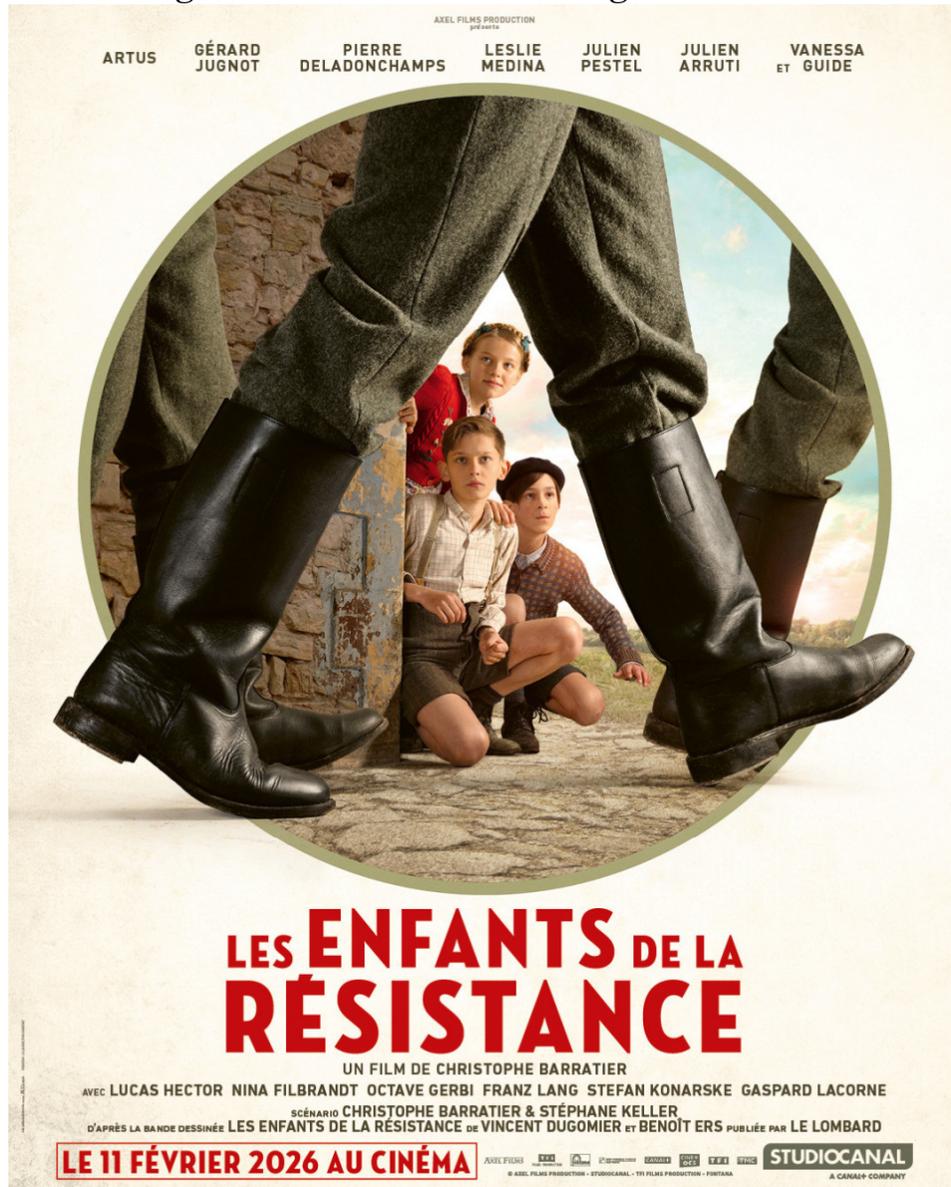


CHILDREN OF THE RESISTANCE

Original version French/ English subtitles



Director: *Christophe Barratier*

Release date (France): *February 11, 2026*

Genre: *History Adventure /Family*

Country of origin: *France*

Runtime : *97min.*

Nord American Premiere

Adapted from the cult comic book by Vincent Dugomier and Benoît Ers, published by Le Lombard and sold in over 2.5 million copies in France.

CLASSIFICATION

Children of the Resistance by Christophe Barratier will be released in France on February 11, 2026.

As of December 2025, the film has not yet been released and its official classification by the National Center for Cinema and the Moving Image (CNC) has not yet been made public or definitively assigned. The exploitation visa will be issued closer to the national release date.

However, the film is presented as a **family film** and an adaptation of the comic book of the same name, whose books are recommended for young readers from 9 years old. It is therefore very likely that its classification will be "All audiences" or "Warning" without age prohibition (*translated from AI Google*)

This feature film is aimed at a family and school audience, sensitive to the historical stories carried by young and courageous heroes. Its tone mixes emotion and adventure, in an accessible and educational staging. (*Translated from Sortir à Paris*)

Testimony (the book – the film being an adaptation of the book)

Told by Vincent Dugomier, the writer of *Children of the Resistance*, these two true stories of Resistance children invite us to go further in the transmission of memory. The incredible actions of these children during the Second World War are brought to light thanks to the emotional power of the testimony.

Témoignage :

Racontées par [Vincent Dugomier](#), le scénariste des [Enfants de la Résistance](#), ces deux histoires vraies d'enfants résistants nous invitent à aller plus loin dans la transmission de la mémoire. Les incroyables actions de ces enfants durant la seconde guerre mondiale sont remises en lumière grâce à la puissance émotionnelle du témoignage.

<https://www.lelombard.com/actualite/actualites/les-enfants-de-la-resistance-racontent-histoires-vraies-denfants->

[resistants#:~:text=Racont%C3%A9es%20par%20Vincent%20Dugomier%2C%20le,la%20transmission%20de%20la%20m%C3%A9moire.](https://www.lelombard.com/actualite/actualites/les-enfants-de-la-resistance-racontent-histoires-vraies-denfants-resistants#:~:text=Racont%C3%A9es%20par%20Vincent%20Dugomier%2C%20le,la%20transmission%20de%20la%20m%C3%A9moire.)

Cinéfranco recommendation: 13years+

SYNOPSIS

During the German occupation of World War II, François, Eusèbe, and Lisa, three courageous children, embark on a secret adventure: resisting the Nazis in the heart of France. Through sabotage, hidden messages, and perilous escapes, they carry out clandestine actions right under the enemy's nose. Daring and friendship are their only weapons in the fight against injustice - *Letterbox*

REVIEWS

There are no reviews yet for a film "Children of the Resistance" as its release is announced for February 11, 2026, but the original comic of which the film is an adaptation is praised for its educational and historical approach, telling the story of the Resistance through the eyes of children, making it a strong transgenerational tool to approach World War II with nuance and precision.

Arras Film Festival

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DRfjWVEEYQt/>

DETAILS

LANGUAG

Children of the Resistance is an adaptation of the famous French comic book of the same name, written by Vincent Dugomier and illustrated by Benoît Ers, which follows the adventures of three child resistants during the Second World War. It draws on the heroic but little-known actions of young members of the Resistance, focusing on friendship, courage and clandestine sabotage, while paying tribute to the diversity of those who fought in the shadows.

In this historical context, the spoken language uses several registers of vocabulary that reflect both the emotions and feelings of the villagers and the news from the front.

The pulse of war in Pontain-l'Écluse

- **Refugees** with suitcases and handcarts cross Pontain-l'Écluse, fleeing German bombardments. "Our soldiers are doing a bunk"
An overloaded car abandons a little girl in the village in order to escape to the free zone. "They've dumped me""I didn't know them. They picked me up on the road..."
- **Water and food**
The refugees come to drink water, which the café owner refuses them: "Water isn't free." The villagers bring them supplies and milk.
- **Invasion of the village by the Germans**, with orders to build barracks near the canal. "The occupier treats you like slaves."
- **The Gestapo, "the secret police"**, carries out searches and mistreats the inhabitants.
- **The curfew.**
- **Military Mobilization.** "Do you think we're going to win the war?"
- **The radio, news and rumours**
Pétain and his sedition/collaboration with the Germans.
General de Gaulle is in England "with the honour of upholding the new order."
About the Jews: "They're even interning children, so they say."

Discriminatory expressions

The Germans

The inhabitants who do not support Pétain's policy call the Germans "les boches" [the Jerries], "les chleuhs" [the Krauts], "les Nazis".

"I hate the Nazis. They did us so much harm," says François to a German soldier, who replies: "Not all Germans are Nazis."

A Senegalese rifleman (un tirailleur sénégalais)

"He is a human man, a good man," says the priest. A Muslim character adds: "It feels strange to be here... For the Nazis, men of colour are sub-humans."

The Jews

"Youpins" [Yids][a masculine, insulting term used to refer to a Jew].

About Maître Bonnefoy, the village lawyer, people say to each other: "He must have Jewish clients. They're capable of anything." "Do you know any Jews?" "No. God forbid!"

Insults aimed at the occupiers and collaborators: colloquial language

The occupiers are on the receiving end of insults such as “salauds” [swine], a word that comes up often, and “vermine” [scum]. Collaborators are called “les cocos” [here: “cummies”].

The war-vocabulary register

Weapons.

In wartime, weapons like rifles or tanks are visible. But there is also talk of “the planes that fired on us” (the refugees) and of a knife, once.

Traitors

The villagers protest: “You’re nothing but cowards!”

The Germans encourage informers: “We pay our collaborators well.”

They threaten inhabitants who do not denounce the resistance fighters: “Reward: 12 bullets each.” [“cold hard lead”]

The slackers

“Get out of here if you’re scared stiff.”

Victims and consequences

“Martin **died** for nothing,” says François.

About the French soldiers: “The victors are in the **cemetery** or **in pieces**.”

Maître Bonnefoy speaks of a “swine” who “would have left me **to die**.”

François’s father is **sentenced to death / to be shot – without a blindfold**.

Prisoners who are forced to clear the mud from the canal.

The brave fighters of the 14–18 war and their families, who cannot commemorate their heroes because the war memorial has been **destroyed**. “**No respect** at all for our elders.”

Actions

For the Resistance: heroism

Sabotage of the canal controls by François.

Sabotage of the construction site’s work.

Blocking the barges by flooding the canal with mud

Spying in a barge.

Marcel, François’s father, sacrifices himself so as not to denounce the children.

Patriotic leaflets printed by François, Eusèbe and Lisa.

Messages distributed to the villagers by the same children.

Helping teacher Marnier to hide stowaways.

Clandestine crossings organised by Marcel (François’s father) and by Father Proslie.

Protecting little Lisa by getting her
false identity papers.

Against the villagers of Pontain-l’Écluse: oppression

Posters to get the population on the occupiers’ side:

“*Abandoned populations – Trust the German soldier.*”

German soldiers joining in the children’s football game.

Searches and raids to find the authors of the leaflets.

Blackmail: the inhabitants will “get 12 bullets each” if they do not cooperate.

Camp prisoners brought in to work on the canal.

Pressure on the café owner to spy and denounce.

Exchanges between Lisa, François and Eusèbe / François–Lisa opposition

- Lisa and François compete over the name they should give their resistance group. They go from “Bison fûté”, “Colibris” to their final name: “Lynx”.
- Lisa claims that she is the smartest.
- “What a big head she’s got,” exclaims Eusèbe.
- She also remarks: “Blackmailing idiots, that’s all that counts.”
- When the friends discover the barge full of food, one of them exclaims: “Oh la vache!” [Bloody hell!]

VIOLENCE

The wartime setting naturally includes visual shots of weapons such as rifles. The occupants also use Jeep-type vehicles to get around, which reinforces this tense war atmosphere.

Suspense and fear accompany certain actions:

- François must hide the printer while German soldiers are searching the Lynx hideout. The uncertainty about what will happen next creates suspense. Will he get caught?
- The children risk being discovered on the barge that is inspected by a guard who has heard a rat squeak. Fear and suspense.
- The clandestine crossing of the Senegalese rifleman ends with him being shot by the Germans. Everything happens off-camera, but the emotion remains.
- Marcel, François’s father, is taken into the forest to be executed by firing squad: the men and their rifles are shown - no graphic detail.
- The prisoners look tired, which implies mistreatment.

If there are blows, such as grabbing someone by the collar or threatening with a knife, the scenes are brief and not graphic.

According to *Sortir à Paris*, “This feature film is aimed at a family and school audience, sensitive to historical stories carried by young, brave heroes. Its tone blends emotion and adventure, in an accessible and educational staging.”

According to *Citizen Kid*, the violence is mainly contextual and suggested: Nazi occupation, danger, sabotage, chases, perilous escapes, fear of being caught, etc., rather than graphic combat scenes or massacres.

NUDITY

Nothing to report

SEXUAL ACTIVITY

Nothing to report

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT /MESSAGES

MESSAGES THAT MAY WORRY/ANXIETY CHILDREN UNDER 13

The film confronts children with fear, danger and repression, but at “**children’s level**”, which allows for emotion, identification and reflection without tipping into a traumatising register like a realistic war film.

The adventure dimension (sabotage, coded messages, escapes) channels anxiety into a feeling of effectiveness and courage, with young viewers able to project themselves into

active characters rather than passive victims (a comment made about the comic book by *Citizen Kid* but still valid for the film).

The threat of betrayal, embodied by the café owner and his son, may be worrying.
François's guilt, as he feels responsible for his father's arrest and execution.

POSITIVE MESSAGES

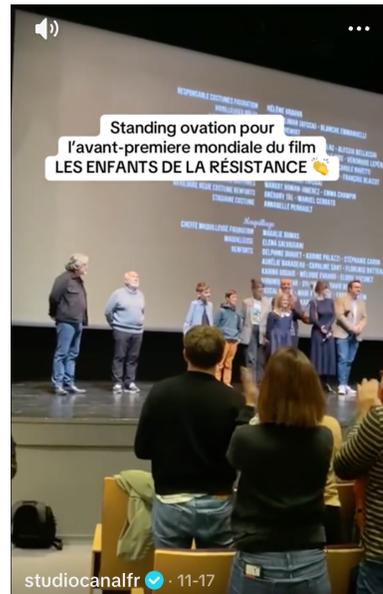
- Boldness and friendship are shown as powerful tools for fighting the enemy occupation.
- Solidarity exists not only among the children but also among the villagers. The teacher, the priest, François's father and the mayor all help one another.
- The sacrifice of Marcel, François's father, saves the children from being caught by the Gestapo.
- The children are valued for their role in the fight against injustice and oppression, through successful acts of sabotage, hidden messages, dangerous escapes and clandestine actions.

PHOTOS

As the film is not released until February 2026.

There are very few photos available.

Here is a screenshot of the preview of the film at the Arras festival in the presence of the actors and the director Christophe Barratier





Father Prolier is the referee and the coach of the young soccer players



Lisa is François 'and Eusèbe's friend



Marcel, François' dad