

Patricia Heaton Ignites Social Media Firestorm, Accusing Disney of 'Castrating' Buzz Lightyear

Everybody Loves Raymond star Patricia Heaton lit up Twitter Tuesday when she accused Disney/Pixar of making "a HUGE mistake" by not casting fellow actor Tim Allen in *Lightyear*, the new film telling the backstory of iconic *Toy Story* character "Buzz Lightyear."

Heaton noted the fascinating fact Allen has played "Buzz Lightyear" throughout all four installments of the *Toy Story* franchise. But actor Chris Evans of Marvel Cinematic Universe fame picked up the role of the character in *Lightyear*.

Despite the change, Evans has honored Allen's legacy while promoting the film.

"The reason we're doing this movie is because Tim Allen made such an iconic impact," Evans told *USA Today*. "Not only would you be a fool to not take his interpretation, because it worked so well, but the truth is this character is, in fact, the human version of that toy, so there does need to be overlap in terms of their cadence and nature."

Heaton, for her part, contended Allen should have reprised the role in this latest iteration of the Lightyear saga and seemed shocked Disney/Pixar didn't go that route.

"Saw the trailer for Buzz *Lightyear*, and all I can say is Disney/Pixar made a HUGE mistake in not casting my pal [Tim Allen]," Heaton wrote. "Tim Allen in the role that he originated, the role that he owns. Tim IS Buzz! Why would they completely castrate this iconic, beloved character?"

Heaton's comments sparked an array of responses from fans and followers.

Some said Disney is now too "woke" to hire Allen for the role; others supported the change, arguing the Lightyear character in *Toy Story* isn't the same as the character in the new film.

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