

The Mighty

US : 1998 : dir. Peter Chelsom : 100 min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Elden Henson; Kieran Culkin](#)
 Gena Rowlands; Sharon Stone; Harry Dean Stanton;

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	KBytes	Ω □ € Z ⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Barbican Screen Film Guide – December 1998 – review:

“Adapted from Rodman Philbrick’s award-winning novel, **"THE MIGHTY"** is the moving, funny and highly original story of two misfit schoolboys with special needs [sic], who team up to confront a hostile world. With the odds stacked against them, they find solace in books (especially the King Arthur legends) and soar off into breathtaking flights of fancy.

Featuring Gena Rowlands, Sharon Stone and Harry Dean Stanton, and winning performances from Elden Henson and Kieran Culkin in the central roles. British director Peter Chelsom (**"HEAR MY SONG"**) has displayed great imagination in producing a refreshingly unsentimental, life-affirming adventure with an appeal that cuts across generations.”



Source: Barbican Screen

No further information currently available. One has to deconstruct fashionable gibberish like “children with special needs” in order to ascertain its true meaning. Are these two boys mentally handicapped?, physically disabled? We can infer at least they’re not dyslexic. But whether or not the film can be called “refreshingly unsentimental”, when its two protagonists escape the unpleasantness of reality by flights of Arthurian derring-do, we shall have to wait and see. The charming Swedish children’s serial/film **"BRÖDERNA LEJONHJÄRTA"** (“The Brothers Lionheart”), from an Astrid Lindgren story, was an attempt to reconcile small children to their own mortality by employing the same device. So it *can* work. Kieran Culkin, who must bear the cross of his famous elder brother, was also seen in **"FATHER OF THE BRIDE"** (91), **"HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK"** (92), **"NOWHERE TO RUN"** 92) and **"MY SUMMER STORY"** (93). Nothing else is known of Elden Henson (if indeed he’s a child at all).

See subject index under **DISABLED / HANDICAPPED** and **FANTASY / FAIRY TALES / FOLK TALES**.