

Bíódagar

("Movie Days")

Iceland : 1994 : dir. Fridrik Thor Fridriksson : Icelandic Film Corporation : 90 min
 prod: Fridrik Thor Fridriksson : scr: Einar Már Gudmundsson & Fridrik Thor Fridriksson
 : dir.ph.: Ari Kristinnsson

Örvar Jens Arnarsson
 Rurik Haraldsson; Sigrun Hjálmtýdóttir; Orri Helgasson; Jón Sigurbjörnsson;
 Gudrun Asmundsdóttir; Sigurdur Sigurjónsson; Asta Esper Andersen; Otto Sander

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω □ ≠ Z ☺	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Icelandic boys would tell fortunes by reading shoulder blades..

Source: 38th London Film Festival programme

Production notes from 38th London Film Festival (1994) official programme:

"The film **"MOVIE DAYS"** takes place in the early Sixties, when going to the movies was almost a ceremony; the movie theatres were a world apart. Families dressed up for the social occasion of a nine o'clock show, while the children's Sunday matinée had something of the atmosphere of a savage festival. **"MOVIE DAYS"** presents scenes from several months in Tómas' life, in his home in Reykjavik, and then on a farm in the north of Iceland.

The early Sixties was a time of change not only for Tómas but for society as a whole on this isolated island in the North Atlantic. A new age was dawning but not without conflict. A major source of that conflict was the influx of foreign culture, which had started with the British, and later American, occupation early in the Second World War. After the War, the Americans had been granted permission to maintain the base, and about ten years before the time of **"MOVIE DAYS"** Iceland joined NATO.

The American presence and cultural influence was thus an established fact of life, though it ran up against a wall of resistance from many Icelanders who feared for their own ancient culture and even their national identity. The children, on the other hand, really fell for the new cultural currents. They were experiencing a new world, new times. Action movies, cartoons and war movies provided new heroes for the children's battles, heroes who competed with those of the old sagas. Old and new values teetered in the balance.

Television broadcasts from the American military base were one of the most powerful influences in those years before Iceland had its own TV, and Tommy and his friends are drawn

to the blue glow in the ground-floor window of a neighbour who has a TV. The neighbourhood Communist, on the other hand, has declared war on the American military and American cultural influence in general. He fights with the boy scout leader who works for the military and becomes involved in a real-life spy drama. Thus Cold War conflicts enter into daily life, the children watch all this and interpret it in their own way."

[no listing in "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "The Critics' Film Guide" or "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995"]

No further information currently available. Nothing else is known of Arnarsson. See also "**PUNKTUR, PUNKTUR, KOMMA, STRIK**" (1982), a comedy about a boy growing up in Reykjavik 1947 – 63.

See subject index under **SCANDINAVIA** and presumably **SCOUTS & SCOUTING**.