

LGBT-Car:

The disgusting lack of LGBTQIA+ Representation in “CARS” (2006)

“*Cars*” was a groundbreaking movie for Disney studios. Released June 9, 2006, *Cars* tells the tale of Lightning McQueen as he rushes to fix up the town of Radiator Springs before his great tie-breaker race in California. But as you were watching, you may have wondered to yourself “Where’s the representation for LGBTQIA+ cars in “CARS”?”

Sadly, as I watched, I too found no evidence of Disney even *attempting* to represent the wonderful people of the LGBTQIA+ community in their turn-of-the-century blockbuster. Now, if there wasn’t any representation at all, I would have no issue, as it would be obvious that they want to avoid those subjects for the sake of children. But, it is made abundantly clear that Disney wishes to represent the traits of only certain parts of our diverse and wonderful community.

Throughout the course of the movie, police cars and cars of foreign nationalities have a heavy and unmissable presence in the film. It is clear that Disney wishes to represent all of these classes and characters, likely in the sake of speaking out against movements and administrations such as the Trump Administration, when representing foreign nationalities, and the ACAB movement by showing their support for police vehicles. So this begs the question; “WHERE is the LGBTQIA+ representation in the “Cars” movie?

As I watched, I saw absolutely 0 evidence of ANY gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans(mission)sexual, or even cars that are questioning their sexuality, and personally I find this to be absolutely outrageous. Somehow, amends need to be made for the injustice that Disney has thrust upon the LGBTQIA+ community with this horrific lack of representation in their feature film. Even in FOLLOW UP MOVIES, aka Cars 2 and Cars 3, there is *still* nothing done about this. I can't find any evidence of it, but I can 100% assure you that there was outrage among the community when these sequels were released.

The closest thing I can find to a representation of a gay car is Finn McMissile in "*Cars 2*". He is very gay. But besides this, Disney refuses to represent the beautiful men, women, and otherwise of the LGBTQIA+ community. Amends **MUST** be made, and this injustice needs to be resolved.

Personally, I think that Ta-Nehisi Coates' paper-- "*The Case for Reparations*" can be applied perfectly here. Coates' paper goes over the injustices thrust onto black people during the old times of America, aka slavery, misrepresentation, etc, and this is arguably just as bad. Disney needs to make reparations to the LGBTQIA+ community for what they have done to them.

I think that this could be gone about by perhaps releasing a new "*Cars*" movie, specifically based around representation of the LGBTQIA+ community. I think that it could be about a young, questioning car exploring the "*Cars*" world and experiencing everything that the wonderful world of LGBTQIA+ has to offer for them. Sure, it might be a bit different than the past Cars movies, but I think it is an important first step in solving the horrible things that Disney has, albeit indirectly, done by criminally misrepresenting the LGBTQIA+ community.

In conclusion, Disney has done a disservice to the entire LGBTQIA+ community with their lack of representation and appreciation for them. There is so many things they could have done about this, yet they stubbornly refuse to. I am outraged, and I sure hope you are as well. If we all band together, I feel that changes can be made, and reparations can be made to the LGBTQIA+ people who were disrespected by the Disney conglomerate.

This article was written by Collin Merritt for BuzzFeed, Inc.
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