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## Academy award winning movies on netflix

Few nights in Hollywood's calendar year come close to the glitz and glamour of the Academy Awards. An Oscar statuette is a crowning achievement for anyone involved in the production of film, and those who garner one or more of the gold figurines win the right to label themselves "Academy Award-winning" for the rest of history. Plus, there's the career boost that comes with it. With the terrifically entertaining 96th Academy Awards behind us, let's look back at some of the more memorable past winners in various categories, or at least the ones that are currently streaming on Netflix (in no particular order).Here are the best Oscar-winning movies now streaming on Netflix.
1. My Octopus Teacher Credit: Netflix Won: Best Documentary Feature My Octopus Teacher may have a title that'll raise some eyebrows, but there's a more profound story of unexpected friendship waiting to surprise you. The documentary follows Craig Foster, a free diver who befriends a young octopus living in a bay near Cape Town, South Africa. We watch this young octopus grow fond of Foster as she plays around with him and invites him into her world. It's a gripping story of our relationship with nature and the lessons waiting to be learned from our many beautiful animal friends. — Yasmeen Hamadeh, Entertainment Intern How to watch: My Octopus Teacher is streaming on Netflix.
2. The Hatful EightWon: Best Original Score (Ennio Morricone)Celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2025, the eighth film from Quentin Tarantino now feels underrated among the director's fairly perfect filmography. A chamber piece Western that traps eight outlaws with overlapping murderous motives (played by Samuel L. Jackson, Kurt Russell, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Walton Goggins, Demian Bichir, Tim Roth, Michael Madsen, and Bruce Dern) inside a cabin during a blizzard, it might just be the director's nastiest piece of work. It certainly lives up to its title, since pretty much every character is an asshole to the nth degree.But all the actors are very clearly having the times of their lives twirling their metaphorical or literal mustaches — perhaps none more than the lone female in the bunch, Jennifer Jason Leigh, who scored a Supporting Actress nomination for her unhinged, nigh rabid turn as "Crazy" Daisy. And DP 's Robert Richardson's also-nominated cinematography, which maps the cabin's claustrophobic interiors out via wide-screen scope, is really something astonishing to behold. The Hatful Eight is a gem hiding in plain sight worthy of rediscovery and appraisal. — Jason Adams, Contributing Writer How to watch: The Hatful Eight is now streaming on Netflix.3. Selma Credit: Asushii Nishijima / Paramount / Pathé / Harpo / Kobal / Shutterstock Won: Best Original Song, "Glory" (John Legend and Common)Director Ava DuVernay's recreation of the lead-up to the 1964 march across Alabama for voting rights led by Martin Luther King Jr. (David Oyelowo) is incredible in its ability to make these larger-than-life icons accomplishing their legendary feats somehow feel real, lived-in, and human-sized. Refraining from hagiography, King in Oyelowo's hands stays prickly, difficult, and flawed, and in turn, the scope of what the man accomplished only feels all the more atmospheric. And it's not just The Oyelowo Show. DuVernay's film gives underappreciated performers like Carmen Ejogo, André Holland, Lorraine Toussaint, Stephan James, and Wendell Pierce plenty of space to shine. A too-rare example of textbook history being made to feel alive and now. — J.A.How to watch: Selma is now streaming on Netflix.4. Godzilla Minus OneWon: Best Visual EffectsReturning the big lizard to literal basics, the 37th (!!!) film in the franchise might just be its best? Written and directed by Takashi Yamazaki, Godzilla Minus One transports us back to the tail-end of World War II, where the Japanese defeat via atomic weaponry once again gives birth to our favorite fire-breathing kaiju monster — the big difference being that this movie gives us a human story set in the rubble down under the beast's rise that's every ounce as moving and devastating as the sweep of his big rear-end. Kamikaze pilot Kōichi Shikishima (Ryuunosuke Kamiki), filled with regret about his own survival when so many others (including his own parents) perished, returns home crippled by shame. But he's forced to get on with life anyway as a stranger named Noriko (Minami Hamabe) and a child she's adopted show up one day and become, before he even realizes it, his makeshift family. And Godzilla Minus One gets us caring deeply about these people, so when the nuclear dinosaur starts stomping around, we're truly invested emotionally in their safety and security. Add on that Yamazaki also oversaw the film's Oscar-winning visual effects, which cost an unbelievably low 15 million dollars (aka the lunch budget on a Marvel movie), and Godzilla Minus One is a blast on all fronts. — J.A.How to watch: Godzilla Minus One is now streaming on Netflix.
5. Roma Credit: Carlos Somonte / Netflix Won: Best Director, Best Foreign Language Film, Best CinematographyAlfonso Cuarón's Oscar-winning drama follows Cleo (Yalitza Aparicio), a housekeeper working for a wealthy family in Mexico City. Thanks to Cuarón's writing, direction, and cinematography (each of which garnered its own respective Oscar), the film is remarkably immersive, enveloping us in Cleo's world in a way most movies strive for and can never even touch. We feel the comfort in her mundane day-to-day, the sting of her boyfriend's betrayal, and blinding panic and trauma in the film's final act. It's a stunning piece of cinema that should be talked about for decades to come. — Proma Khosla, Entertainment ReporterHow to watch: Roma is streaming on Netflix.6. American Factory Credit: Aubrey Keith / Netflix Won: Best Documentary FeatureThis 2020 Best Documentary Feature winner takes viewers inside a shuttered General Motors factory in Ohio, recently purchased and re-staffed by a Chinese billionaire, for a stunning look at worker exploitation in the modern age. A complex presentation of multiculturalism and its impacts on the global economy, American Factory is an uncomfortable fact that remains steadfastly objective from start to end but still manages to make its point. — Alison Foreman, Entertainment ReporterHow to watch: American Factory is streaming on Netflix.
7. 8 MileWon: Best Original Song, "Lose Yourself" (Eminem)In 2002, it seemed, to put it mildly, improbable that a movie starring Eminem in a lightly fictionalized retelling of his rise through Detroit's "rap battle" scene would go on to become an Oscar-winner — heck, it seems improbable now in retrospect. But it was foolish to underestimate the formidable powers of late director Curtis Hanson, who'd previously made movie magic out of everything from killer nanny thrillers (The Hand That Rocks the Cradle) to James Ellroy adaptations (L.A. Confidential), and sure enough, he turned this rough-and-tumble biopic into a legitimate critical darling and awards contender. Also on display here — two fine and fine performances from Brittany Murphy (RIP) and Kim Basinger as the rapper's love interest and mother, respectively. — J.A. How to watch: 8 Mile is now streaming on Netflix.
8. Marriage Story Credit: Wilson Webb / Netflix Won: Best Supporting Actress (Laura Dern)Writer/director Noah Baumbach's tense tale of a couple ending their marriage divided audiences, with some viewers reporting they were surprised by whose "side" they ended up on. But critical reception for the film was almost universal in its praise of the story's execution and impact, with leads Scarlett Johansson and Adam Driver singled out for their magnetic scene work. At the 92nd Academy Awards, Marriage Story took home only one Oscar from the six categories in which it was nominated. Still, this artful depiction of intimacy remains a triumph of romantic storytelling, venturing far beyond the Happily Ever After audiences know so well. — A.F.How to watch: Marriage Story is streaming on Netflix.
9. Man on WireWon: Best Documentary/Forget Robert Zemeckis' fictionalized retelling starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt. This 2008 documentary telling the story of performance artist Philippe Petit's illegal high-wire walk between the two World Trade Center towers in 1974 contains all the dizzying spectacle you could ever need. Staged like a real-life heist movie, director James Marsh listens to Petit explain how he pulled the incredible feat off step by step, and the planning and execution is as riveting as anything Hollywood's ever dreamed up. And the film doesn't shy away from the man's difficult personality either — it's a profound portrait of dreams turning into obsessions that brush away any cost. — J.A.How to watch: Man on Wire is now streaming on Netflix.10. Darkest Hour Credit: Focus Features Won: Best Makeup and Hairstyling, Best Actor (Gary Oldman)Set in the early years of World War II, Darkest Hour follows Winston Churchill (remarkably played by Gary Oldman) as he navigates Britain's position in the ensuing war, along with the trials and tribulations that follow. On Oldman's Oscar-winning performance, Mashable's Angie Han writes, "Oldman knows the difference between packaging and performance... There's a living, breathing soul underneath all that makeup, at the center of all those ticks, and Oldman makes him fascinating to watch." So come for a masterclass in acting by Oldman, and stay for the gripping story that follows: it's worth the watch. — Y.H. How to watch: Darkest Hour is streaming on Netflix.
11. The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar Won: Best Live Action Short Film 2023, Wes Anderson directed a series of short films based on Roald Dahl stories for Netflix. It was the longest and most substantial of the four that finally got the director his long-overdue Oscar statue. (Let's pretend it's an apology for the crime that was not giving his 2023 masterpiece Asteroid City a single nomination.) The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar (taken from the 1977 collection of short stories with the same name) tells the tale of a disaffected gambler (Benedict Cumberbatch) who learns how to harness the power of his mind from a legendary yogi (Ben Kingsley) to win big. But what happens once you have everything? This 39-minute short hits that final mark beautifully. Mashable Top Stories If you love Anderson's signature aesthetic, you'd be wise to watch all four of the ones Netflix commissioned. They're all wonderful. (My particular favorite is The Rat Catcher, which more than any of the other four really nails Dahl's nasty streak as we watch an hilariously aggressive Ralph Fiennes as a sharp-toothed roent-hunter on the prowl.) — J.A.How to watch: The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar is now streaming on Netflix.12. Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio Credit: Netflix Won: Best Animated FeatureYou know when hitting play on this movie that the fantastic horror visionary Guillermo del Toro isn't going to be telling Walt Disney's version of Pinocchio. Meaning no offense to that 1940 animated masterpiece, but del Toro took that classic's scattered-about scary moments — the donkeys, oh god, the donkeys! — and multiplied them by infinity. Setting the story of the little wooden boy who gets wished to life by his depressed carver Geppetto in WWII-era fascist Italy, del Toro slathers his version of the fairy tale in politics and righteously disturbing anti-war propaganda. And that's before he violently kills off our main character multiple times. Featuring voice acting by Ewan McGregor, Tilda Swinton, Cate Blanchett, and Christoph Waltz, plus revelatory stop-motion work from the animators at ShadowMachine, Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio is like no other. — J.A.How to watch: Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio is now streaming on Netflix.13. Ma Rainey's Black BottomWon: Best Costume Design and Best Makeup and HairstylingThe final film of Chadwick Boseman (released posthumously and netting him another acting nomination) is a fitting tribute to the Black Panther star's non-superhero skills — he tap-dances the screen on fire as the over-ambitious trumpeter working in the band of the titular blues singer Ma (Viola Davis, having a blast). Based on August Wilson's 1982 play, Ma Rainey's Black Bottom is set across a single scorcher of a July 1927 day as Ma's band tries to wrangle her way to record a single track, with every conceivable interruption getting in their way. Directed by stage director George C. Wolfe (who went on to direct Rustin in 2023 with Colman Domingo, who plays another band member here) the movie is stagey but electrifyingly so — you really feel like you're trapped in this airless hot basement with these extremely talented musicians, making music that sizzles while living just as loud. — J.A.How to watch: Ma Rainey's Black Bottom is now streaming on Netflix.14. Whiplash Credit: Sony Pictures Classics Won: Best Supporting Actor (J.K. Simmons), Best Editing, Best SoundWhen he was just 29 years old, writer/director Damien Chazelle's second feature film, 2014's Whiplash, took Sundance by storm. By the time he was 30, he had snagged himself a Best Adapted Screenplay nom, along with a slew of other honors for the adrenaline-fueled indie. Thank goodness he didn't let all of that early success go straight to his head and blow all his movie-making capital on a great big vanity project next! (He waited, making two more movies and winning a Best Director Oscar for La La Land before bestowing upon us the toxic epic that is Babylon.) Still, it's easy to see why everybody fell for Whiplash, a ferocious music school tale where we watch an overly determined drumming prodigy (Miles Teller) meet his match in an abusive teacher (J.K. Simmons). Asking questions about the dangerous lengths we're tempted to go to be the best, the film was ahead of its time in taking a hard look at the excuses we make for the sake of so-called genius. — J.A.How to watch: Whiplash is now streaming on Netflix.15. IcarusWon: Best Documentary FeatureThis one tells the tale of Russian scientist Grigory Rodchenkov and his whistleblowing against the Olympic doping routines of the Russian state, which he was intimately involved in as the head of the country's Anti-Doping Center for several decades. Filmmaker Bryan Fogel, an amateur cyclist when not directing films, started his documentary off as an experiment to see if he could get around the sport's doping rules without being caught. This test led him to Rodchenkov, and before you knew it Rodchenkov was fleeing his home country and being put into witness protection as his former colleagues were being murdered around him. It's quite the terrifying snowball of a tale, and an excellent explainer of the ways a fascist state will insinuate itself into every aspect of our existence. — J.A. How to watch: Icarus is now streaming on Netflix.16. Mank Credit: Netflix Won: Best Production Design, Best Cinematography/Director David Fincher's father Jack had a decades-long obsession with the story of the making of Orson Welles' masterpiece Citizen Kane. Specifically, he was fascinated by screenwriter Herman J. Mankiewicz (aka Mank) and how much credit he deserved for the final product, given the well-known fact that Mank was a fall-down drunk. And so Jack wrote a film script about the story, hoping he and his son could make the movie together. But the project languished and Jack passed away in 2003, never seeing it realized. David Fincher stayed determined though. In 2020 he finally delivered a film starring Gary Oldman as Mank that feels unlike almost anything else the Social Network director has done. Awash in nostalgia and a hard-fought sincerity, you can feel Fincher's love for his father thrumming through the movie — most especially in the ways the film itself side-eyes a creator's ability to twist truth into fiction. Amanda Seyfried, wonderful in the role of real-life actress Marion Davies, sees straight through to how Mank can spin truth into fiction with one clack of his typewriter key, and gives the movie its tremulous heart. — J.A. How to watch: Mank is now streaming on Netflix.17. Legends of the FallWon: Best Cinematography (John Toll)An overwrought romance novel given lush old-fashioned cinematic life, Edward "Glory" Zwick's 1994 family epic stars cover-boy Brad Pitt at the absolute height of his prettiness — those long golden locks! — as Tristan, the leading man in a love quadrangle between three brothers (also including Aidan Quinn and Henry Thomas) and the woman named Susannah (played by Julia Ormond) who steals all of their hearts. Although the film spans decades, the majority of the story takes place in the aftermath of World War I, which has left one brother dead, one brother wounded, and Pitt's wild man a shell-shocked husk of sad dream hunk. Susannah yearns for him (which, understandable) but is forced by outside forces to take the more responsible route, which inevitably leads to tragedy. And all the while, papa (a deliriously overacting Anthony Hopkins) is bellowing from the sidelines at everybody. It's perfection, of the nonsense sort. — J.A.How to watch: Legends of the Fall is now streaming on Netflix.18. The Power of the Dog Credit: Netflix Won: Best Director (Jane Campion)Adapted from Thomas Savage's 1967 novel, The Power of the Dog sees Benedict Cumberbatch slip his twisted beanoople self into a pair of dirty dunderags as Phil Burbank, a deeply closeted cowboy in 1925 Montana at the tail end of the time for such ranch-haunting relics. One day in town, Phil's brother George (Jesse Plemons) finds himself a wife named Rose (Kirsten Dunst), and Phil does not like that one bit! Once Rose and her weirdo son Peter (Kodi Smit-McPhee) move in with the brothers, it's a war of the wills, and only one queer cowpoke's gonna be left standing. A psychotic marvel of a movie that only Jane Campion could've delivered. — J.A. How to watch: The Power of the Dog is now streaming on Netflix.19. RRRWon: Best Song (M. M. Keeravani and Chandrabose)A Hollywood spectacle, this three-hour-plus epic from director S.S. Rajamouli tells the 1920s-set story of the best buddies Bheem (N. T. Rama Rao Jr.) and Raja (Ram Charan), who end up on opposite sides of the revolution against the British Raj. Will they fight? Will they make up? Will they sing and dance? Absolutely. All of these questions, many tigers, and much, much more make RRR's three hours an absolute breeze. A truly over-the-top endeavor with action and romance and several musical sequences, it was the latter that got the Academy's attention, with the unforgettable dance number "Naatu Naatu" stomping all its rivals out of the way for the little gold man statue in the end. — J.A.How to watch: RRR is now streaming on Netflix.20. 1917 Credit: Universal Pictures / Moviestore / Shutterstock Won: Best Cinematography, Best Sound Mixing, and Best Visual EffectsSam Mendes' 2019 film drops us right into a day in the life of two British soldiers (George Mackay and Game of Thrones' actor Dean-Charles Chapman) fighting in France during the first World War. It doesn't let up to take a breath — using camera trickery old and new, 1917 makes its two-hour run-time seem like it was captured in a total of two massive shots. (The truth is not that, but it sure looks like it anyway.) As the two painfully young soldiers work their way across fields, both green and dead, tasked with delivering a message to stop the advance of a doomed mission, we're sucked right in alongside them. The you-are-really-there is strong with this one, capturing the unfathomable horror of war in scale simultaneously epic and intimate. — J.A.How to watch: 1917 is now streaming on Netflix.21. Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-RabbitWon: Best Animated FilmAs cemented as our favorite cheese-loving inventor and his whip-smart dog sidekick seem now in pop culture, there have only been two feature-length Wallace & Gromit films released to this day — most recently, 2024's Vengeance Most Fowl and then this one, from 2005. Of course you add to the four short films that span 1989 to 2008 and you've got more of a complete picture, but still — feels like there should be more. (This is really just me begging for a new Wallace & Gromit every other year, if that wasn't clear.) But if there's one thing Aardman Animation masterminds Nick Park and Steve Box have proven it's that taking one's time to get it right pays myriad dividends, since all six chunks of the ongoing Wallace & Gromit story spread out across four decades now (!!!) are sparkling little masterpieces. And The Curse of the Were-Rabbit is perhaps the masterpiecest of all, telling a Jekyll-and-Hyde inspired tale of gigantic bunny terrorizing our twosome's quaint little hamlet on the eve of its annual Giant Vegetable Competition. A hysterical riff on old horror movies (Universal and Hammer-flavored alike), the Were-Rabbit's imagination and laughs are endless. — J.A.How to watch: Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit is now streaming on Netflix.22. Phantom Thread Credit: Annapurna Pictures / Kobal / Shutterstock Won: Best Costume DesignEarly on in the filmmaking process, very senior artists writer/director Paul Thomas Anderson and actor Daniel Day-Lewis were trying to figure out a name for the lead character in their next collaboration. Naturally, their text thread led to a dick joke that, in turn, birthed the moniker "Reynolds Woodcock." That movie became Phantom Thread, a darkly hilarious romance about a stuffy fashion designer who meets his match in a blushing young man (who's something perfect about it all being built on a dick joke. Phantom Thread is ultimately a satire of male domination, and an ode to the armies of women who've trussed up the egos of pampered men and gotten the jobs done in spite of them. Pulling their female lead out of nowhere (aka Luxembourg), Anderson gave a role for the ages to the relative newcomer Krieps, who goes toe to toe with the greatest actor of his generation. And, much like Alma the blushing waitress does to Reynolds, she shows DDL how it's done. Incredibly, while both Day-Lewis and Lesley Manville, who played Reynolds' deliciously stern sister Cyril, got nods — Krieps was snubbed. It's a crime, considering the effortless way she steals the entire movie away from them all with just her Mona Lisa smile and a basket of suspicious mushrooms. — J.A. How to watch: Phantom Thread is now streaming on Netflix.23. Still AliceWon: Best Actress (Julianne Moore)Remembered now primarily as the vehicle that finally landed Julianne Moore a long overdue Oscar, Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland's 2014 film is a small-scale heartbreaker of a character study that deserved more appreciation both at the time (it got knocked as a bald Oscar grab) and now, a decade later.Adapting Lisa Genova's book about a linguistics professor at Columbia celebrating her 50th birthday as she grapples with the effects of early-on-set Alzheimers, Still Alice can't be separated from Moore's tremendously affecting work, but that's just because it smartly remains so resolutely laser-focused on her. And when is staying laser-focused on an actor as perceptive as Moore ever a bad thing? That said, it's the scenes between Moore and Kristen Stewart as Alice's stubborn daughter that truly linger all these years later; two fine, delicate actors speaking histories with just their eyes. — J.A.How to watch: Still Alice is now streaming on Netflix.24. All Quiet on the Western Front (2022) Credit: Reiner Bajaj / Netflix Won: Best International Feature, Best Score, Best Cinematography, Best Production DesignThis is one of the rare instances where a remake of a classic film ended up being a terrific idea. The original 1930 All Quiet on the Western Front was one of the very first Best Picture winners, and it remains great to this day. So, how did they make a remake work? It was a pretty simple idea, actually. Director Edward Berger took the original story, which drops audiences down in the dirt with the German soldiers during World War I, and he filmed it in Germany with German actors. Wild, right? Still, the 90-year update on film techniques also helped in situating viewers in the middle of that maelstrom. Taking a page from Sam Mendes' 1917, Berger and his DP James Friend really make us feel like we're right there in the trenches, dodging the bullets and bombs as often as they hit their deadly mark. The anti-war message of the original comes through loud and clear, bolstered by the unforgettable drone of Volker Bertelmann's score. The baton-pass nature of the script, which introduces character after character only to see them get ground up in the horrible machinery of war, is a correctly unusble hammering home of combat's cruel dehumanization. — J.A. How to watch: All Quiet on the Western Front is now streaming on Netflix.25. When We Were KingsWon: Best Documentary FeatureConsidered one of the best, if not the best documentary, about the sport of boxing, Leon Gast's When We Were Kings from 1996 takes a look back at the legendary "Rumble in the Jungle" match of 1974 between Muhammad Ali and George Foreman. Controversially staged in the African country formerly known as Zaire — then ruled by the brutal dictator Mobutu Sese Seko — Ali was gunning for the Heavyweight Champion title that he'd had taken away when he refused to be drafted to fight in Vietnam seven years earlier.Meanwhile, Foreman was struggling to rival Ali's megawatt personality—this was still awhile before he'd fine-tune his grill-selling charm, after all. Capturing not just the Main Event but also the "Zaire 74" music festival (aka Black Woodstock), which happened at roughly the same time, When We Were Kings is a larger-than-life document of sports and celebrity history at its absolute biggest. — J.A. How to watch: When We Were Kings is now streaming on Netflix.Asterisks (\*) indicate the entry has been modified from a previous Mashable list. UPDATE: Dec. 16, 2024, 5:52 p.m. EST This list has been updated to reflect Netflix's current selection. Topics Netflix Oscars Streaming Watch Guides Every year, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences awards its coveted Oscar to bestow the highest honors in filmmaking. Netflix broke into the Best Picture race for the first time with 2018's Roma and has since added numerous more titles to that coveted list of nominees, but has so far failed to secure a win, though Apple TV+ broke the barrier this year, becoming the first streaming service to take home Best Picture for CODA despite Netflix leading the pack in nominations for three years running. Films produced, streamed, and distributed by Netflix have won 23 Oscars in 13 categories from 150 nominations so far (not including the 17 nominations for its original movies in 2025). These best Oscar-winning movies on Netflix are their most lauded. However, Netflix's catalog of winners is only sure to increase with the multitude of nominations that it has received for the highly anticipated 97th Academy Awards, set to premiere on March 2nd. 2025 Film Nominated Category Film is Nominated For Emilia Pérez Best Picture, Best Lead Actress, Best Supporting Actress, Best Director, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Editing, Best Sound, Best Makeup and Hairstyling, Best Score, Best Original Song (x2), Best International Feature, Maria Best Cinematography Wallace & Gromit: Vengeance Most Fowl Best Animated Feature The Six Triple Eight Best Original Song The Only Girl in the Orchestra Best Documentary Short Film 15 "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs" (2018) 0 Wins, 3 Nominations Image via Netflix A quaint Western anthology film directed by the legendary Coen Brothers, each of the distinct stories within The Ballad of Buster Scruggs is complete with enough charm and comedy energy to be worth an entire film on its own. Each story has a different dark and shockingly comedic twist to the chaotic and violent world of the Wild West, ranging from the misadventures of a failed wannabe bank robber to the titular Buster Scruggs singing songs as he gets into high-stakes shootouts. The Coen Brothers have no stranger to their films being nominated and even winning Academy Awards in the past, with them even taking home Best Picture with their legendary No Country for Old Men. While the number of nominations wasn't as particularly high as some of their previous works, this doesn't take away from their impact, with its nominations for Best Costume Design, Best Adapted Screenplay, and Best Original Song being highly worthy. Buster Scruggs would end up not taking home any awards however, losing out to the likes of BlackKkklansman, Black Panther, and A Star is Born. Image via Netflix A religious drama that follows the unexpected connection and relationship that forms between the former and future popes. The Two Popes is one of the most defining historical takes on the papacy in recent film history. The film sees Cardinal Bergoglio (Jonathan Pryce) growing more and more tired of the direction of the church in recent years, traveling to the Vatican to request permission to retire from the Pope. However, this meeting with Pope Benedict XVI (Anthony Hopkins) soon takes an unexpected turn when Benedict trusts Bergoglio with a powerful secret and request, despite their rivalry in the past. While only 3 nominations at the 92nd Academy Awards may not seem like a lot for The Two Popes, each of these nominations is in a massively stacked and high-profile category, all being above-the-line nominations. Both Pryce and Hopkins would respectively receive nominations for Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor for their portrayals of the legendary historical figures, while the film would also receive a nomination for Best Adapted Screenplay. With Best Picture having only 9 nominations during this ceremony and The Two Popes having such notable nominations, it's easy to see a world where The Two Popes could have been the film chosen for the 10th open slot in the category. Image via Netflix Dee Rees' 2017 film Mudbound sees two families struggling to survive in the Mississippi Delta — one Black, the other white — sharing the same patch of land and keeping a tenuous, race-based peace. But when their sons Ronsel (Jason Mitchell) and Jamie (Garrett Hedlund) return home from the war with a budding friendship, their peace will be tested by segregation and hatred. At the 90th Academy Awards, Mudbound had four nominations on the ballot: Best Supporting Actress for Mary J. Blige, Best Adapted Screenplay for Rees and Virgil Williams based on the novel by Hillary Jordan, Best Cinematography for Rachel Morrison, and Best Original Song, again for Blige. Blige became the first person to ever be nominated for both an acting and a song Oscar during the same year. Rees became the first Black woman to be nominated for an adapted screenplay. Morrison became the first woman ever to be nominated as a cinematographer. They may not have won, but they did make a lot of history for their work on Mudbound. Image via Hyperobject Industries In 2021, writer-director Adam McKay blessed Netflix viewers with a political satire/black comedy with an incredible and quirky ensemble cast, including Jennifer Lawrence, Leonardo DiCaprio, Jonah Hill, Mark Rylance, Tyler Perry, Timothee Chalamet, Cate Blanchett, and Meryl Streep. It told the story of two astronomers warning the world about its impending demise thanks to an approaching comet. The world, however, remained largely apathetic, an on-the-nose allegory for humanity's current response to climate change. Don't Look Up received mixed reviews from critics and audiences, but the Academy saw fit to bestow four nominations upon it, including a coveted, all-important nomination for Best Picture, which it lost to CODA. It lost Best Original Screenplay to Kenneth Branagh for Belfast, Best Original Score to Hans Zimmer for Dune, and Best Film Editing to Joe Walker, also for Dune. Image via Netflix Aaron Sorkin's 2020 film The Trial of the Chicago 7 told the story of the seven people charged in the wake of protestors' violent confrontations with police in the wake of the 1968 Democratic Party Convention. They were forced to stand trial together by a hostile Nixon administration and a volatile judge despite their differing defense philosophies and that one of them, Black Panther Bobby Seale, wasn't even there. The Trial of the Chicago 7 earned an Oscar nomination for Best Picture at the 93rd Academy Awards, which it lost to Nomadland. While the film also picked up nominations for Best Original Song, Best Cinematography, Best Film Editing, and Best Supporting Actor for Sacha Baron Cohen, it would go home with no wins under its belt. Sorkin, predictably, earned himself a fourth Oscar nomination for his screenplays, though his only win came from 2010's The Social Network; this time he lost to Emerald Fennell's Promising Young Woman. Image via Netflix Historical biopics have become an increasingly prevalent trend among Best Picture nominees, especially those that center themselves around a prolific and acclaimed musician. While not a pop star like other musician biopics, Maestro's deep examination of the ups and downs of the life of legendary composer Leonard Bernstein made for a powerful romantic drama that charmed the Academy and earned an array of nominations. The film made a point to show not only the exceptional highs and glory of Bernstein's career and relationship but also his painful lows, battles with his sexuality, and attempts to balance his love life and maestro career. The film's seven nominations featured several glorious above-the-line nominations for Best Picture, Bradley Cooper for Best Actor, Carey Mulligan for Best Actress, and Best Original Screenplay. Other nominations included the likes of Best Sound, Best Makeup and Hairstyling, and Best Cinematography. However, the high amount of fierce competition among other nominees left the film empty-handed with no wins to its name, losing out to the likes of Oppenheimer, Poor Things, and Anatomy of a Fall. Image via Netflix Martin Scorsese's epic film The Irishman stars Robert DeNiro as a hitman looking back on his life as Scorsese meditates on the excess of sin and the state of his soul. The incredible cast includes Joe Pesci, Al Pacino, and Harvey Keitel. The film acted as Scorsese's swan song for his legendary career in crime movies, acting as a beautiful and heartbreaking sendoff to a chapter of his career as a whole. The 92nd Academy Awards recognized The Irishman with all the biggest nominations, including Best Picture, Best Director, Best Adapted Screenplay, and Best Supporting Actor nominations for both Pacino and Pesci. Brad Pitt bested them both for Once Upon A Time In Hollywood, and Parasite swept the others, though when Bong Joon-ho accepted his Oscar for Best Director, he said "When I was young and studying cinema, there was a saying that I carved deep into my heart, which is, 'the most personal is the most creative,'" which he then attributed to Scorsese, prompting a standing ovation for the prolific director. Netflix has had some luck with its documentary features. Since 2014, they've received 11 nominations in the category. Icarus claimed the first victory in 2018 by revealing Russia's state-sponsored Olympic doping program. American Factory, the first film to be acquired by Michelle and Barack Obama's production company, Higher Ground, followed with a win in 2020 Their most notable win in the category came in 2021 when My Octopus Teacher chronicled filmmaker Craig Foster forgoing a relationship with a wild octopus in a South African kelp forest. It became a global phenomenon and is one of Netflix's highest-rated documentaries, in large part due to the bizarre but wholly engrossing story about the unique bond between man and animal. Release Date September 7, 2020 Runtime 85 Minutes Director James Reed, Pippa Ehrlich Producers James Reed, Phippa Ehrlich While Netflix has been highly competitive in the Best Animated Feature category over the years with films like I Lost My Body, Klaus, and The Mitchells vs. the Machines, they finally broke through with Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio. The film took a darker, more gothic take on the classic children's story, having the story of the wooden boy placed in the backdrop of Mussolini's Italy, further emphasizing the struggles and hardships of the characters involved. The film would end up winning Best Animated Feature against the likes of Turning Red, Puss in Boots: The Last Wish, and even Netflix's own The Sea Beast. The win was also notable for Guillermo del Toro's legendary acceptance speech, in which he brought great weight and importance to the medium of animation, saying that "animation is cinema." It's far from particularly surprising, as even now, the film is easily considered to be one of the greatest animated films that Netflix has released, as a magnificent work of art that has been cherished and enjoyed by audiences worldwide. Noah Baumbach broke Netflix subscribers' hearts via Adam Driver's riveting performance and Scarlett Johansson's heartbreaking story in 2019's Marriage Story about the end of a long relationship. While the movie is still widely considered to be one of Netflix's best when it comes to emotional and dramatic films, it simply faced too great competition in one of the most stacked years in Academy Awards history. Marriage Story also could not match Parasite's raging success, losing Best Picture but being honored just to have been nominated. Driver got a nomination but lost to Joaquin Phoenix's Joker; Johansson was double nominated for both Marriage Story and Jojo Rabbit, but lost out twice, to Renee Zellweger as Judy Garland and Laura Dern, who played her lawyer in Marriage Story and gave the film its single win.