broke a bakery's glass to steal a cake, this moment is a turning point in Cecil's life because he met a men who taught him to be a butler. After that, he had an opportunity to work in the White House, He accepted and he worked here all his life. He knew too many Presidents.

If I can give my opinion, I said that it's a very good film. Why? I'll tell you why. This movie talk about the segregation in the Twentieth century. I found this movie very realist and he perfectly resumes the black people fight. Indeed, the discriminations are showed about black people and this film help us to realize the racism horrors and he denounce them.

The plot takes place in America, and we learn some many things about the country's story. This film is a film to show on the schools to the children realize what happened in America, and the humanity needn't to live through again this events. I think, now, the humanity had evolve. I hope never live this events and I hope never come back in the past.

This film included suspense because we don't know how will finish the story. I recommend this film because I think that it's a spirit opening.

Adrien Vavasseur



THE BUTLER

The Butler is an American historical film directed and produced by Lee Daniels, in 2013; it is written by Danny Strong. This film is inspired by a true story, the life of Eugene Allen. The principal character is Cecil Gaines played by Forest Whitaker, his wife Gloria Gaines played by Oprah Winfrey, their sons Louis played by David Oyelowo and Charlie played by Elijah Keller. In this film, we can see some celebrities like Lenny Kravitz, Mariah Carey, Jane Fonda...

It tells about the segregation in the USA and more particularly about the life of a black man named Cecil Gaines. He was born in a plantation, he escaped it and he learned some values by becoming a man. That allowed him to become «The Butler» of the White House. Thanks to his post, his wife Gloria and their sons Louis and Charlie have a home and a comfortable life. His son Louis creates a tense climate in the home. Cecil spends his major part of his life at the White House, and he is distant sometimes with his family. Moreover, Louis becomes a nonconformist and a friend of Martin Luther King. He joins the Black Panthers movement and he participates actively at movement and demonstrations to provoke the abolishment of the racial segregation. During seven presidencies, Cecil was the witness of differently dealings who took place in the White House, from the murder of John Fitzgerald Kennedy and of Martin Luther King. And from the Vietnam war to the election of Barack Obama.

Across his film, Lee Daniels denounces the racism and some bad decisions taken by the American government. But he shows too, the courage and the determination of black people to change everything, to drive a change in the laws, like the Blacks are considered like the Whites, like humans and not like animals or objects. This film relates with passion the life of a man and the feelings of a community and the History of the presidency of the United States during the twentieth century. I think it's a film you have to see because, today again, despite the end of slavery and segregation, there are many problems of racism and that is unfortunate.

Lorenzo Alentejeiro