

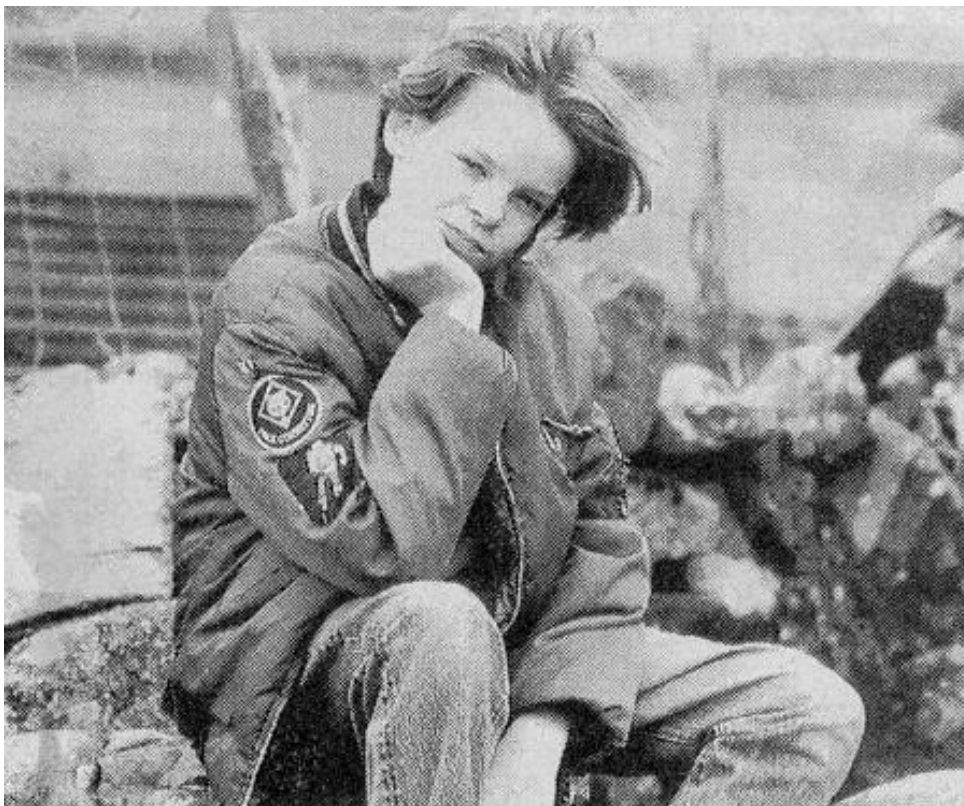
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The Gift

UK TV serial : 1990 : dir. Marc Evans & Red Saunders : BBC / Red Rooster : 6 x ? min
prod: Linda James : scr: Anthony Horowitz : dir.ph.: Jason Lehel

[Tat Whalley](#)
Johdi May; Emma-Louise Harrington; Jeff Rawle; Jacqueline Tong; Gary Whelan;
Peter O'Brien; John Levitt; Cynthia Greville; Denys Graham

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	∞	M	⊗	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Mind reading – a blessing or a curse? Davy finds out.

Source: Radio Times

34th London Film Festival – 1990 –
programme review:

“As a six-part TV serial this recently held over five million viewers captive. This is an all-in-one edited feature-film version of that production, with a script by Anthony Horowitz, who also wrote **"Just Ask For Diamond"**, shown in the Festival two years ago. Thirteen-year old Davy has inherited from his Welsh ancestors the gift of being able to see other people's thoughts. While staying in Wales with his grandparents, he is warned

that if he tries to use this gift, it will bring him grief. Against his will his mind is haunted by images of a mystical warrior, the Man of Fire, and he becomes aware of his father's involvement in a planned robbery. Filmed on location in the Welsh hills and an English new town, this is a taut, fast-moving story of the supernatural, full of mystery and suspense. Some of the film-makers and actors will be present for the screening.” – Terry Staples

Radio Times note:

“Davy (Tat Whalley) has inherited a dangerous talent.”

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "The Critics' Film Guide", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]



Source: 34th London Film Festival programme

No further information currently available. Not to be confused with a 1979 US TV film of the same name about a sailor on leave revisiting childhood friends, nor with a 1982 French/Italian farce of the same name about a bank clerk given an expensive hooker for his retirement present. I was out of the country when this serial was broadcast, but it comes highly recommended by those who have seen it. Tat Whalley, 15, showed up the previous year as the bookie's son "Spider", befriended by an East End Italian family in "**QUEEN OF HEARTS**", an indifferently nostalgic portrait of immigrant life from the director of TV's "**The Singing Detective**".

See subject index under **PRODIGES / GIFTED CHILDREN, SERIALISATIONS** and perhaps **HORROR / SUPERNATURAL**.