

Big Papi's Curse

There have been several rivalries among sports teams over the years ([Ohio State/Michigan](#), [Chicago Bears/Green Bay Packers](#), and [Chicago Cubs/St. Louis Cardinals](#) to name a few). However, one of the most celebrated rivalries in all of sports is the extreme battle between the [New York Yankees](#) and the [Boston Red Sox](#). It dates back to 1920 when the Red Sox sold one of the most famous sluggers of all time, Babe Ruth, to the Yankees. From 1920-2004, the team from Bean Town was unable to win the World Series. Many 'Sox fans jokingly blame the deal; however, there were several more radical followers who faithfully curse the day the Babe put on the pinstripes. In order to curse the new Yankee Stadium, a Red Sox fanatic working as a construction worker, buried a David Ortiz jersey at the site. Although the jersey has since been unearthed and is going to be auctioned off for charity, I say **FIRE THE BUMB!!!!**

[The Big Dig: The Yanks Uncover a Red Sox Jersey](#)

Ironically, the curse seems to have worked **IN REVERSE**. Big Papi has batted an embarrassing .070 hitting just 1-for-29 since April 2. Hopefully, recovering the jersey will not have a positive impact on Ortiz' average.

As Plain As the Nose on Your Face

Took the kids to see the movie [Penelope](#) this weekend. Unusual choice for kids, I guess, but they watched the trailers for that one and for [College Road Trip](#), and they chose Penelope, a movie about a princess named Penelope (played by [Christina](#)

[Ricci](#)) who is born with a pig nose because of a generations-old curse that is put upon her family. I wasn't expecting much from the movie, mainly because I hadn't heard much about it, but also because let's face it, the premise isn't exactly one based in reality. I had read one little article about Christina Ricci, and how this is her first movie in awhile, yada, yada, but I didn't think much of a movie about a girl with a pig's nose – until it was in our local theater and it was only rated PG. I did not doze off during this one, and it did not bore the kids like I was expecting. Our 8-year-old liked it, our 3-year-old fell asleep; not from boredom, she just does that a lot in the movie theater, takes after Mom, I guess ☐ and our 17-month-old was rambunctious as can be. I think she is getting too old for movies. You know what I mean – there is a window where kids should not be taken to movies, I guess, say between walking age and an age they can sit still and actually enjoy the movie. Our youngest-for-now is reaching that age quickly!

So anyway, Penelope is actually quite entertaining, and it wasn't entirely predictable like I thought. Overall, a cute movie that kinda throws a lesson in for the kids – don't judge a person on looks alone. Christina Ricci is pretty good, barely recognizable, and I had trouble figuring out if it was because of her acting or her pig nose. [Catherine O'Hara](#) was wonderful and fun to watch as always, and [Reese Witherspoon](#) was also fun to watch (surprisingly so for me, because I'm not a big fan of hers) in her equally surprisingly small role as Penelope's newfound biker-chick friend. Fun to watch, ok for kids... I'd see it again.