



FILM: **THE IMITATION GAME**

FDG RATING: 4.1 ☺☺☺☺○  
Film Discussion Group (FDG) Scale is 1-5 (5 is best)

Morten Tyldum: *Director*  
Benedict Cumberbatch: *Actor: Alan Turing*  
Keira Knightley: *Actress: Joan Clarke*

DATE: January 18, 2015

DISCUSSION SUMMARY: **THE IMITATION GAME**

The Imitation Game is an important story about the British prodigy mathematician, Alan Turing, who cracked the “unbreakable” Nazi Enigma code, giving the Allied forces an intelligence advantage that ultimately helped defeat Germany and end the war before more incurring even more casualties. Sadly, his homosexuality, which he successfully kept hidden while working in the military top secret decryption team when he was only 27, was exposed after the war. He was arrested for gross indecency in 1952, an event so devastating that he committed suicide 2 years later at age 41.

Benedict Cumberbatch's performance is brilliant as he portrays the Asperger prone, obsessed genius. Despite misrepresenting historical facts, the story was suspenseful and compelling. Some of us also applauded the performance of Keira Knightley as Joan Clarke, the sole female genius in the male dominated group. We saw the complexities of military decisions. And witnessed the unfortunate prejudices prevalent on multiple levels forcing acts of imitation by several characters in order to survive.

The Imitation Game earned high marks from our resident critics, including a solid 5 from four of our 17 participants. On a scale of 1 to 5 (5 is the best), we collectively gave this film a rousing 4.1.



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See you at the movies!

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