

Everything is Illuminated **2005/Certificate 15**

Synopsis of the film

Everything is Illuminated is a film about Jonathan, a young American Jewish man, who goes on a journey to find the woman who saved his grandfather during the Holocaust in a small Ukrainian town called Trachimbrod where the town and the community was wiped off the map when the Nazis liquidated Eastern European. He has two guides: a cranky grandfather accompanied by his deranged Border collie, Sammy Davis Jr. Jr., and his over-enthusiastic grandson. But what starts out as a comedy tour turns into a meaningful journey, with an unexpected series of revelations that will change all of their lives.

When it was made and where

The film was made in 2005 and adapted from the novel by Jonathan Safran Foer. It was filmed in Prague, Czech Republic and Odessa, Ukraine.

HMDT Review

Please note that the review may act as spoilers for the film.

We are recommending this film because it specifically relates to HMD 2011 and links to the theme **Untold Stories**.

It's about individual journeys, lost communities, lost towns and villages which were wiped out completely and the discovery of what remained of the individuals that lived within those communities.

I don't think there are any issues at all, you just need to be open minded, who'd have thought that you could get a hip hop loving Ukrainian break dancer and a 'seeing eye' dog and the Holocaust in one film. It makes you question whether you should laugh or cry and takes you on a rollercoaster of emotions. Just be aware that there is humour, not particularly about the Holocaust, but there are funny characters and some swearing.

You can use HMD resources to find out more about [lost communities](#). The HMD 2010 [short film](#) may also be helpful in exploring some of the issues raised by this film.