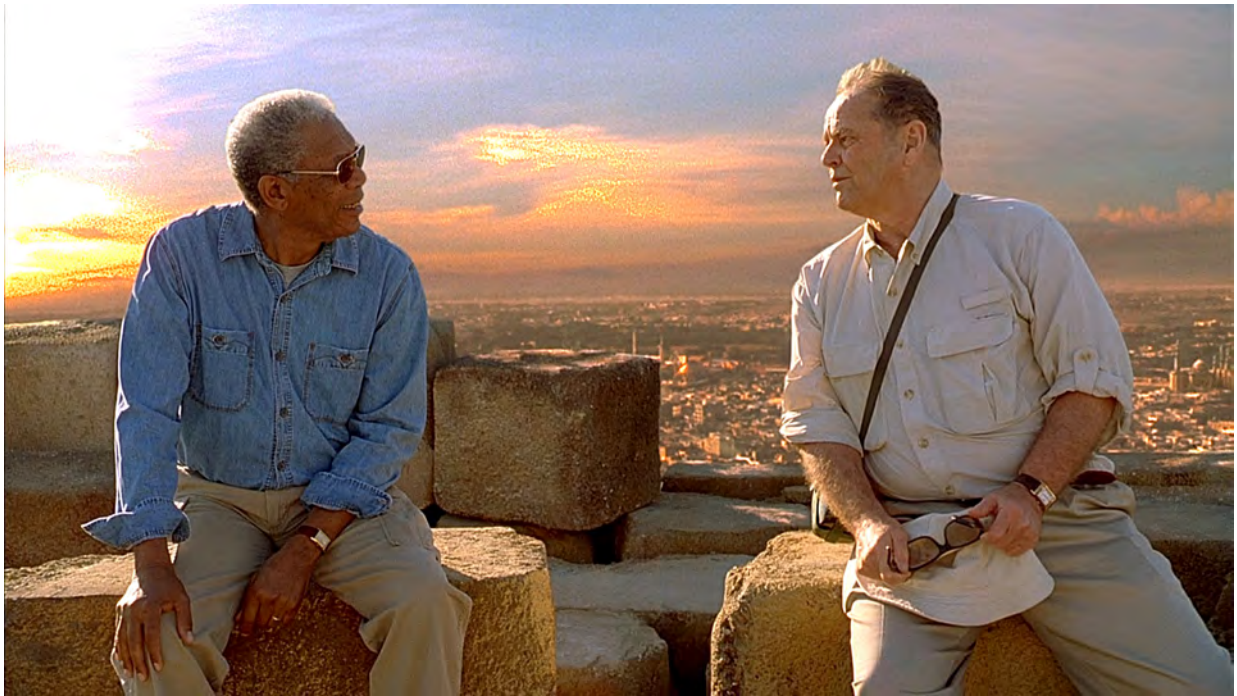


THE BUCKET LIST

Discussion Guide



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Discussion guide developed by Heartland Truly Moving Pictures to accompany *The Bucket List*, a Truly Moving Picture Award-winning film. A Truly Moving Picture Award winner is a film that unlocks the vast potential of the human spirit and enables us to view stories that display courage, integrity and hope, taking entertainment to a higher level.



www.TrulyMovingPictures.org

One Film Can.

Heartland Truly Moving Pictures, a non-profit organization, recognizes and honors films and filmmakers whose work explores the human journey by expressing hope and respect for the positive values of life. We believe that one film can move us to laughter, to tears, or to make a difference. *The Bucket List* is a movie that demonstrates that One Film Can.

***The Bucket List* Synopsis**

In *The Bucket List*, corporate billionaire Edward Cole and working class mechanic Carter Chambers are worlds apart. At a crossroads in their lives, they share a hospital room and discover they each have left to do everything they ever wanted to do before they “kick the bucket.” More than that, they both have an unrealized need to come to terms with who they are.

Together they embark on the road trip of a lifetime, becoming friends along the way and learning to live life to the fullest, with insight and humor.

Each adventure adds another check to their list.

Warner Bros. Pictures presents a Zadan Meron/Reiner Greisman Production of Rob Reiner Film: Academy Award winners Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman in the comedy drama *The Bucket List*, starring Emmy Award winner Sean Hayes and three-time Golden Globe nominee Rob Morrow.

Directed by Rob Reiner from a screenplay by Justin Zackham, the film is produced by Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, Alan Geisman and Rob Reiner. Executive producers are Travis Knox, Justin Zackham and Jeffrey Stott. The creative team includes director of photography John Schwartzman, production designer Bill Brzeski and film editor Robert Leighton. Music is by March Saiman.

Have you found joy in your life? *Carter Chambers*

Excerpted from the screenplay by Justin Zackman. Courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures.

Edward Cole and Carter Chambers are two very different men who come to meet each other under circumstances many of us hope to never find ourselves. Edward has been finding joys in life in different ways- whether it is indulging in fine meals and drinks (such as Kopi Luwak, his gourmet coffee) or making as much money as possible through his business. However, while he believes that these are the joys in his life, he later realizes that perhaps he had not yet discovered the true joy of life. Carter presses Edward to pursue things that money can't buy—things that frighten him-like family.

Discussion Questions

Are you still seeking the joy in your life? If so, do you know what you are seeking?

If you have found the joy in your life, what is it?

For what or whom do you live?

Since we don't have the power to live life over and do it all differently, what things would you change today if you could, in order to end up where you want to be in life?

Have you created a Bucket List? Have you marked anything off of your list? If so, what are those things you have accomplished? If not, what are the obstacles in your way?

If you haven't created a bucket list for your life, do so now. Think of not only the places you want to go, but the people with whom you want to reconnect or meet.

Has your life brought joy to others? *CARTER CHAMBERS*

Excerpted from the screenplay by Justin Zackman. Courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures.

When Carter and Edward are talking on top of the pyramid, Carter tells Edward, “The ancient Egyptians had a beautiful belief about death. When their souls reached the entrance to heaven, the gods would ask them two questions. Their answers determined if they were admitted or not.”

The two questions are quite simple. The first is “Have you found joy in your life?” The second is “Has your life brought joy to others?”

Discussion Questions

Has your life brought joy to others? In what ways?

What do you believe is the sum of a person’s life?

How do you measure life? Do you measure it differently now than you did at a younger age? Do you foresee the way you evaluate the measure of life changing as you grow older? Why?

What instances in your life can you point to that have caused you to change the way you measure a life lived?

Are there things that used to be important to you that are no longer? What are they?

Are there risks that you are no longer willing to take? On the contrary, are there new risks that you are now ready to approach upon looking back on your life?

Take Action

No matter how you measure the sum of a person’s life, giving back to others is always a good way to add value to your own life and to other’s. Every community has people and areas in need and offers plenty of opportunities to become involved and impact lives. Check out this website to learn more about the volunteer opportunities that exist near you- www.volunteermatch.org.

Virginia, we need to talk. *CARTER CHAMBERS*

Excerpted from the screenplay by Justin Zackman. Courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures.

Edward convinces Carter to go on a trip around the world, checking off items on Carter's Bucket List. Carter agrees to go and in doing so hurts his wife and family who want to be close to Carter near the end of his life. His absence was hard for Virginia to bear, but ultimately Carter returns from his trip with a newfound appreciation for his wife and family — something he hasn't felt in a long time.

Discussion questions

Can you identify with Carter's need to explore the world without his family even with such a short period of time left to live? Why?

Consider Virginia's emotions when Carter chooses to explore the world with a stranger and not his family. Does Carter fail his obligation to his family by taking this opportunity for himself?

How would you cope with the feeling of abandonment if you were to experience what Virginia did? Do you think her feeling of abandonment was normal or selfish? Why?

Have you ever had an experience such as Carter's that leads him back to his family with a new appreciation for the life they helped provide him? What was it?

In what ways does Edward help Carter realize the importance of his family? What does Edward provide, other than money for the trip, that Carter's family cannot?

Would you choose to live a life like Edward Cole or like Carter Chambers? Why?

Truly Moving Moments

The Bucket List has been honored as a Heartland Truly Moving Picture Award-winning film. This award was created to honor films released theatrically that align with Heartland's mission to recognize and honor films and filmmakers whose work explores the human journey by artistically expressing hope and respect for the positive values of life.

These award-winning movies are made up of moving and inspiring moments — those moments that cause you to think, see something in your life differently, or be inspired to do something. It's what makes the movie and its message remain with you well after you've left the theatre.

Think about *The Bucket List*. What were the moments that stood out to you?

Discuss your most memorable moment in *The Bucket List*. How did that moment make you feel? How will it cause you to think about things differently in the future?

Share these moments with others at www.TrulyMovingPictures.org. Simply create a membership or login if you already have one and then search the movie list for *The Bucket List*. You can leave your review of the movie or your moving moment in the "Thoughts and Reviews" section.



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