



Peter Sarsgaard

Birth Name: John Peter Sarsgaard

Birthday: Sunday, March 7, 1971

Sign: [Pisces](#) [1]

Birth Place: Belleville, Illinois, USA

Height: 6'0"

Coming on the scene fairly recently, Illinois-born actor Peter Sarsgaard has already demonstrated an amazing flair for harsh, disturbing, dark-edged characters despite his boyish countenance. A graduate of St. Louis' Washington University where he majored in history and literature, he was a co-founder of the comedy improvisational group Mama's Pot Roast and trained initially with the Actors' Studio in New York. Such off-Broadway productions included Horton Foote's "Laura Dennis" and John Cameron Mitchell's "Kingdom of Earth."

He made his screen debut in Tim Robbins' *Dead Man Walking* (1995) and was given more sizable roles in *Desert Blue* (1998) and *The Man in the Iron Mask* (1998/I), as the ill-fated son of the Musketeer Athos, played by John Malkovich. Peter then started gracing the art-house circuit, making a violent, searing impression as a homophobic killer in *Boys Don't Cry* (1999) starring two-time Oscar-winner Hilary Swank as a trans-gendered teen.

Other impressionable offbeat roles for Peter that have thrilled critics from coast to coast include *Shattered Glass* (2003), which earned him a slew of awards including the prestigious National Society of Film Critics Award. Prior to that, he showed off his versatility with portrayals ranging from a Russian nuclear reactor officer in *K-19: The Widowmaker* (2002) to a drug addict in *The Salton Sea* (2002). Other heralded performances in *Garden State* (2004) and *Kinsey* (2004) only prove that, at



this rate, it is only a matter of time before the Oscar comes rapping on this man's door. ([IMDb](#) [2])

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