

Pretend We're Critics
Season 2

Created by

S.T. Holt
&
Justice Ameer

Episode 1: "Oscars 2026: The Year The Academy Chose Violence"

Audioplay by

S.T. Holt

Pretend We're Critics | Season 2 Ep. 1

What's up everybody, and welcome back to Pretend We're Critics. That's right. We are officially back for Season Two, which feels both surreal and slightly irresponsible, but here we are.

And because I refuse to enter a new season alone, I've once again recruited a guest critic you know, you love, and you absolutely did not ask less of...Mr. Raz Cunningham.

<Raz Intro>

Now today, the winds have changed. Partly because Raz and I are currently trapped in a winter storm here on the East Coast, but mostly because the Oscar nominations have dropped. And with them, the annual tradition of joy, rage confusion, and selective amnesia.

Every year, the same questions get thrown around. Who got snubbed? Who's about to sweep? Will the Oscars feel like an awards show this year or another well dressed political meeting?

We're breaking it all down today. The wins, losses, and even the moments that may potentially break film twitter.

HOT TOPICS

- **The Snubs** | Wicked: For Good (10 Noms to 0), Avatar: Fire and Ash (Best Picture), Paul Mescal (Hamnet), Chase Infiniti (OBAO)
- **The Sweep** | Sinners, F1, Frankenstein
- **The Host** | Conan O' Brian.
- **Predictions**

SYDNEY

There you have it! The Oscars have once again united us in celebration, divided us in opinion, and reminded us that no matter how many films we watch, chaos always wins.

I personally feel like 2025 was a phenomenal year for film no matter who wins. Last year felt as if everyone was talking about some film they couldn't get enough of and that's what I love most; the discourse, passion, and completely unhinged group chats.

But that's all the time we've got for today. Thank you so much for kicking off Season Two with us!

This has been Pretend We're Critics.

We'll see you on the next episode.

Thanks for listening! Bye!