

Audrey Crawford and Tynisha Ferguson  
Dr. Koster  
Engl 510  
May 23, 2011

## Filmography for *Beowulf* (2007)

Directed by: [Robert Zemeckis](#)

Screenplay by: [Neil Gaiman](#) and [Roger Avary](#)



Featuring: Angelina Jolie, Crispin Hellion Glover, and Ray Winstone.

DVD: Paramount Pictures, 2007. 115 mins.

IMDB SITE <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0442933/>

### Cast:

<a href="#">Ray Winstone</a>	Beowulf
<a href="#">Anthony Hopkins</a>	Hrothgar
<a href="#">John Malkovich</a>	Unferth
<a href="#">Robin Wright Penn</a>	Wealthrow
<a href="#">Brendan Gleesson</a>	Wiglaf
<a href="#">Crispin Hellion Glover</a>	Grendel
<a href="#">Alison Lohman</a>	Ursula
<a href="#">Angelina Jolie</a>	Grendel's Mother



Script: No Script Available

### Major Reviews:

*New York Times*, <http://movies.nytimes.com/2007/11/16/movies/16beow.html>

CNN, <http://www.cnn.com/2007/SHOWBIZ/Movies/11/16/review.beowulf/index.html?iref=allsearch>

Beowulf Website: <http://www.beowulfmovie.com/>

Video Link (youtube.com): [How it should have ended: Beowulf](#)

Synopsis: (from Artist Direct)

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Inspired by the epic Old English poem of the same name, director [Robert Zemeckis](#)' digitally rendered film follows the Scandinavian hero Beowulf ([Ray Winstone](#)) as he fights to protect the Danes from a ferocious beast named Grendel ([Crispin Glover](#)). Though at first Grendel seems invincible, Beowulf eventually manages to defeat him in a desperate battle to the death.

Devastated by her son's violent demise at the hands of Beowulf, Grendel's mother ([Angelina Jolie](#),) sets out in search of revenge. Later, Beowulf faces the biggest challenge of his life when he attempts to slay a powerful dragon. [Anthony Hopkins](#), [Robin Wright Penn](#), [Alison Lohman](#), [John Malkovich](#) and [Brendan Gleeson](#) co-star in an epic fantasy adventure penned by [Roger Avary](#). ~Jason Buchanan, Rovi

### Suggested Readings:

Biggs, Frederick. "The Politics and Succession in Beowulf and Anglo-Saxon England." *Speculum*, 80.3 (2005): 709-741. *JSTOR*. Web. 20 May 2011.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/20463382?&Search=yes&searchText=Middle&searchText=Ages&searchText=Beowulf&list=hide&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicResults%3Fhp%3D25%26la%3D%26so%3Dnew%26wc%3Don%26acc%3Don%26gw%3Djtx%26jpsi%3D1%26artsi%3D1%26Query%3DMiddle%2BAges%2Bas%2Bseen%2Bin%2BBeowulf%26sbq%3DMiddle%2BAges%2Bas%2Bsen%2Bin%2BBeowulf%26prq%3DBeowulf%2BAND%2BIdentity%26si%3D26%26jtxsi%3D26&prevSearch=&item=44&ttl=2082&returnArticleService=showFullText>

Osborn, Marijane. "The Great Feud: Scriptural History and Strife in Beowulf." *PMLA*, 93.5 (1978): 973-981. *JSTOR*. Web. 20 May 2011.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/461781?&Search=yes&searchText=Marijane&searchText=Osborn&list=hide&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicResults%3Fhp%3D25%26la%3D%26so%3Dold%26wc%3Don%26acc%3Don%26gw%3Djtx%26jpsi%3D1%26artsi%3D1%26Query%3DMarijane%2Bosborn%26sbq%3DMarijane%2Bosborn%26si%3D26%26jtxsi%3D26&prevSearch=&item=33&ttl=174&returnArticleService=showFullText>

### Suggested Questions:

1. What kind of Middle Ages does Zemeckis create through his characters? Provide reasoning for your stance.
2. In your opinion, do you feel that the Middle Ages as seen in the poem differs from the Middle Ages portrayed in the movie? Explain.
3. One major theme in Beowulf is identity. In what ways do we see characters try to establish identity in the poem or film?
4. According to Eco's list of the 10 ways we view the M.A., which points most accurately reflect Zemeckis *Beowulf*?
5. Eco discussed allegory in his piece *Adventures in Hyperreality*. What allegorical lessons do we gain from Zemeckis' *Beowulf*?
6. What are some of the differences in the role of a good warrior and a good king?

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7. What effect does the animated version of the film have on your personal view of the Middle Ages? Did Zemeckis make the Middle Ages more or less real by digitally creating the M.A. rather than creating a film with actual human characters?
8. In what ways is the Beowulf in the film similar/different to Buliwyf in *The 13<sup>th</sup> Warrior*?