

Digging to China

US : 1997 : dir. Timothy Hutton : : 98 min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Evan Rachel Wood](#)
 Kevin Bacon; Mary Stuart Masterson; Cathy Moriarty; Marian Seldes

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω □ € Z ♀	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Leonard Maltin's Movie & Video Guide 2001
 review:

"Sincere but one-note film about the growing friendship between a troubled 10-year old girl (Wood) and a mentally retarded young man (Bacon). Its offbeat qualities seem a bit too contrived, though the performances can't be faulted. Hutton's feature directing debut. ** "

Radio Times review:

"Evan Rachel Wood plays a ten-year old girl who forms an unlikely friendship with a disabled man (Kevin Bacon) in actor Timothy Hutton's directorial debut. It's very similar in theme to the more successful "**LAWN DOGS**", but some scenes between Bacon and Wood are unbearably sentimental. ** "

"Drama, set in the 1960s, starring Kevin Bacon as a mentally disabled man who is befriended by a ten-year old girl desperate to escape from her home. ** "

No further information currently available. As one would expect of a 1990s film emanating from America, the story hums with suspicions (false of course) about the friendship developing into a sexual one [translation: that the man might want to **abuse** her sexually], and perhaps the film's intention was gently to expose those prejudices, but one would have to see it to judge where the film stands on such paranoia. "**LAWN DOGS**" aside, there was a similar friendship in "**LAWNMOWER MAN**" and, far more importantly, in "**SLING BLADE**", released a year before this, in which Lucas Black (of "**American Gothic**") befriends a mentally handicapped killer arbitrarily thrown back into the community after spending half his life in institutions. Nothing else is known of Evan Rachel Wood.

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