

Two men bare their souls as they struggle with life, creative expression, addiction, culture and depression.

THE END OF THE TOUR

A collage of film-related items including a clapperboard, a film reel, and a film strip, set against a green background with circular patterns.

The End of the Tour received accolades from *Vanity Fair*, Sundance Film Festival, the movie critic Roger Ebert, the *New York Times* and many more. Tour the film locations and explore the places where actors Jason Segel and Jesse Eisenberg spent their downtime. Get the scoop and discover entertaining, behind-the-scene stories and more.

The End of the Tour

follows true events and the relationship between acclaimed author David Foster Wallace and Rolling Stone reporter David Lipsky. Jason Segel plays David Foster Wallace who committed suicide in 2008, while Jesse Eisenberg plays the Rolling Stone reporter who followed Wallace around the country for five days as he promoted his book, *Infinite Jest*.



PHOTO: JANET KASIC

DAVID FOSTER WALLACE'S HOUSE
5910 72nd Avenue, Hudsonville

Head over to the house that served as the “home” of David Foster Wallace. This home (15 miles from Grand Rapids) is where all house scenes were filmed. Like we see in *The End of the Tour* movie, Wallace was a bit unkempt but still highly intelligent and insightful. He painted his writing room black and filled it with vintage lamps, some with shades and others without, giving it an eerie look.

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC
2660 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids

This bookstore was used in one of the last scenes of the movie and was a stand-in for a Barnes & Noble bookstore. This scene filmed here depicted Rolling Stone reporter, David Lipsky, doing his own book signing and reflecting on his conversations with David Foster Wallace. Shooting the scene took place at night, all night as a matter of fact, beginning at 8 p.m. till the next morning

right before the bookstore opened up again.

All the books on the shelves had to come down and were replaced by books that were best sellers and popular at the time the story line took place. Schuler Books has a fireplace against one wall which was covered up with shelving and books and used as the backdrop for the scene.

Schuler Books & Music is one of the nation's largest independent bookstores. The bookstore boasts a large selection of music, DVDs, gift items, and a gourmet café.



PHOTO: EMILY STAVROU-SCHAEFER, SCHULER BOOKS

GERALD R. FORD
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

5500 44th Street SE, Grand Rapids

Named in honor of Gerald R. Ford, the 38th president of the United States, the Gerald R. Ford Airport was the setting for several scenes in the movie. A crew of over 100 people worked for over 14 hours at GFIA, and filmed in various locations throughout the airport. Locations included the economy parking lot, the parking ramp, the airfield, the Concourse B hallway, as well as two vacant ticket counter areas. Grand Rapids was standing in as both the Minneapolis-St. Paul and Chicago O'Hare airports with two different scenes created among the location.



PHOTO: TARA HERNANDEZ

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
1 Campus Drive, Allendale

The campus of Grand Valley State University was used as a scene in the movie, specifically Mackinac Hall. All filming took place during spring break so the bulk of students were not around and it would not interfere with classes. A cool thing to note: one person on the production crew was a former student of film and video program at Grand Valley State and it was heart-warming for his former teacher to see him in action working on the production of the movie.



PHOTO: JANET KASIC

I-96 IN GRAND RAPIDS

It was early March 2014, but it wasn't snow or ice that shut down the I-96 freeway in Grand Rapids. Crews filmed scenes with Jesse Eisenberg and Jason Segel riding in a car along the freeway with Grand Rapids as the background. The city was actually a stand-in for a Chicago suburb. The car traveled below posted speed limits while two rode on a flatbed trailer hooked up with cameras and production gear. Thanks to the "men and women in blue," production rolled along with the help of a Grand Rapids police escort.

IHOP RESTAURANT

4671 Wilson Avenue SW, Grandville

In the movie, actors Eisenberg and Segel sit down for breakfast at an IHOP. Yes, this is the same IHOP in Grand Rapids. The actors had breakfast, an omelet cooked up by the actual cook at the restaurant, and IHOP's own waitstaff was used in the scene as well. Once again it was all shot late at night and into the wee hours of the morning so to not to be disruptive to the customers of IHOP.

HAWTHORN SUITES

2701 East Beltline Avenue SE
Grand Rapids

Both Jason Segel and Jesse Eisenberg chose to stay away from the hustle and bustle of downtown Grand Rapids and instead stayed at the Hawthorn Suites in Grand Rapids. For all you tourists and fans—the hotel is conveniently located next to the popular Woodland Mall. Shop till you drop!



PHOTO: JANET KASIC

NEW BEGINNINGS RESTAURANT
1455 Michigan Street NE, Grand Rapids

This restaurant was featured in the movie as the setting for Monical's Pizza. About 17 minutes into the movie, you will see Rolling Stone reporter David Lipsky interviewing author David Foster Wallace at this restaurant. Not much was changed inside the restaurant for the scene. Two of the waitstaff were used for filming (although you only get a glimpse of one of them) and the restaurant's cook prepared the food that was set on the table in the film.

REDUX USED BOOKS
1349 Lake Drive SE, Grand Rapids

One of the first scenes in *The End of the Tour* was filmed at Redux Books, a local used bookstore. In the movie, Rolling Stone

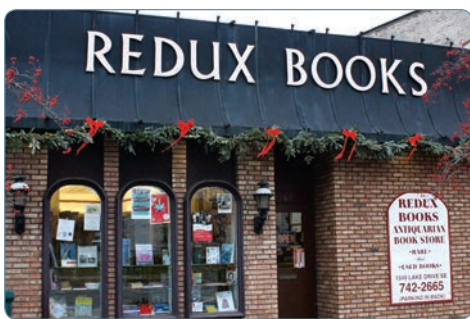


PHOTO: JOHN APOL

reporter David Lipsky, played by Jesse Eisenberg, is giving a presentation about his 2010 *New York Times* bestselling book, "Although Of Course You End Up Becoming Yourself: A Road Trip with David Foster Wallace." All filming took place at night. The film crew would show up about 11 p.m. and shoot until 3 a.m. all week long.

JW MARRIOTT
235 Louis Street NW, Grand Rapids

A luxury hotel with 23 posh floors in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, one of the scenes in the movie was filmed outside of the hotel. The hotel also served as a base camp for the movie production and crew.



PHOTO: JANET KASIC

HERITAGE HILL APARTMENTS, APT. 2
447 Wealthy Street, Grand Rapids

This charming brownstone brick building was the setting in the movie for the Rolling Stone reporter's West End Avenue apartment in NYC. It's close to the historic Heritage Hill area of Grand Rapids and heck, it might be available to rent as well. Move right in!

TOWNSQUARE MEDIA

50 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids

This building was the setting for the Rolling Stone offices and the NPR office/studios.

EASTERN AVENUE HALL

506 Eastern Avenue NE, Grand Rapids

This historic building is also known as the Eastern Polish Dance Hall and is the location of the final scene in the movie. In this scene, you see actor Jason Segel in a church hall dancing with a young lady. This is the same place where the production team, crew and actors had their wrap-up party. The Eastern Polish Dance Hall has a long history: it served as sort of a community and cultural center for Polish immigrants arriving in the Grand Rapids area in the early 1900s. It was a place where the immigrants could get financial aid and advice, gather to socialize, etc. Coincidentally, Jesse Eisenberg is Polish and he autographed the \$500 payment the production team made to the cultural center, sending well wishes "from one Pole to many others."

TO EASTERN HALL,
WHAT A WONDERFUL
CULTURAL CENTER.
FROM ONE POLE TO
MANY OTHERS.
FROM JESSE EISENBERG

PHOTO: JANET KASIC

LOCAL MUST-SEE ATTRACTIONS



PHOTO: BILL HERBERT

GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

303 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum pays tribute Gerald Ford, the 38th president of the United States, and his wife Betty Ford. Exhibits in the museum include a full-scale replica of the Oval Office, a Watergate gallery, interactive Cabinet Room, 1976 Bicentennial display, and a section of the Berlin Wall. Additional exhibits pay tribute to the life and influence of Betty Ford.

The president and Mrs. Ford are buried on the grounds of the museum, on a hillside spot that attracts a steady stream of people paying their respects.

MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE PARK 1000 East Beltline Avenue NE Grand Rapids

One of the world's most significant botanic and sculpture experiences, the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park serves more than a half-million visitors annually. The grounds feature Michigan's largest tropical

conservatory; Victorian gardens with bronze sculptures by Degas and Rodin; outdoor gardens; a spectacular butterfly house; and a 1,900-seat outdoor amphitheater featuring world-renowned musicians every summer. Visitors to the sculpture park can take a tram throughout the park.

If you're lucky enough to be in Grand Rapids in early fall, be sure to attend ArtPrize, the most-attended public art event on the planet.



PHOTO: CIRCLE MICHIGAN

LAKE MICHIGAN CIRCLE TOUR

Outside of Grand Rapids, hop onto US-31. You're now traveling the northern portion of the Lake Michigan Circle Tour. This tour will take you through dozens of beautiful and charming harbor towns along Lake Michigan's shoreline: towns such as Holland with its rich Dutch heritage and home to one of the top tulip festivals in the country, and the resort areas of Saugatuck, Grand Haven, Pentwater, Ludington and Manistee. With miles of shoreline, Michigan has the most lighthouses in the country. See these beautiful beacons up close for yourself.



LST 393 **560 Mart Street, Muskegon**

Tour one of the last of two landing ship war tanks. Walk where heroes walked. Discover USS LST 393's outstanding wartime record as you tour a nationally renowned veterans museum with artifacts and displays honoring those who served America and fought for the freedoms we enjoy today.

MAC WOODS DUNE RIDES **629 North 18th Avenue, Mears**

Take an exciting dune buggy ride to the top of a sand mountain. Mac Wood's Dune Rides are a thrilling experience. Climb to the summit and see the breathtaking panorama before you. Glide down the sweeps into the valleys, drive past sparkling Silver Lake, and arrive at Lake Michigan. Knowledgeable dune drivers tell the history and explain the environment of the constantly changing sand dunes. Bring your cameras to remember these outstanding views.



PHOTO: MUSKEGON COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

PHOTO: CIRCLE MICHIGAN



DID YOU KNOW?

Why did they pick the house in Hudsonville as the home of David Foster Wallace? The production company looked at over 50 homes in the Grand Rapids area before they came upon the one in Hudsonville. As soon as they saw the house they exclaimed, “This house is great, we have to use it.”

The production company told the owners that the home reminded them of the real house that David Foster Wallace lived in. The layout of the interior of the home was similar and the fact this house was in a rural area made it even better. David Foster Wallace himself was a bit of a loner, a manic depressive person who lived out in the country. The isolation of the home made it ideal to the personality of the author.

The family renting the Hudsonville house was moved to another home in nearby Grandville. The home in Hudsonville was a contemporary, modern style so the production crew had to change the décor to a decade earlier. Concerns from the owner that too much would be changed prompted the production crew to state, “It’s not like we are going to paint the walls black or something.” But that is exactly what happened. Walls had to be painted black in the room to be depicted as a study, just as David Foster Wallace’s own office in his own home. A living room wall was painted purple and another wall in the living room was also painted black.

The End of the Tour has a scene at David Foster Wallace’s home where Jason Segel, playing David Foster Wallace, is eating a McDonald’s hamburger. The McDonald’s Corporation was quite fussy about their image so they flew in their own cook to make the hamburger. Each time

they had to retake the scene, another burger had to be made, seven or eight burgers in total. Even the brown paper bag in the scene had to be perfect—not too many wrinkles, etc.

In the final scene, actor Jason Segel is in a church hall dancing with a young lady. During the filming of this scene, Segel was not feeling well due to an earlier shoot where he had to retake a scene at least seven or eight times and each time he had to eat a McDonald’s hamburger. Well, after that many burgers, he was feeling ill and was doing everything he could to keep from getting sick. Eventually, he could not contain himself any longer, he ran to a window (he was on the second floor), stuck his head out and began to vomit. The fans waiting outside below had quite a view of Jason Segel getting sick.

David Foster Wallace was an American novelist, short story writer, and a professor of English and creative writing. Wallace’s 1996 novel *Infinite Jest* was cited by *Time* magazine as one of the 100 best English-language novels from 1923 to 2005. Wallace was also nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. David Foster Wallace is widely been recognized as one of the most significant American writers of his generation.

On his off time, Jason Segel liked to hang out at a local comic book store called The Vault of Midnight. Located at 95A Monroe Center Street NW in Grand Rapids, they have some of the best comic books, board

games and geeky items. It a legendary place to go—they also have stores in Detroit and Ann Arbor.

Jesse Eisenberg was spotted having dinner at Amore Trattoria Italiana in Comstock Park near Grand Rapids with crew members. Restaurant manager Manny Rivera said the staff was excited to have the actor in the restaurant but nobody bothered the notoriously shy performer for a photo or autograph.

In the final scene, as Wallace dances in a church, viewers hear the music of Brian Eno's "The Big Ship." The song was one of Wallace's favorite songs, appearing in both his conversations with Lipsky and, years later, published in his unfinished novel, *The Pale King*. Quite ironic, as Wallace once said of dancing, "Modern party-dance is simply writhing to suggestive music. It is ridiculous, silly to watch and excruciatingly embarrassing to perform. It is ridiculous, and yet absolutely everyone does it, so that it is the person who does not want to do the ridiculous thing who feels out of place and uncomfortable and self-conscious. In a word, ridiculous."

The bulk of filming took place in West Michigan, with brief shoots in New York City and at the Mall of America in Minneapolis.

The End of the Tour grossed \$2.99 million. At the time, it was the first locally shot movie in Grand Rapids in five years.

Actor Jesse Eisenberg is no stranger to West Michigan. He spent a couple of months filming in Grand Rapids for the comedy *30 Minutes or Less* in 2010. Jason Segel also spent time in Michigan filming *The Five-year Engagement*.

Clawson, Mich.-based talent agency Real Style posted a casting call for extras in the movie on its Facebook page.

Eisenberg said he had been a fan of Wallace's work since college, saying, "I just thought it was phenomenal."

Jason Segel was nervous about taking the part as David Foster Wallace. But after reading the screenplay, he felt a connection. To prepare for the role, Segel listened exhaustively to Lipsky's recordings, watched online clips of David Foster Wallace, and assembled a small book club to read *Infinite Jest*. He told the *New York Times* that when he bought the novel, the saleswoman rolled her eyes. "She said, "Infinite Jest. Every guy I've ever dated has an unread copy on his bookshelf."

All filming in restaurants and bookstores took place at night so as not to disrupt regular patrons and customers of each business.

David Foster Wallace struggled with crippling bouts of depression throughout his life. Over the years, Wallace submitted himself to hospitalizations and electroconvulsive therapy. Feeling unable to escape the bad clouds hanging over him, he committed suicide on September 12, 2008. He hung himself from a rafter above his backyard patio.

To quote David Foster Wallace, "The more people think you're really great, the bigger your fear of being a fraud is."



The Michigan Film and Digital Media Office (MFDMO) was created in 1979 to assist and attract incoming production companies and to promote the growth of Michigan's indigenous industry. Since its inception, the MFDMO commissioner has been responsible for implementing a program that lives within the parameters of Michigan law and works to ensure the program runs efficiently and effectively. Today, the MFDMO is working diligently to guarantee the film and digital media program accomplishes key results of private investment and workforce development by encouraging high wages, high-tech jobs and talent retention.

The End of the Tour tour is the sole property of the Michigan Film & Digital Media Office.
Special thanks to Janet Kasic of Circle Michigan for content creation.

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