**JACOB TREMBLAY IS JACK IN *ROOM***

For Jacob Tremblay acting is, quite simply, fun. It’s the chance to pretend and play and hang out with some very nice people just like Brie Larson who plays his mother in *Room.* “We’re best friends,” he smiles.

Jacob, now 9, beat hundreds of hopefuls to win the role of Jack in Lenny Abrahamson’s screen adaptation of Emma Donoghue’s acclaimed novel about a young woman, Ma (Ms Larson) and her five year old son who are imprisoned in a 11 x 11 room.

A deeply moving story about the unbreakable bond, and the love, shared between a mother and her son, *Room* won rave reviews when it premiered at the Telluride Film Festival and then played the Toronto Film Festival. Critics have praised Jacob’s brilliant performance.

“I had to pretend that I knew nothing about the world, so it was a hard role, but it was also really fun,” he says. “I just cleared everything else out of my mind and I pretended that I was Jack, and I did it.”

Before filming started, he spent time with Ms Larson and that helped forge that bond that we see on screen.

**“**Brie is a really, really nice person, and I’m so glad I got to work with her. At first I was really shy when I met her, but my mom said, ‘how about we have a play date one day?’ So one day we had a play date and now we’re best friends, and we know each other a lot.

“Lenny was great, too. He was a really great director. When I had an idea, I asked him and we tried it, and if he didn’t like the idea then we didn’t do it, but if he liked it then we did it.

“He’s really nice, and he has kids, so one time on Halloween I got to play with his kids, and they’re nice, too. Joan Allen plays my grandma in the movie – she was really nice to work with! And Bill Macy plays by grandpa, and he was in one of the *Jurassic Park* movies, which I love!

Jacob lives in Vancouver with his parents and two sisters. He first started acting when he was five. “It’s like playing,” he says. “I get to be a different character, and I love pretending I’m different people. It’s really fun.

“I was five when I started doing my first movie, *The Smurfs 2*. It was a fun one because I got to pretend that these dolls were Smurfs, and I do that all the time. I pretend that a toy snake is a real huge snake, like, ‘Ahhh!’

He loves films – his favourites are *Jurassic Park* and *Star Wars –* and hopes to continue acting when he’s older but if not, he has a plan for an alternative career. “I will continue to do it, but if I can’t do acting anymore then I’ll be a Jedi,” he laughs.

For the first part of *Room,* before Ma and Jack escape, Jacob had to have long hair. “It was actually a wig!” he says. “It was just so itchy. I had to keep it on all day, it was so horrible, but it was worth it.”

It was indeed. Young Jacob is one to watch. “I actually did two more movies after *Room* – *Shut In* and *Burn Your Maps* – and I’m filming another one now called *The Book of Henry*. The director, Colin Trevorrow, is doing the next *Star Wars* – I’ve already asked him if I can be a Jedi!”

**Q&A**

**Q: Tell me about playing Jack. What was it like?**

**A:** I had to pretend that I knew nothing about the world, so it was a hard role, but it was also really fun. I just cleared everything else out of my mind and I pretended that I was Jack, and I did it.

**Q: Did you have to audition?**

**A:** I auditioned, and then I got a call back in LA, so I went to LA and I did a call back there and then I got the role.

**Q: What’s Brie Larson like?**

**A:** Brie is a really, really nice person, and I’m so glad I got to work with her. At first I was really shy when I met her, but my mom said, ‘how about we have a play date one day?’ So one day we had a play date and now we’re best friends, and we know each other a lot.

**Q: How did Lenny Abrahamson help you get into character?**

**A:** Lenny was great, too. He was a really great director. When I had an idea, I asked him it and we tried it, and if he didn’t like the idea then we didn’t do it, but if he liked it then we did it. He’s really nice, and he has kids, so one time on Halloween I got to play with his kids, and they’re nice, too. Joan Allen plays my grandma in the movie – she was really nice to work with! And Bill Macy plays by grandpa, and he was in one of the *Jurassic Park* movies, which I love!

**Q: Do you have to go to school when you’re making a film?**

**A:** I have a tutor who helps me with school so I don’t miss out.

**Q: What are your favourite subjects?**

**A:** I like social studies.

**Q: What did you think about Jack’s long hair?**

**A:** It was actually a wig! It was just so itchy. I had to keep it on all day, it was so horrible, but it was worth it.

**Q: What do you like to do when you’re not acting?**

**A:** I like to play Lego. I like to run around in our backyard and I like to watch movies and play video games – lots of stuff that kids do.

**Q: And what are your favourite films?**

**A:** I like *Star Wars* and *Jurassic Park* and all that awesome *Jaws* stuff.

**Q: How old are you?**

**A:** I’m nine. I was five when I started doing my first movie, *The Smurfs 2*. It was a fun one because I got to pretend that these dolls were Smurfs, and I do that all the time. I pretend that a toy snake is a real huge snake, like, ‘Ahhh!’

**Q: Why did you want to act?**

**A:** It’s like playing. I get to be a different character, and I love pretending I’m different people. It’s really fun.

**Q: Will you carry on doing it when you grow up?**

**A:** I will continue to do it, but if I can’t do acting anymore then I’ll be a Jedi (laughs).

**Q: Do you have brothers and sisters?**

**A:** I’ve got zero brothers and two sisters. Both of them act. My younger sister has just started acting and she is doing pretty well.

**Q: Do you give her tips?**

**A:** No, I should do that, actually.

**Q: What do your friends think about your acting?**

**A:** I have lots of friends. They’ve only seen *The* *Smurfs 2*, because *Room* isn’t a kids’ movie. I haven’t been in any other kid movies than *Smurfs 2*.

**Q: Have you seen *Room*?**

**A:** Yeah, I’ve seen it two times.

**Q: Are you doing other films?**

**A:**  I actually did two more movies after *Room* – *Shut In* and *Burn Your Maps* – and I’m filming another one now called *The Book of Henry*. The director, Colin Trevorrow, is doing the next *Star Wars* – I’ve already asked him if I can be a Jedi!”

**Q: Do you have your parents with you when you make a movie?**

**A:** My mom and my dad take turns coming with me if it’s a big shoot. Sometimes one of my parents stays with my sisters for a while, but sometimes we film stuff and they’re all there.

**Q: Did you meet Emma** Donoghue**?**

**A:** Yeah, I met her. She’s very nice.

**ENDS**