

# WILLIAM AINSCOUGH



Actor William Ainscough stars alongside Donald Sutherland, Michelle Rodriguez, Mia Kirshner, and David Sutcliffe in Barnet Bain's upcoming film *Milton's Secret*, a story about a young boy who becomes the victim of bullying at his school.

This young star is known for his roles in the CW hit series *Seed* (creators Mark Farrell and Joseph Raso), *Zapped* (director Peter DeLuise, writers Leslis Margolis, Billy and Matt Eddy, Rachelle Skoretz and Kara Holden), *The Christmas Secret* (director Norma Bailey, writers Wesley Bishop, Judd Parkin and Donna Vanliere), *Hidden* (writers/directors Matt and Ross Duffer), and the soon to be released *The History of Love* (writer/director Radu Mihaileanu, writers Nicole Krauss and Marcia Romano).



*Milton's Secret*

## When did you decide to do acting?

"I started acting about four years ago, but I have been on a lot of film

sets because my mom's an actress. I thought it looked like fun, and wanted to give it a try. I am really glad I did!"

***"I just think he picked on me because I was there. I feel bad for him now because I think he really was just trying to make a connection, even if it was based in anger and fear."***

## Are your parents really supportive and helpful for you in your career?

"Yes, every single day. My parents are the most supportive and understanding people I have ever met. They allow me to believe in possibility."

## Do you like auditioning? What are auditions like for you?

"I do like auditioning; every time I get to meet a new person or say hello to a familiar friend. Auditions are a great opportunity for creative

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people to come together and make magic."

#### Tell us about your film *Milton's Secret*.

"I play Milton Adams. He is a young boy dealing with family troubles, school bullies, and just figuring out what it means to be growing up and living NOW. The film is based on a book co-written by Eckhart Tolle.

"*Milton's Secret* is about my character understanding the secret to life thanks to the wisdom of my grandpa Howard (played by Donald Sutherland). Fear will only cripple you, but if you believe in possibility, plus some joy, love, and curiosity, well...anything is possible!"

"I remember one day, we were shooting in the school, and my friend Hays Wellford, who plays my best friend Tim in the movie, did a challenge to see who could drink a bottle of pop without burping. I could-



*The Christmas Secret*



*A scene from Seed*

n't stop laughing, so you can probably guess I didn't win. But it didn't matter – it was so much fun to work with really cool actors my age."

#### Can you tell us what it was like to work with writer/director Barnet Bain?

"Barnet Bain is truly a one-of-a-kind, amazing person, and my friend. He taught me to be in the NOW. He showed me the way to get out of my head and to get into my heart."

#### Can you tell us about the film and your role in *The History of Love*?

"I play Bird Singer in *The History of Love*. He is a young boy who believes he could be the Messiah and that he is responsible for everyone on Earth. The movie is based on the book of the same name."

#### This looks like a really cool film. What was your favorite part of making it?

"I loved everything about it! I really enjoyed getting to film in Montreal and work with an amazing cast and crew. The director, Radu Mihaileanu, was a really great director and he taught me so much about making movies and sharing from the heart. I really hope I get to work with him again.

"One time I put a raisin on my tooth to make it look like I had lost my tooth. All the adults were freaking out, trying to figure out how to make continuity work, etc. After watching the assistant director, director and others freak out for about two minutes I had to let them in on the joke. I thought it was hilarious; they weren't laughing as hard as me though. Oh well...[laughs]"

#### You were in an episode of *Once Upon A Time*, correct? Didn't you play one of the Darlings in the Peter Pan episodes?

"Yes, I played John Darling. I love the story of Peter Pan; it was really cool to get to act out one of the stories my parents read to me as a child. The show was wonderful to work on. The special effects are out of this world!"

"I had a blast working on *Once Upon a Time*! I loved my glasses...they





A scene from Zapped

reminded me of Harry Potter [grins]."

#### Did they wire you up to fly?

"I did not get to fly. I am ready though...any time. Maybe they can bring John Darling back. I am happy to do ALL my own stunts!"

#### When you are not acting, what do you do for fun?

"I play soccer, drums, and I love video games. I play Minecraft and my parents just let me start playing Star Wars Battlefront. So cool!"

#### Do you hope to keep acting when you grow up or do you want to do something else?

"I want to keep acting as long as I can. I would also like to do some graphic design and maybe write scripts for film and TV projects. On *Milton's Secret*, the camera department taught me about lenses and the DP shared some tips about lighting...that was really cool. Maybe I will direct my own script someday...anything is possible."

#### Have you ever been bullied or picked on in school for being an actor or anything else? If yes, could you share the story?

"I haven't been bullied for being an actor, but I have been bullied for random reasons. I think it was really just for the "entertainment" of the older kid who was my bully. I did nothing to him, I just think he picked on me because I was there."

"I feel bad for him now because I think he was really just trying to make a connection, even if it was based in anger and fear."

#### Do you think that being bullied or picked on changed you?

"Being bullied didn't really change me, but it did make me even more aware of how I treat others. Treat others how you want to be treated – that's what my parents have taught me and I think it's pretty good advice."

***"I just have a hard time accepting that other people would be mean to others because of the color of their skin or their personal beliefs. We are all people; we need to support each other."***

#### What do you think local communities to stop bullying and hate crimes?

"We need to keep talking, and sharing our stories...the good and the bad. Bullies need just as much positive attention and support as the people they bully."

#### What would you like to tell the bullies in your school?

"I would like to tell them that just because they have tough challenges and conflict in their life, making someone else feel bad isn't going to help. We all have challenges, and maybe by being willing to take a chance and share those with others out loud, things won't seem as bad to those struggling."

#### Do you have any personal comments about bullying and/or hate crimes you would like to add?

"I have a hard time accepting that people would be mean to others because of the color of their skin or their personal beliefs. We are all people; we need to support each other."

