



Aaron Taylor-Johnson

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Aaron Taylor-Johnson (born **Aaron Perry Johnson**;^[1] 13 June 1990)^{[2][3]} is an English actor, best known as the title character in the *Kick-Ass* films and Quicksilver in *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (2015).

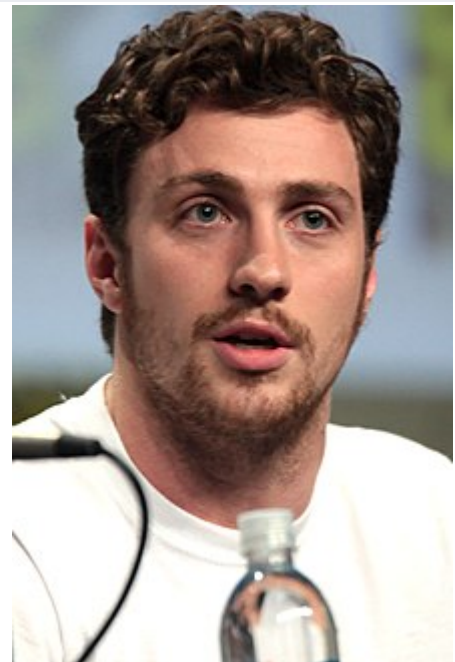
Taylor-Johnson began performing at age six and has appeared in films such as *Shanghai Knights* (2003), playing a young Charlie Chaplin, *The Illusionist* (2006) and *Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging* (2008). He had his breakthrough performance in the John Lennon biopic *Nowhere Boy* (2009). He went on to portray Ben in the Oliver Stone-directed crime thriller *Savages* (2012), Russian aristocrat Count Vronsky in Joe Wright's adaptation of *Anna Karenina* (2012) and Lt. Brody in Gareth Edwards' monster movie *Godzilla* (2014). For his performance as psychopathic drifter Ray Marcus in Tom Ford's thriller *Nocturnal Animals* (2016), he won the [Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actor – Motion Picture](#) and was nominated for the [BAFTA Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role](#).

He was initially credited as Aaron Johnson, but began being billed as Aaron Taylor-Johnson in 2013, with *Kick-Ass 2*. He had legally changed his name after marrying director Sam Taylor-Wood.^[4]

Early life

Johnson was born in [High Wycombe](#), [Buckinghamshire](#),^[5] the son of Sarah and Robert Johnson, a housewife mother and [civil engineer](#) father, respectively.^{[3][6]} He has a sister, Gemma, who appeared in his film *Tom & Thomas* (2002) in a small role.^[7]

Aaron Taylor-Johnson



Taylor-Johnson at the 2014 [San Diego Comic Con](#)

Born	<div>Aaron Perry Johnson</div> <div>13 June 1990</div> <div>High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, England</div>
Nationality	British
Other names	Aaron Johnson
Occupation	Actor
Years active	2000–present
Spouse	Sam Taylor-Johnson (m. 2012)
Children	2

Johnson is Jewish.^[8] He was educated at Holmer Green Senior School^[9] and attended the Jackie Palmer Stage School in High Wycombe between 1996 and 2008, where he studied drama, tap, jazz, acrobatics, and singing.^[10]

Career

Johnson began acting at the age of six. On stage, he appeared in a London production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, playing the son of Macduff alongside Rufus Sewell, who played Macbeth, in 1999.^[11] He appeared in Arthur Miller's *All My Sons* in 2000. His television roles have included Niker in the 2004 BBC adaptation of the novel *Feather Boy*, Aaron in Danny Brocklehurst's ITV1 serial *Talk to Me*, and Owen Stephens in *Nearly Famous*.^[2] In 2003, Johnson appeared as a young Charlie Chaplin in *Shanghai Knights*, with Chaplin depicted as a member of a London gang of street thugs. In 2006, he appeared in *The Illusionist*, appearing in the early flashback scenes as Edward Norton's character, Eduard Abramovicz, as a teenager. The scenes show the young Eduard as he first learns magic, and to do this, Johnson had to learn how to perform the ball trick displayed by his character. He learned how to perform the balancing of the egg on the stick, although that was effected mechanically.^[12] Also in 2006, he starred in the film *The Thief Lord*, as Prosper.



Taylor-Johnson at the 2013 San Diego Comic-Con International promoting *Godzilla*

Johnson appeared as John Lennon in the 2009 biopic film *Nowhere Boy*, directed by Sam Taylor-Wood. His performance saw him receive the Empire Award for Best Newcomer and he was also nominated for Young British Performer of the Year by the London Film Critics' Circle. In 2010, Johnson appeared as David "Dave" Lizewski/Kick-Ass, the lead character in *Kick-Ass*, based on the superhero comic book of the same name by Scottish writer Mark Millar.^{[13][14]} His performance in *Kick-Ass* saw him nominated for the BAFTA Rising Star Award. He has also appeared as the central character, William, in Hideo Nakata's *Chatroom*.^[2] In December 2010, Johnson joined the cast of *Albert Nobbs* as a replacement for Orlando Bloom, who dropped out of the production due to his wife's pregnancy.^{[15][16]} Johnson starred in R.E.M.'s 2011 music video "Überlin", which was also directed by his then-fiancée.^[17]

In 2012, Johnson played Count Vronsky in *Anna Karenina*. Later that year, he starred as Ben in Oliver Stone's *Savages*. HitFix film critic Drew McWeeny was positive of the bond between Johnson and co-star Taylor Kitsch, which "seems not only credible but lived in and authentic throughout the film", and noted the evolution in maturity of Johnson since *Kick-Ass*.^[18] Johnson starred in the *Godzilla* reboot, released in May 2014.^{[19][20]} Johnson played Quicksilver in *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (2015), the sequel to *The Avengers*.^[21] Johnson first appeared as the character in a post-credits scene of the film *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*.^[22] The role reunited him with Elizabeth Olsen, who played his wife in *Godzilla*.^{[21][20]}

In 2016, he played Ray, a menacing Texan, in Tom Ford's thriller *Nocturnal Animals*. For the role, he won the Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actor – Motion Picture. Johnson also became first Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actor winner since Richard Benjamin who did not receive an Academy Award nomination. For the role he also received a nomination for the BAFTA Award for Best Actor in a Supporting

Role. In 2017, he played an American soldier (alongside John Cena) in Doug Liman's thriller *The Wall*,^[23] and in 2018 he will appear in *Outlaw King*, an American-British historical action drama about Robert the Bruce and the Wars of Scottish Independence.

Personal life

Aaron Johnson began a relationship with *Nowhere Boy* director Sam Taylor-Wood, after meeting on the 2009 set of the film when he was 18 and she was 42.^[24] They announced their engagement in October 2009 and married at Babington House, Somerset, England on 21 June 2012. The two changed their surnames to "Taylor-Johnson" and use the surname professionally.^{[4][24][25][26]} The couple have two daughters, Wylda Rae (b. 2010) and Romy Hero (b. 2012). He is also stepfather to two daughters from his wife's previous marriage.^[27]



Taylor-Johnson, with
Sam Taylor-Johnson, in
September 2010

Taylor-Johnson was named one of GQ's 50 best dressed British men in 2015.^[28]

Filmography

Film

Year	Title	Role	Director	Notes
2000	<i><u>The Apocalypse</u></i>	Johanan	Raffaele Mertes	
2002	<i><u>Tom & Thomas</u></i>	Tom Sheppard / Thomas	Esmé Lammers	
2003	<i><u>Behind Closed Doors</u></i>	Sam Goodwin	Louis Caulfield	
2003	<i><u>Shanghai Knights</u></i>	<u>Charlie Chaplin</u>	<u>David Dobkin</u>	
2004	<i><u>Dead Cool</u></i>	George	David Cohen	
2006	<i><u>The Thief Lord</u></i>	Prosper	Richard Claus	
2006	<i><u>The Illusionist</u></i>	Young Eisenheim	<u>Neil Burger</u>	
2006	<i><u>Fast Learners</u></i>	Neil	<u>Christoph Röhl</u>	Short film
2006	<i><u>The Best Man</u></i>	Michael (Aged 15)	Stefan Schwartz	
2007	<i><u>The Magic Door</u></i>	Flip	Paul Matthews	
2008	<i><u>Dummy</u></i>	Danny	Matthew Thompson	Nominated — <u>ALFS Award for Young British Performer of the Year</u>
2008	<i><u>Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging</u></i>	Robbie Jennings	<u>Gurinder Chadha</u>	
2009	<i><u>The Greatest</u></i>	Bennett Brewer	<u>Shana Feste</u>	
2009	<i><u>Nowhere Boy</u></i>	<u>John Lennon</u>	<u>Sam Taylor-Johnson</u>	Empire Award for Best Newcomer Nominated — <u>ALFS Award for Young British Performer of the Year</u> Nominated — <u>British Independent Film Award for Best Actor</u>
2010	<i><u>Kick-Ass</u></i>	David "Dave" Lizewski / <u>Kick-Ass</u>	<u>Matthew Vaughn</u>	Nominated — <u>Empire Award for Best Actor</u> Nominated — <u>BAFTA Rising Star Award</u> Nominated — <u>Scream Award for Best Breakout Performance - Male</u> Nominated — <u>Scream Award for Best Fantasy Actor</u> Nominated — <u>Scream Award for Best Superhero</u> Nominated — <u>Teen Choice Award for Breakout Male</u>
2010	<i><u>Chatroom</u></i>	William Collins	<u>Hideo Nakata</u>	
2011	<i><u>Albert Nobbs</u></i>	Joe Mackins	<u>Rodrigo García</u>	
2012	<i><u>Savages</u></i>	Ben	<u>Oliver Stone</u>	

Year	Title	Role	Director	Notes
2012	<i><u>Anna Karenina</u></i>	Count Vronsky	<u>Joe Wright</u>	Final time credited as Aaron Johnson Nominated — <u>Alliance of Women Film Journalists Award for Best Depiction of Nudity, Sexuality, or Seduction</u> (shared w/ <u>Keira Knightley</u>)
2013	<i><u>Kick-Ass 2</u></i>	David "Dave" Lizewski / Kick-Ass	<u>Jeff Wadlow</u>	First time credited as Aaron Taylor-Johnson
2014	<i><u>Godzilla</u></i>	Lt. Ford Brody	<u>Gareth Edwards</u>	
2014	<i><u>Captain America: The Winter Soldier</u></i>	<u>Pietro Maximoff / Quicksilver</u>	<u>Anthony Russo and Joe Russo</u>	Uncredited cameo
2015	<i><u>Avengers: Age of Ultron</u></i>		<u>Joss Whedon</u>	
2016	<i><u>Nocturnal Animals</u></i>	Ray Marcus	<u>Tom Ford</u>	<u>Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actor – Motion Picture</u> <u>Virtuosos Award for Best Supporting Actor</u> Nominated — <u>BAFTA Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role</u> Nominated — <u>San Diego Film Critics Society Award for Best Supporting Actor</u>
2017	<i><u>The Wall</u></i>	Isaac	<u>Doug Liman</u>	
2018	<i><u>Outlaw King</u></i>	<u>James Douglas, Lord of Douglas</u>	<u>David Mackenzie</u>	Post-production
2019	<i><u>A Million Little Pieces</u></i>	<u>James Frey</u>	<u>Sam Taylor-Johnson</u>	Filming; also screenwriter

Television

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2001	<i><u>Armadillo</u></i>	Young Lorimer Black	
2003	<i><u>The Bill</u></i>	Zac Clough	Episode: "162"
2004	<i><u>Family Business</u></i>	Paul Sullivan	1 episode
2004	<i><u>Feather Boy</u></i>	Niker	3 episodes
2006	<i><u>I Shouldn't Be Alive</u></i>	Mark	4 episodes
2006	<i><u>Casualty</u></i>	Joey Byrne	Episode: "Silent Ties"
2007	<i><u>Talk to Me</u></i>	Aaron	4 episodes
2007	<i><u>Coming Up</u></i>	Eoin	Episode: "99,100"
2007	<i><u>Nearly Famous</u></i>	Owen Stephens	6 episodes
2007	<i><u>Sherlock Holmes and the Baker Street Irregulars</u></i>	Finch	Television film
2014	<i><u>Family Guy</u></i>	Jaidan (voice)	Episode: " <u>Chap Stewie</u> "
2020	<i><u>Sprucia & Gilli</u></i>	Prince Charles	Main series

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External links

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