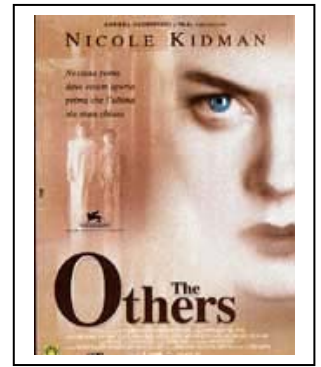


▣ ABOUT THE MOVIE ▣

TITLE	The Others
DIRECTOR	Alejandro Amenábar
YEAR AND COUNTRY	2001 France/Spain/USA
GENRE	Drama/Horror/Thriller
ACTORS	Nicole Kidman, Fionnula Flanagan, Christopher Eccleston, Alakina Mann, James Bentley, Eric Sykes, Elaine Cassidy



PLOT

At the end of World War 2, Grace (Nicole Kidman) and her two small children, Nicolas and Anne, are living in an old Victorian mansion on the Isle of Jersey in the English Channel. They still hope that her husband, Charles (Christopher Eccleston) will come back from the front. The two children are photosensitive: even slight exposure to direct sunlight causes enormous suffering and sometimes death in extreme cases, so the house is kept darkened, and each time someone goes from one room to another, they lock the door behind them. One morning three people looking for work come to the house: Mrs. Mills (Fionnula Flanagan), Lydia (Elaine Cassidy), a young mute woman, and an old gardener, Mr. Tuttle (Eric Sykes). Grace hires them and from that moment on, strange things begin to happen that make Grace suspect that there are "Others" haunting the house.

The characters are surrounded by an atmosphere of anxiety and horror from the opening scene. Kidman is great as a tormented woman who torments her children. She is both victim and torturer. Mrs. Mills and Anne are both ominously creepy in different ways.

LANGUAGE

All of the characters (except the hired help, who have strong Irish accents) speak with upper-class English accents. There are almost no slang expressions. Pronunciation is clear so there should be no problem in understanding everything.

VOCABULARY

Has the cat got your tongue?: Are you too shy to speak?	gravestones: stone markers on places where people are buried
make a fuss: make a mountain out of a mole-hill	I've reached the end of my tether: I can't stand anything more
sideboard: a piece of dining room furniture for holding articles of table service	to be in for it: to risk punishment for something one has done
chatterboxes: incessant talkers	to be scared out of one's wits: to lose one's mind from fright
sores: small injuries to the skin which hurt	She smothered her two children: She killed her two children by pressing a pillow on their heads so they could not breathe
blisters: swellings of the skin containing watery serum	don't give up: don't surrender
the off-chance: a remote or unlikely chance	tuberculosis finished us off: TB killed us
to get dizzy: become unsteady, giddy	tease: make fun of
fibber: liar (small lies)	to be left on one's own: not get help from anyone
cowardly custard, scaredy pants: children's names for someone who isn't courageous	the front: the place where the fighting takes place in a war
swallow her pride: come off her high horse	keep a cool head: stay calm, not lose self-control
kick up a rumpus: make a disturbance	know something like the back or your hand: understand thoroughly
the plumbing clanks: the pipes make noises	haunted house: a house inhabited by spirits
the floorboards squeak: the wooden floor makes a shrill sound	