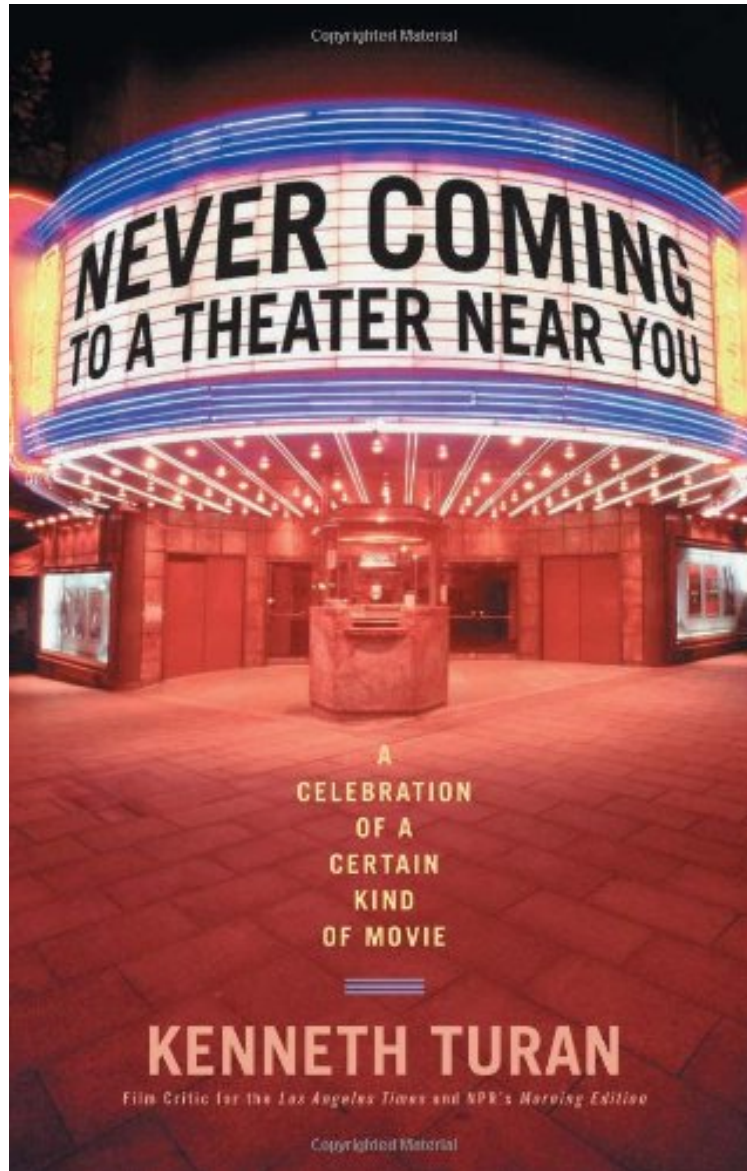


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Never Coming to A Theater Near You

Kenneth Turan

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Kenneth Turan : Never Coming to A Theater Near You before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Never Coming to A Theater Near You:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I have recommended it to many friends and have given copies as ...By Jeffrey SchulteI discovered this book by accident. A friend had it, and I noticed that it contained a review of one film that I had seen. Kenneth Turan's review meshed perfectly with my own response to that film, so I bought a copy

of the book and have been using it for years as a reference when looking for movies to rent. I have recommended it to many friends and have given copies as gifts. If you are frustrated with the poor content available on cable and satellite, buy this and use it as your guide to offerings on , Netflix and similar providers of streaming video. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Indie Film MinuteBy BarryWe produce a radio feature [...] that recommends great indie, documentary, and foreign films to rent. Toward this end, we are always looking for recommendations to watch and review. This book had several suggestions that reminded us of films that we loved and wanted to revisit along with some discoveries. We are students fo film so finding unknowns that are worthy is always exciting for us. We recommend this one heartily for those looking for interesting films to expand their world. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Well written and coherent guide to under-the-radar moviesBy Tim BallThis well written book has led me to a good number of very viewable movies that don't appear on a lot of "Best Film" lists. Also includes guidance for good films from a number of US and foreign long-serving directors.

It is in the nature of today's movie business that while Hollywood blockbusters invade every megaplex, smaller, quality films often don't get screen time. Fans of finer films have to count on catching up with them on video and DVD, but even the most hard-core devotees have trouble remembering what sounded good when a film was originally released. Never Coming to a Theater Near You will remedy that situation. This selection of renowned film critic Kenneth Turan's absorbing and illuminating reviews, now revised and updated to factor in the tests of time, point viewers toward the films they can't quite remember, but should not miss. Moviegoers know they can trust Turan's impeccable taste. His eclectic selection represents the kind of sophisticated, adult, and entertaining films intelligent viewers are hungry for. More importantly, Turan shows readers what makes these unusual films so great, revealing how talented filmmakers and actors have managed to create the wonderful highs we experience in front of the silver screen.

From Publishers WeeklyThe title of this book, a collection of Turan's daily newspaper reviews from the Los Angeles Times, promises the unearthing of deeply obscure material or a truly revolutionary take on old favorites. Turan, who is also a contributor to NPR's Morning Edition, sets the book up more modestly in his introduction as a guide to unsung films now on DVD and video. He's a lovely reviewer, able to encapsulate a film's charms in a few phrases, and he has a particular knack for opening sentences, an important tool for any newspaper writer. But the section on English-language films contains reviews of movies like Election, Dead Man Walking and Muriel's Weddingi.e., multiple Oscar nominees and winners, many that benefited from mass-market publicity campaigns. In essence, Turan's favorite flicks are already sung. His section on foreign films is far more useful, since many of them had very limited releases. Turan saves the best for last: nine longer essays he calls "Retrospectives." These pieces treat topics we don't hear much about: the great directors Max Ophuls and Frank Borzage, the delectable treats that came from "pre-code" Hollywood, and Yiddish film. And Turan's funny gloss on the familiar conventions of Chinese martial arts films shows how perceptive and winning he can be. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistTuran, Los Angeles Times and National Public Radio film critic, collects reviews of more than 140 films that may have slipped under most filmgoers' radar. While such films as Dirty Pretty Things, Yi Yi, crumb, and Eyes without a Face did not get the distribution of The Lord of the Rings, they have, according to Turan, made his "professional life richly rewarding." His readily apparent enthusiasm comes without hyperbole, although he is prone to saying such things as "Nigel Hawthorne's work as the deranged monarch . . . enlarges our understanding of what acting can accomplish"--which can be taken as a bit grand. s have been updated and revised--some include brief notes about what certain actors have gone on to do--but the one on Mike Leigh's Naked makes no reference to his Secrets Lies and the one on The Commitments does not refer to The Snapper, also based on a Roddy Doyle novel. A section on retrospectives is a nice bonus, as are articles on such filmmakers as Anthony Mann and Frank Borzage. Benjamin SegedinCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "An indispensable addition to the home media shelf." -- Portland Tribune"Turan's writing is tight and insightful and his recommendations demonstrate impeccable taste." -- Variety