

Film guide

The Imitation Game

UK/US | 2014 | Cert. 12 | 112 mins
Director: Morten Tyldum

Alan Turing was a mathematician and codebreaker who helped the Allies to victory over Nazi Germany. He was also persecuted for his sexual identity, and prosecuted for homosexual acts (which were still criminalised), by the UK government. This drama portrays the race against time Turing and his team of code-breakers were embroiled in during World War Two, and the personal anguish of his subsequent conviction.



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You will like this film if you liked

A Beautiful Mind (2001, 12)



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Watch next

Victim (1961, PG)



Park Circus Ltd © (1961) All rights reserved.

Talk about it (before the film)

This resource is part of Into Film's LGBT catalogue. The topic for this film resource is Historical Figures.

Have you heard of Alan Turing, or Bletchley Park? What do you know about him and the role he played in World War Two?

Talk about it (after the film)

- Turing was forced to conceal his homosexuality because it was illegal. How might holding such a big secret have influenced his role in breaking the Enigma code?
- Do you find the barbaric treatment inflicted on Turing by the government shocking? How does it make you feel that this is a relatively recent event? Can you think of any countries around the world where similar practices still exist?
- Some people have criticised for the film because in their opinion, the film avoids talking about Turing's sexuality in any detail. Why might they think that? Do you agree?
- Turing was granted an historical pardon by the Queen in 2013, long after his death. Do you think this was an important thing for the country to do? Why?

Write about it

Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs' website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it's similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

Extension Activities

Watch our interview with the stars and crew of The Imitation Game at the London Film Festival <http://bit.ly/1KFUJIG>. Why does Benedict Cumberbatch think young people should watch films like this and what can they take from them?