# A Nice Indian Boy - a new take on gay rom-com



Say hello to A Nice Indian Boy, a film about the blossoming relationship between a young man of Indian heritage and a clean-cut American.

Naveen, played by Karan Soni, is a diligent doctor and devoted son, while Jay, played by Jonathan Groff of Looking fame, is a photographer raised by Indian parents and deeply connected to his adoptive culture, despite being white.

Set within the United States, A Nice Indian Boy explores themes of family dynamics and cultural integration, as Naveen navigates his relationship with Jay, introducing him to his family's weekly dinner. Supporting roles include Naveen's older sister Arundhathi, played by Sunita Mani, who grapples with her own struggles after a divorce from an arranged marriage. The film portrays her attempts to approach Naveen, illustrating the silent burdens shared within familial love.

The parents, portrayed by Zarna Garg as Megha and Harish Patel as Archit, present a traditional façade but reveal a desire to engage with their children's lives, a portrayal that helps demystify the often-stereotypical narrative surrounding arranged marriages, demonstrating instead an effort to connect with and support their children’s choices, despite initial reservations about Naveen's relationship with Jay. The film artfully unfolds moments of miscommunication, significant gestures of love, and nods to Bollywood culture throughout its narrative.

The film includes an array of supporting figures who contribute to the narrative, showing a diversity of friendships within the contexts of queer experiences and chosen families. The absence of overt explanation regarding Jay's background as an adopted child allows for a more organic exploration of identity, with significant emphasis placed on cultural honouring rather than comedic tropes.

Critics have noted Garg's impressive screen presence, providing humour and warmth, while Patel’s quieter portrayal carries significant emotional weight. The film has drawn comparisons to other romcoms in the queer genre, such as Fire Island and But I’m a Cheerleader, for its fresh perspective and relatable storytelling.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.cinemablend.com/movies/jonathan-groff-karan-sonis-rom-com-a-nice-indian-boy-me-ugly-cry-immigrant-parent-storyline> - This article highlights the film's impact on exploring family dynamics and cultural integration, particularly through Naveen's parents' journey towards acceptance. It also touches upon the romantic relationship and its emotional depth.
* <https://sfbaytimes.com/a-nice-indian-boy-is-a-fabulous-gay-romcom/> - This piece emphasizes the film's blend of comedy and drama, focusing on Naveen's layered relationships with his family and Jay. It discusses the connection to Indian culture and the power of love in the film.
* <https://bob-the-movie-man.com/film-review/a-nice-indian-boy-12-a-gay-version-of-whats-love-got-to-do-with-it/> - This review explores the film's heartwarming narrative and its contrast to other romcoms. It highlights the comedic aspects and the strong performances of the lead actors.
* <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt24719136/fullcredits> - This webpage provides detailed cast information for 'A Nice Indian Boy', confirming the roles played by Karan Soni, Jonathan Groff, and other actors mentioned in the article.