

Not to be Missed: Fifty-four Favorites from a Lifetime of Film

Kenneth Turan

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Kenneth Turan : Not to be Missed: Fifty-four Favorites from a Lifetime of Film before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Not to be Missed: Fifty-four Favorites from a Lifetime of Film:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Personal Guide to MoviesBy Ed TriggAs usual, Kenny Turan writes brilliantly a with a passion for the movies that is infectious. We watch 200-300 films that are new to us each year; we depend on the great critics such as Kenneth Turan to point us in the right direction both for enjoyment and to avoid disappointment. He attempted to include movies that werent necessarily the most common (nor had appeared in

his previous books). The 54 films he selected for *Not to be Missed* include quite a few of our favorite sleepers but also fifteen that we had not seen (many we didn't know existed). We're busily catching up and are very happy with those we've seen thus far. His descriptions of the movies, the history behind them and his own relationship with them add depth and understanding in the watching. This is a good book for those who love all genres and all eras of the movies and for those who enjoy good writing about them. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. great gift for someone who loves the cinema
By Charles from Redondo Beach
This purchase a gift for my son who works in the entertainment industry. He really enjoyed reading Turan's views of films and the cinema. I thought the book was different because Turan took time to explain why he selected a film for his list. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Spiderman
Great book!

The images and memories that matter most are those that are unshakeable, unforgettable. Kenneth Turan's fifty-four favorite films embrace a century of the world's most satisfying romances and funniest comedies, the most heart-stopping dramas and chilling thrillers. Turan discovered film as a child left undisturbed to watch *Million Dollar Movie* on WOR-TV Channel 9 in New York, a daily showcase for older Hollywood features. It was then that he developed a love of cinema that never left him and honed his eye for the most acute details and the grandest of scenes. *Not to be Missed* blends cultural criticism, historical anecdote, and inside-Hollywood controversy. Turan's selection of favorites ranges across all genres. From *All About Eve* to *Seven Samurai* to *Sherlock Jr.*, these are all timeless films—classic and contemporary, familiar and obscure, with big budgets and small—each underscoring the truth of director Ingmar Bergman's observation that no form of art goes beyond ordinary consciousness as film does, straight to our emotions, deep into the twilight room of the soul.

From *Booklist*
Turan, film critic for the *Los Angeles Times* since 1991 and a regular contributor of reviews to NPR, approaches movies, as did the late Roger Ebert, on their own terms, trying to understand what a filmmaker is trying to do and assessing a movie's success or failure in light of its maker's intent. This book isn't a collection of film reviews per se; it's a look at Turan's personal favorites, which range from the easily recognizable (*The Godfather*, *All about Eve*, *Casablanca*, *Unforgiven*, *Vertigo*) to the for-devoted-film-fans-only (*The Dybbuk*, *Seven Men from Now*, *The Best of Youth*). His comments about the movies are always insightful: he calls *The Godfather*, for example, excessive but natural, larger than life yet always lifelike, which nicely encapsulates the film's dual nature, and his writing is fluid and accessible. Richly deserving of shelf space alongside Ebert's *The Great Movies* (2002), Pauline Kael's *For Keeps* (1994), and Turan's own *Never Coming to a Theater Near You* (2004). --David Pitt
We would be hard pressed to disagree with Turan's premise about what makes for a favorite movie, or to write more eloquently about the things we love.
San Francisco Chronicle