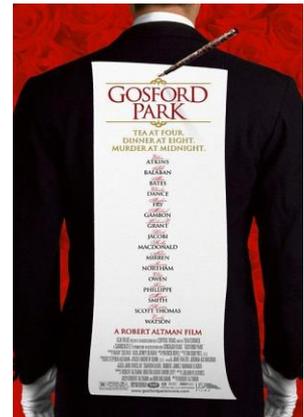


Gosford Park

Director: Robert Altman
2001 (137')



In Gosford Park, the great American film director of such films as M*A*S*H, Nashville and Short Cuts, turned to the England of the 1930s for his inspiration. Assembling a cast of many of Britain`s finest actors, Altman used his distinctive style to create this film which follows the events at an aristocrats` estate one fateful weekend in 1932. Scheming, betrayal and murder are underway as we watch not only the upper-class of the day but also their servants with their own particular codes of behavior and secrets.

"Gosford Park" is the kind of generous, sardonic, deeply layered movie that Altman has made his own. As a director, he has never been willing to settle for plot; he is much more interested in character and situation, and likes to assemble unusual people in peculiar situations and stir the pot. Here he is, like Prospero, serenely the master of his art. Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times

*Robert Altman has said that all the large ensemble films he has made since he emerged on the world scene in 1970 with M*A*S*H have been about families, real or surrogate, functional and dysfunctional. His first British film, Gosford Park, set in November 1932, deals with that family of which George Orwell wrote early in World War II: 'A family with the wrong members in control - that, perhaps, is as near as one can get to describing England in a phrase.'* Philip French, The Observer

Vocabulary and expressions:

To give somebody a hand: Help somebody do something

Give me a hand with the canopy.

Vile: Horrible; disgusting

He's still got that vile little dog.

Horrid: Not nice; awful

Did you have a horrid journey? Yes, fairly horrid.

To go on: To keep talking or complaining about a thing or problem (negative expression used to show irritation)

Do please stop going on.

To sneak up on somebody: To approach somebody silently and without warning

You shouldn't sneak up on people like that.

Throw in the towel: Give up; accept defeat

It's time to throw in the towel.

To break somebody in: To train/teach sb. in a new job or position

To be worn out: To be exhausted

I'm breaking in a new maid. I'm simply worn out with it.

Penniless: Not having any money

To loiter: To stand around doing nothing

No time for loitering

To turn in: To go to bed

I think I'll turn in.

He's a nasty piece of work.: He's a horrible/evil man

Bugger all: Absolutely nothing (vulgar expression)

It means bugger all to them.

A fag: A cigarette (in British English)

I'm desperate for a fag.

To snivel: To cry/weep with excessive sniffing

Do stop snivelling. Anyone would think you were Italian.

A ruffian: A violent, often criminal man (old-fashioned word)

Randy: Lustful; eager for sex

He was a hard-hearted, randy old sod.