# A Prophet (2009)

English-language adaptations of foreign films are rarely any good and one of my least favorite phenomenons. The magic of the original usually gets lost. On the other hand, foreign-language remakes of US films? Kind of fantastic, if you ignore the recent Zhang Yimou remake of *Blood Simple*. Granted I only know of one other than that, but it is excellent enough to prove the rule. Jacques Audiard's The Beat That My Heart Skipped [1] updates the forgotten Harvey Keitel film Fingers [2] with genius results.

Audiard's follow-up to that bit of awesome is the fantastically tense A Prophet [3], which features the best performance since Jeremy Renner last appeared on screen. Tahir Rahim plays Malik, a young Arab man imprisoned in a French jail who matures into a full-fledged criminal after adopted by the Corsican mafia. It becomes something of a prison David and Goliath story, almost.

Malik survives prison. He grows up in prison. He learns to read, he learns to kill. Whether he's a success story is up to the viewer. What's not in question is the fact that Audiard has painted another masterful portrait of crime.

Check out *A Prophet* in our catalog. [4]
Sights and Sounds [5] Information, Answers & Reviews [6] Un prophe?te = [videorecording] A prophet [7]
Posted by Library Intern on Jan 2, 2011

- [8]
- [9]
- [10]

**Links:**
[1] http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0411270/
[2] http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0077549/
[3] http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1235166/
[4] http://mcpl.monroe.lib.in.us/search/searchresults.aspx?ctx=1.1033.0.0.7&type=Keyword&term=a%20prophet&by=Ti&sort=RELEVANCE&limit=TOM=dvd&query=&page=0#__pos1
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