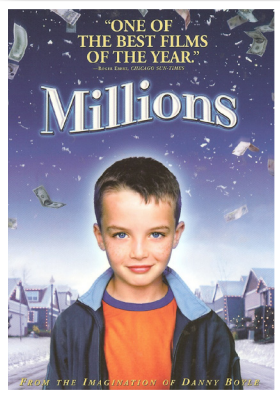




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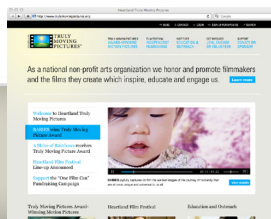


Synopsis

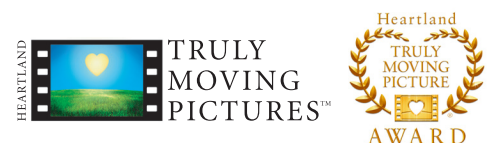
Starting anew after the death of their mother, 9-year-old Anthony is ever practical, while his 7-year-old brother Damian uses imagination, fantasy, and faith to make sense of his confusing world. When a suitcase full of money falls out of the sky at Damian's feet, it sets the boys on the adventure of a lifetime that leads them to realize that true wealth has nothing to do with money.

Discussion Questions

- Damian had an active imagination and many imaginary friends who helped him make decisions. Have you ever had an imaginary friend? What was its name? What did you do together?
- Damian and Anthony had very different opinions on how the money that was found should be spent. What did each one want to do with the money? If you had that much money, about half a million dollars, what would you choose to do with it? Would you do the same if you only had a week or so to spend it?
- Once Damian found out that the money had been stolen he wasn't sure how to deal with the money? If he had taken it back to the authorities they would have just burned it. What would you have done in that situation? Do you think you can still do something good with money that has been stolen?
- Damian tells his class at school that his heroes are saints. He then begins to list their many accomplishments. This stuns the class and the teacher; and Damian comes across as being "weird." Do you have people who you admire who might not be your run-of-the-mill hero? Why do you admire them?
- Damian finally visited with the spirit of his mother, who he's been hoping for. Do you think he'll continue to have the visions of saints after his visit with her? Why or why not?



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Activities

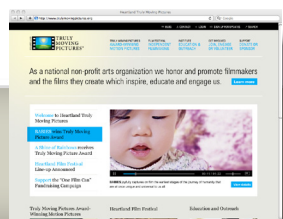
- Damian created a place of solitude by the train tracks. This structure could be anything he wanted to be. Build your own place of solitude. Or at least begin to dream one up.
- Do your own research! Watching this film has taught you a little bit about the value of the euro and the British pound; but try learning a little bit about your currency, the dollar. Visit the website of the U.S. Mint and find out about the history of our money and learn how it is made.
 - www.usmint.gov/KIDS

Get Involved

- At the end of the film each member of the family had splurged a little on something for themselves, and then they all put in money towards helping to build wells in developing nations. Create a two-sided coin bank. When you have money to put into it, put half in for yourself and keep the other half for a charity of your choice. At the end of each year donate the money from the charity half. You'll feel much better about splurging on yourself.
- Dorothy comes to school to talk about the conversion to the "euro" but also to discuss the importance of wells in Africa and how very little money can do a huge thing for an entire village in Africa. This is very true! Visit one of these websites to find out how you can donate to this cause and get the word out about this great cause.
 - thewaterproject.org/clean-water-wells-in-africa.asp
 - www.africanwellfund.org
 - www.h2oafrica.org
 - www.thirstproject.org



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