

Eight Men Out ★★½

Year of Release: 1988

Review by Randy Parker

Country: USA

Verdict: Skip It

I have to classify *Eight Men Out* in the near miss department. Although the Black Sox Scandal is a compelling story, the direction by John Sayles lacks coherence. The movie has so many plot strands that it's hard to follow and contains so many characters that most of them get lost in the shuffle. With tighter editing, a stronger story line, and more character development, *Eight Men Out*

could have been a far more dramatic and moving film. Nevertheless, I did like its impressive cast, especially John Cusack who is superb as Buck Weaver. Cusack and the rest of the cast, however, are no more successful in saving *Eight Men Out* from its narrative weaknesses than were the 1919 White Sox in salvaging the World Series.

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