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FEBRUARY  
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## Movie Fans and Critics Make Oscar Picks

This is the week when every self-respecting film critic understands that Oscars are what readers are interested in--it's Hollywood's big night at the movies. So naturally lots of other folks want to capitalize on media interest in the Oscars too. Thus, people-search engine Spock.com asked the question of how public opinion matches up with the film critics.



None of these stats mean a damn thing. Neither movie fans nor critics are accurate forecasters of who will win the Oscar race. The winners on February 24 are determined by a specific group--5829 Academy voters--who may be influenced a tad by boxoffice success or by critics' prizes, but actually vote their own taste, which is neither monolithic nor entirely predictable. Those of us who read the tea leaves carefully, year after year, can come close, but there are always surprises.

Spock.com compiled a list of nominees gauged by their online searches. Out of the nominated actors for best actress, Ellen Page generated more Internet searches than Cate Blanchett (nearly 87% vs. 3%). Here are some Spock comparisons of most popular people searches vs. critics' picks:

### PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Best Actor: Johnny Depp

Best Supporting Actor: Tom Wilkinson

Best Actress: Ellen Page

Best Supporting Actress: Ruby Dee

Best Director: Paul Thomas Anderson

### ROGER EBERT'S CHOICE

Best Actor: Daniel Day-Lewis

Best Supporting Actor: Javier Bardem

Best Actress: Ellen Page

Best Supporting Actress: Ruby Dee

Best Director: Joel and Ethan Coen

### PETER TRAVERS' CHOICE

Best Actor: Daniel Day-Lewis

## ABOUT



**Variety** blogger Anne Thompson is your trusted source for film industry news. She tracks Hollywood, Indiewood, awards season and film festivals for this

daily blog.



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**TV's Powerful, Complex Women** These heroines may have messy personal lives, but they're smart and complicated, and they look fabulous. [Full article.](#)

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Best Supporting Actor: Javier Bardem

Best Actress: Julie Christie

Best Supporting Actress: Ruby Dee

KENT JONES' CHOICE

Best Actor: Daniel Day-Lewis

Best Supporting Actor: Hal Holbrook

Best Actress: Julie Christie

Best Supporting Actress: Cate Blanchett

Best Director: Joel and Ethan Coen

Technorati Tags: [Cate Blanchett](#), [critics](#), [Ellen Page](#), [Oscars](#)

Posted: Wed, February 20, 2008, 7:02 PM

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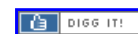
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