

Big Fish



Main Facts

Year Made: 2003

Production Company: [Columbia Pictures Corporation](#), [Jinks/Cohen Company](#), [Zanuck Company](#)

Directed by: Tim Burton

Written by: Daniel Wallace, John August

Genre: Adventure, Drama, Fantasy

Main Actors

1. Ewan McGregor
2. Albert Finney
3. Billy Crudup

Major Plot Summary

United Press International journalist Will Bloom and his French freelance photojournalist wife Josephine Bloom, who is pregnant with their first child, leave their Paris base to return to Will's hometown of Ashton, Alabama on the news that his father, Edward Bloom, stricken with cancer, will soon die, he being taken off chemotherapy treatment. Although connected indirectly through Will's mother/Edward's wife, Sandra Bloom, Will has been estranged from his father for three years since his and Josephine's wedding. Will's issue with his father is the fanciful tales Edward has told of his life all his life, not only to Will but the whole world. As a child when Edward was largely absent as a traveling salesman, Will believed those stories, but now realizes that he does not know his father, who, as he continues to tell these stories, he will never get to know unless Edward comes clean with the truth before he dies. On the brink of his own family life beginning, Will does not want to be the

Financial Information

Budget: \$70,000,000

Money Made: \$66,257,002 World Wide Cumulative \$122,919,055

Special Costs:

Major Quotes

Senior Ed Bloom: They say when you meet the love of your life, time stops, and that's true. What they don't tell you is that when it starts again, it moves extra fast to catch up.

Will Bloom: A man tells his stories so many times that he becomes the stories. They live on after him, and in that way he becomes immortal.

Sandra Bloom: You don't even know me.

Young Ed Bloom: I have the rest of my life to find out.

Young Ed Bloom: You don't know me but my name is Edward Bloom and I love you.

Young Ed Bloom: There are some fish that cannot be caught. It's not that they are faster or stronger than other fish, they're just touched by something extra.

Will Bloom: That was my father's final joke, I guess. A man tells his stories so many times that he becomes the stories. They live on after him. And in that way he becomes immortal.

Historical Significance

Filming Information

Filming Location: [Wetumpka, Alabama, USA](#)

(Town of Ashton and Ed Bloom's house)

[Prattville, Alabama, USA](#)

[Huntingdon College, Montgomery, Alabama, USA](#)

(Auburn University)

Special advance made in film.

Source Material:

Composition/Music

Amazing Grace

Traditional

Lyrics by [John Newton](#)

Man of the Hour

Written by [Eddie Vedder](#)

Produced by Adam Kasper

Performed by [Pearl Jam](#)

Inane Trivia

The joke with the elephant defecating while Edward daydreams was unscripted. The filming crew found it hilarious, and quickly zoomed out to get the whole thing.

[Ewan McGregor](#) was cast as Young Ed Bloom when producers noticed the striking similarity between him and pictures of a young [Albert Finney](#), who plays Senior Ed Bloom.

When young Edward Bloom is singing in the church and his voice breaks, that single note that we hear is actually [Ewan McGregor](#) singing.

French actress [Marion Cotillard](#)'s first American feature film.

The Witch's makeup took approximately five hours to apply.

The film cast includes two Oscar winners: [Marion Cotillard](#) and [Jessica Lange](#); and three Oscar nominees: [Albert Finney](#), [Helena Bonham Carter](#) and [Danny DeVito](#).

As a big fan of [Tim Burton](#), [Marion Cotillard](#) slept with the film's script under her pillow for a month until she got the part.

Accolades/Recognition

Nominee

Oscar

Best Music, Original Score

[Danny Elfman](#)

Nominee

Golden Globe

Best Motion Picture - Comedy or Musical

Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture

[Albert Finney](#)

Best Original Score - Motion Picture

[Danny Elfman](#)

Best Original Song - Motion Picture

[Eddie Vedder](#)

Song: "Man of the Hour"