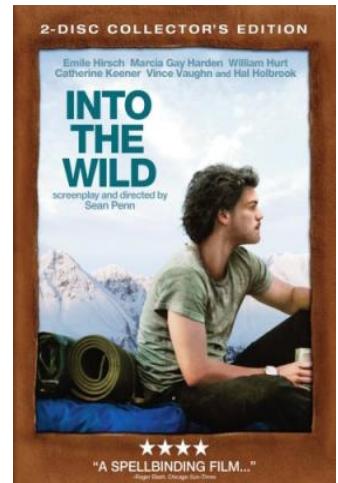


## INTO THE WILD

<u>CAST</u>	
<b>Emile Hirsch</b>	<i>Christopher McCandless</i>
<b>Vince Vaughn</b>	<i>Wayne Westerberg</i>
<b>Brian Dierker</b>	<i>Rainey</i>
<b>Joe Dustin</b>	<i>The Beast</i>
<b>Zach Galifianakis</b>	<i>Kevin</i>
<b>Marcia Gay Harden</b>	<i>Billie McCandless</i>
<b>Hal Holbrook</b>	<i>Ron Franz</i>
<b>William Hurt</b>	<i>Walt McCandless</i>
<b>Jena Malone</b>	<i>Carine McCandless Narrator</i>



### MOVIE DETAILS

Genre	<b>Adventure; Biography; Drama</b>
Director	<b>Sean Penn</b>
Producer	<b>Sean Penn; Art Linson; David Blocker; Frank Hildebrand</b>
Writer	<b>Sean Penn; Jon Krakauer (book)</b>
Running Time	<b>2 hr 28 mins</b>
Movie Release Date	<b>2007</b>

The wheel has come full circle. We started our journey around the U.S.A. & the "American Dream" in Michigan (Gran Torino) and we'll end up in ALASKA with our last but not least ☺ movie INTO THE WILD by the director Sean Penn (Mystic River 2003, Milk 2008, Dead Man Walking 1995). It took him 10 years to make this movie since he read the novel & was fascinated by it.

The movie won the Première Film prize at Rome Cinema Festival in 2007 and it was plurinominated at the Golden Globe Awards where **Eddie Vedder** with the song "Guaranteed" won the Best Original Song - Motion Picture. The soundtrack is really unforgettable!

### PLOT:

The movie is based on the **BOOK Into the Wild (1996)** the biography of **Christopher McCandless**, (an American young wanderer who adopted the name **Alexander Supertramp** and hiked <sup>1</sup>into the Alaskan wilderness<sup>2</sup> with little food and equipment, hoping to live a period of solitude. Almost four months later, he died of starvation near Denali National Park and Preserve.) written by the American writer and mountaineer **Jon Krakauer**. The book is an expansion of "Death of an Innocent", an article also by Jon Krakauer that appeared in the January 1993 issue of *Outside*.

Chris McCandless (Emile Hirsh) is a smart college graduate<sup>3</sup> but one with altruistic dreams. Chris decides instead of following the routine, he'd rather give his life savings to charity <sup>4</sup>, burn all of his identification, and **hitchhike** <sup>5</sup>across America trying to get to Alaska desiring to escape society and get back to nature. He hitchhikes, hops <sup>6</sup>trains, and hangs out with hippies.

<sup>1</sup> Hike = percorrere a piedi

<sup>2</sup> wilderness = terre selvagge

<sup>3</sup> graduate = laureato

<sup>4</sup> in charity = in beneficenza

<sup>5</sup> hitchhike = fare l'autostop

<sup>6</sup> hop = salta su

He also works briefly with a farmer and is befriended<sup>7</sup> by a widowed leather worker. He enjoys his liberating freedom, but his parents worry that they don't know where he is and are crushed<sup>8</sup> by his disappearance. Chris makes it to Alaska, where he delves further into nature. He hikes out to a far and remote campsite and discovers an abandoned bus. He decides to set up life there and manages to survive there for a few months living off the land- living his version of *the American Dream*. But as his supplies dwindle<sup>9</sup> he becomes trapped<sup>10</sup> by the land he so valiantly sought out<sup>11</sup> leading to tragedy.

*I hope this last movie will make you “think” rather than “judge”, ‘cause it’s a story about men’s endless SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS and I ‘d like to end with a quotation that contains the very essence of this quest:*

*“I’m going to paraphrase Thoreau here ... rather than love, than money, than faith, than fame, than fairness... GIVE ME THE TRUTH”.*

#### **ALCUNE CITAZIONI DALLA RIVISTA DUELLANTI N.39 FEBBRAIO 2008:**

Intervista a Sean Penn : “ Il libro di Jon Krakauer **Nelle Terre Estreme** (1994) non l’ho mai letto come la storia di un uomo in fuga: per me Christopher voleva solo avere la libertà di poter dire no alle imposizioni sociali e familiari, socio-economico-culturali, anche a certi comfort che consideriamo parte integrante della nostra vita ma che sono una specie di sovrastruttura. Nel suo ritorno<sup>7</sup> affondare nella natura Christopher mi fa pensare a quando il rito di passaggio all’età adulta significava stare soli e puri davanti all’unica forza primordiale, la NATURA. (...) ”

I luoghi intesi come PAESAGGI, sono parte integrante del film, ecco perchè ho voluto che fossero quelli originali. L’America per me è questi luoghi: io stesso a 16 anni facevo viaggi in solitaria, attraverso gli U.S.A., andavo verso l’oceano, per il surf, ma forse a un certo punto pensai anche all’Alaska. In questo senso Into the Wild è la mia lettera d’amore all’America che amo, che magari va cercata ma c’è ancora. ”

#### **Recensione di Massimo Rota (I Duellanti)**

*La storia - La vera storia di Chris McCandless il quale, dopo la laurea, abbandona auto, soldi e famiglia per mettersi in viaggio e raggiungere in solitaria l’Alaska.*

Perché nell’aprile del 1992 Chris McCandless, un ragazzo di buona famiglia della costa orientale degli Stati Uniti, raggiunse l’Alaska in autostop e affrontò a piedi e da solo le terre selvagge a nord del monte McKinley, finendo malissimo sedici settimane dopo? A questa domanda ha cercato di dare una risposta Jon Krakauer, prima con un articolo di novemila parole per la rivista Outside, poi con il libro Nelle terre estreme. Che ha fatto del ragazzo e della sua decisione di mollare identità, famiglia e civiltà per “entrare” nella natura, una leggenda per camminatori, un argomento di discussione fra alpinisti, un punto di riferimento per ecologisti arrabbiati... L’aura che si è creata

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<sup>7</sup> befriended = helped by a friend

<sup>8</sup> crushed = heartbroken

<sup>9</sup> dwindle = scarseggiano

<sup>10</sup> trapped = intrappolato

<sup>11</sup> sought out = seek out cercare

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intorno alla sua figura è dovuta soprattutto al fatto che lui dalla foresta non è più uscito e che vicino al suo corpo è stato ritrovato un diario. Commovente e lucida testimonianza della vita di un

ventiquattrenne appassionato lettore di Thoreau, London e Tolstoj (del quale sottolineava passi come questo: «**Volevo il movimento non un'esistenza quieta. Volevo l'emozione, il pericolo, la possibilità di sacrificare qualcosa al mio amore**»). Su questa storia che pone in primo piano l'eterno fascino che suscita il selvaggio, l'inesplorato nell'immaginario americano, il rifiuto del sistema di vita che impone una società capitalistica, il desiderio della contemplazione e della purezza, Sean Penn ha girato Into the Wild dove risuona inesorabile e limpida la voce della natura, il canto viscerale del primitivo che è identico a quello che risucchiava il cane Buck in Il richiamo della foresta (in originale The Call of the Wild). Trentasei location per portare in scena un clamoroso rifiuto della psicologia sostituita dal ricorso al primordiale, perciò tutti i personaggi che si affannano a cercare le motivazioni del ragazzo non ottengono risposte. Qui c'è solo un urlo contro l'omologazione della società di massa che si fa istinto, per questo il tempo umano non ha più senso e Chris può permettersi due anni di vagabondaggi alla ricerca di un'esperienza pura e trascendentale, non vivendo mai lo strazio di un distacco. (...) Penn disegna un personaggio inafferrabile, prigioniero di un sogno impossibile: «**Datemi la verità, invece che amore, denaro e fama**» scriveva Thoreau in Walden, ovvero La vita nei boschi (uno dei libri ritrovati vicino alla sua salma). Imbizzarrito come il suo personaggio il regista, per tenere a bada l'incandescente materia, si serve di uno sguardo morbido e preciso: movimenti di macchina plastici sotto un cielo e in uno spazio incombenti contribuiscono all'intento mimetico e filosofico del racconto. A rendere chiaro il processo di Chris verso uno stato naturale e primitivo, in una sorta di palingenetico e indimenticabile congiungimento alla madre Terra.

### MEMORABLE QUOTES (adapted from IMD)

***There is a pleasure in the pathless woods; (boschi privi di sentieri) / There is a rapture (estasi) on the lonely shore (spiaggia solitaria; / There is society, where none intrudes, / By the deep sea, and music in its roar; / I love not man the less, but Nature more... / - Lord Byron***

- I read somewhere... how important it is in life not necessarily to be strong... but to feel strong.
  - I'm going to paraphrase Thoreau here ... rather than (piuttosto che )love, than money, than faith (fede), than fame, than fairness (giustizia)... give me truth.
  - Some people feel like they don't deserve (meritano) love. They walk away quietly into empty spaces, trying to close the gaps (vuoti) of the past.
  - If we admit that human life can be ruled (governata) by reason, then all possibility of life is destroyed.
  - The core (nucleo, essenza) of mans' spirit comes from new experiences.
  - I will miss you too, but you are wrong if you think that the joy of life comes principally from the joy of human relationships. God's place is all around us, it is in everything and in anything we can experience. People just need to change the way they look at things.
  - I am going to take stock of that (prendo atto). You know I am. I want to tell you something. From bits and pieces of what you have told me about your family, your mother and your dad... And I know you have problems with the church too... But there is some kind of bigger thing that we can all appreciate and it sounds to me you don't mind calling it God. But when you forgive, you love. And when you love, God's light shines through you.
  - I think careers are a 20th century invention and I don't want one.
  - If you want something in life, you just gotta reach out and grab it. (afferrarla)
  - **Happiness is only real when shared** ( La felicità esiste solo se condivisa)
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- Alaska. I'm gonna be all the way out there, all the way fucking out there. Just on my own. You know, no fucking watch, no map, no axe, (ascia) no nothing. No nothing. Just be out there. Just be out there in it. You know, big mountains, rivers, sky, game. Just be out there in it, you know? In the wild.
- Now you're in the wild, what are we doing?  
Living, man. You're just there, in that moment, in that special place and time. Maybe when I get back, I can write a book about my travels.
- You know, society! Cause, you know what I don't understand? I don't understand why people, why every fucking person is so bad to each other so fucking often. It doesn't make sense to me. Judgment. Control. All that, the whole spectrum. Well, it just...
- What people are we talking about?  
Christopher : parents, hypocrites, politicians, pricks. (idiots)
- Christopher : Two years he walks to the earth. No phone, no pool, no pets, no cigarettes. Ultimate freedom. An extremist. An aesthetic voyager whose home is the road. Escaped from Atlanta. Thou shalt (You shall) not return, 'cause "the West is the best." And now after two rambling (tortuosi) years comes the final and greatest adventure. The climactic battle to kill the false being within and victoriously conclude the spiritual pilgrimage. (pellegrinaggio spirituale) Ten days and nights of freight trains (treni merci) and hitchhiking bring him to the Great White North. No longer to be poisoned (avvelenato) by civilization he flees (scappa), and walks alone upon the land to become lost in the wild. - Alexander Supertramp May 1992
- The sea's only gifts are harsh blows (dure sferzate), and occasionally the chance to feel strong. Now I don't know much about the sea, but I do know that that's the way it is here. And I also know **how important it is in life not necessarily to be strong but to feel strong. To measure yourself (metterti alla prova) at least once.** To find yourself at least once in the most ancient of human conditions. Facing (Affrontare) the blind death stone (lapide) alone, with nothing to help you but (con niente altro se non) your hands and your own head.
- It should not be denied (non si può negare che) that being footloose (libero) has always exhilarated (resi euforici) us. It is associated in our minds with escape from history and oppression and law and irksome (fastidiosi) obligations . Absolute freedom. And the road has always led west.