

Winners Conference: EE Rising Star

16 February 2014

Winner: Will Poulter

Q. How does it feel to have a blue BAFTA?

A. A blue BAFTA. Yeah. It's - it's quite a shock still, I have to say. It has not sunk in and I am very embarrassed by the fact that I ended up blubbing on stage. I sort of promised that I wouldn't do that and I did. So that is upsetting. But no, I am very, very grateful.

Q. Had you been practising the speech beforehand?

A. My speech was actually still in here. I actually did not have the nerve to bring it out. That would have helped, I think, if I read from the speech I had written, but I didn't and I talked about *Finding Nemo* for some reason. I did not get the role. But very, very grateful to receive this. It is amazing.

Q. Do you want to read the speech now just to set the record straight?

A. No, it is pretty much the same, just minus *Finding Nemo*, I think. So it would be boring for you.

NEW SPEAKER: What did your mum say?

A. Mum ... mum said. If I am being totally honest, mum said: well done, fatty, which is a joke we have. We call each other "fatty". It comes from watching *Little Britain* I think when I was younger. So that is what she said.

And it is - yeah, it was the best thing she could have said. It was very natural and, yeah, it was lovely sitting next to her for that moment.

Q. Will you bring her back to the next BAFTA?

A. Oh, if I am invited again I will absolutely, yeah.

NEW SPEAKER: Congratulations, Will.

A. Thanks, dude.

NEW SPEAKER: I am a member of Interfilm and I am only 14.

Did you imagine at my age where your career would take you, and what actually got you into the film industry?

A. That is interesting. I think - I think at your age, at school, I could almost guarantee you I was not as good as you are at school. I guarantee that for all of you at 14. I was struggling. And acting was kind of the only thing I had going for me. I was very lucky, I went to a great school and had very supportive parents, but I just did not function really in a classroom. I was not in any way academically

tuned, and acting was really a kind of saving grace.

But I did not think at 14 I would be acting, you know, really. I thought I would still be just kind of – just doing school in a regular kind of way. But yeah, no. I am very grateful to be here. But you know, I guess I am still young and learning the whole time, so very much in the same boat in many ways, yeah.

NEW SPEAKER: Hi, Will. *We're The Millers* was a huge hit for you this year. What is the current state of play for the sequel and how do you top that scene?

A. That scene – I know what you – and thank you for not saying it. I know exactly what you mean, yeah. How do you top that? That is about as good as it is going to get really, isn't it? But I don't know, there are talks about the sequel, but I can't comment. But I am very lucky. I have been, you know, busy since then and I am very blessed in order to be busy, and I hope to continue to be busy. So you know, we will see. But –

Q. Well, congratulations once again.