Films Illustrating Character Strengths and Virtues

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The following list includes a large number of films that are relevant to classes in positive psychology and related subjects. The films are classified according to the positive psychology typology developed by Chris Peterson and Marty Seligman in their book titled *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification* (2004). All films are rated on a 5-point scale using psi symbols; however, only pedagogically meaningful films (i.e., only films with ratings of 3-5) are included here. Short clips from these films can sometimes be used to illustrate various psychological principles and points. Students are encouraged to see the films in small groups, and the viewing experience can be used to enhance, supplement, and expand class discussions. The list is taken from the book *Positive Psychology at the Movies: Using Films to Build Virtues and Character Strengths* (Niemiec & Wedding, 2008).


References


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Appendix G

Positive Psychology Movies

Films That Can Inspire and Build Virtues and Character Strengths

This appendix consists only of Positive Psychology Movies. These ratings take the quality of the film into consideration; however, we emphasize each film’s pedagogical value and its ability to inspire viewers.

The positive psychology film meets one or more of the following criteria (Niemiec, 2007):
1) Balanced portrayal of a character strength
2) Realistic depiction of obstacles or setbacks for the character
3) Character uses his/her strength(s) to overcome or face the barriers and adversity
4) Uplifting or inspiring tone (including music, cinematography, or film mood)

Excellent (Must-see film). Outstanding portrayal of a character strength; represents several strengths and virtues; and/or excellent film for teaching and/or clinical purposes; satisfies three or four of the above criteria.

Very Good (Definitely worth your time). Good portrayal of strength in leading or supporting character roles; satisfies two or three of the above criteria.

Good (Potentially worth your time). Decent portrayal of a strength; strength loosely represented, not fully balanced, or is of minor emphasis; a minor character portrays a strength; satisfies one or two of the above criteria.

We do not list or rate films that only qualify for one or two psi symbols; they are not good examples of positive psychology movies or a good investment of your time.
WISDOM: Creativity  
(originality, ingenuity)

8 mile (2002) ἙΠΠΨ
Absent-Minded Professor, The (1961) ἙΠΠΨ
AKA (2002, U.K.) ἙΠΠΨ
Amadeus (1984) ἙΠΠΨΨ
Aviator (2004) ἙΠΠΨΨ
Back to the Future (1985) ἙΠΠΨ
Beautiful Mind, A (2001) ἙΠΠΨΨΨ
Beyond the Sea (2004) ἙΠΠΨ
Billy Elliot (2000, U.K.) ἙΠΠΨΨΨ
Blue Car (2003) ἙΠΠΨ
Bridge to Terabithia (2007) ἙΠΠΨΨΨ
Chicago (2002) ἙΠΠΨΨ
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (1968) ἙΠΠΨ
Conversation(s) with Other Women (2005) ἙΠΠΨ
Dancer in the Dark (2000, Denmark) ἙΠΠΨ
Danny Deckchair (2004, Australia) ἙΠΠΨΨ
De-Lovely (2004) ἙΠΠΨΨ
Dreamgirls (2006) ἙΠΠΨΨ
Dreams (1990, Japan) ἙΠΠΨΨ
Edison, the Man (1940) ἙΠΠΨΨ
Edward Scissorhands (1990) ἙΠΠΨΨΨ
Emperor’s Club, The (2002) ἙΠΠΨΨΨ
Freedom Writers (2007) ἙΠΠΨΨΨΨ
Henry Fool (1997) ἙΠΠΨΨΨ
Hobart Shakespeareans, The (2005) ἙΠΠΨΨΨ
Illusionist, The (2006) ἙΠΠΨΨΨΨ
I’m Not There (2007) ἙΠΠΨΨΨΨ
In Cold Blood (1967) ἙΠΠΨΨΨΨ
I.Q. (1994) ἙΠΠΨΨΨΨ
La Vie en Rose (2007, France) ἙΠΠΨΨΨΨ
Life Is Beautiful (1997, Italy) ἙΠΠΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨPsi
Man Without a Past, The (2002, Finland)
Melvin Goes to Dinner (2003)
Memento (2000)
Mongolian Ping-Pong (2005, China)
My Dinner with Andre (1981)
Rear Window (1954)
Secret Garden, The (1993)
Secrets of the Heart (1997, Spain)
Star Maker, The (1995, Italy)
Wings of Desire (1987, West Germany)
Wondrous Oblivion (2003, U.K.)

**WISDOM: Open-mindedness (judgment, critical thinking)**

25th Hour (2002)
Before Sunrise (1995)
Before Sunset (2004)
Eyes Wide Shut (1999)
Fargo (1996)
Hairspray (2007)
Harold and Maude (1971)
Into Me See (2005)
Japanese Story (2003, Australia)
Michael Clayton (2007)
Monsieur Ibrahim (2003, France)
Mostly Martha (2001, Italy)
Pi (1998)
Pure Formality, A (1994, France)
Rashômon (1950, Japan)
Vanilla Sky (2001)
Water (2006, India)

**WISDOM: Love of Learning**

Akeelah and the Bee (2006)
Beautiful Mind, A (2001)
Bee Season (2005)
Billy Elliot (2000)
Dead Poets Society (1989)
Freedom Writers (2007)
Harvie Krumpet (2003, Australia)
Mad Hot Ballroom (2005)
Spellbound (1945)
Thumbsucker (2005)
Unknown White Male (2005)
Yentl (1983)

**WISDOM: Perspective (wisdom)**

Antonia’s Line (1995, Netherlands)
Antwone Fisher (2002)
Chorus, The (2004, France)
Coach Carter (2005)
Crash (2004)
Feast of Love (2007)
Fountain, The (2006)
Life as a House (2001)
On Golden Pond (2001)
Peaceful Warrior (2006)
Taste of Cherry (1997, Iran)
To Be and to Have (2002, France)
Valentin (2002, Argentina)

**COURAGE: Bravery (valor)**

12 Angry Men (1957)
16 Blocks (2006)
Aliens (1986)
American History X (1998)
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<td>2000, U.K.</td>
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<td>Jailhouse Rock</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<td>Kinsey</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<td>Kite Runner, The</td>
<td>2007</td>
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<td>Let There Be Light</td>
<td>1946</td>
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<td>Man Escaped, A</td>
<td>1956, France</td>
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<td>Manchurian Candidate, The</td>
<td>1962, 2004</td>
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<td>2004</td>
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<td>North Country</td>
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<td>Open Water</td>
<td>2003</td>
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<td>Paths of Glory</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<td>United 93</td>
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<td>World Trade Center</td>
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**COURAGE: Integrity**
(authenticity, honesty)

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<td>40-Year-Old Virgin</td>
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<td>Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert</td>
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<td>Captain Courageous</td>
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<td>Chariots of Fire</td>
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<td>Meet John Doe</td>
<td>1941</td>
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<td>On the Waterfront</td>
<td>1954</td>
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Appendices


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Prime (2005)
Right Stuff, The (1983)
Schindler’s List (1993)
Shark Tale (2004)
Side Effects (2005)
Silkwood (1983)
Strictly Ballroom (1992, Australia)
To Kill a Mockingbird (1962)
Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971)

COURAGE: Vitality
(zest, enthusiasm, vigor, energy)

400 Blows, The (1959, France)
Aladdin (1992)
Buena Vista Social Club (1999, Germany/Cuba)
Cabaret (1972)
Cinema Paradiso (1988, Italy)
Girl, Interrupted (1999)
Hook (1991)
In America (2002)
Long Life, Happiness and Prosperity (2002, Canada)
Man Who Wasn’t There, The (2001)
Mary Poppins (1964)
Meet Me in St. Louis (1944)
My Fair Lady (1964)
My Left Foot (1989, Ireland/U.K.)
Oliver! (1968, U.K.)
One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest (1975)
Pelle the Conqueror (1987, Denmark)
Peter Pan (1953; 2003)
Places in the Heart (1984)
Singin’ in the Rain (1952)
Sound of Music, The (1965)
West Side Story (1961)
What’s Love Got to Do with It? (1993)
White Oleander (2002)

World’s Fastest Indian, The (2005, New Zealand)

COURAGE: Persistence
(perseverance, industriousness)

2001: A Space Odyssey (1968)
Akeelah and the Bee (2006)
Bicycle Thief, The (1948, France)
Born into Brothels (2004, India)
Character (1998, Netherlands)
Chariots of Fire (1981)
Children of Heaven (1997, Iran)
Cinderella Man (2005)
City of Lost Children, The (1995, France)
Color Purple, The (1985)
Diving Bell and the Butterfly, The (2007, France/U.S.)
Door to Door (2002)
Dreamgirls (2006)
East-West (1999, France)
Elling (2002, Norway)
Endurance, The (2000, Germany/U.S.)
Equus (1977)
Fame (1980)
Farther Than the Eye Can See (2003)
Fitzcarraldo (1982, Germany)
Flightplan (2005)
Forrest Gump (1994)
Gerry (2002)
Grapes of Wrath, The (1940)
Great Debaters, The (2007)
Hours, The(2002)
Island on Bird Street, The (2000)
Italian, The (2005, Russia)
Jonathan Livingston Seagull (1973)

K-PAX (2001)
Lilja 4-Ever (2002, Sweden)
Maria, Full of Grace (2004, Columbia/U.S.)
Memento (2000)
Mighty Heart, A (2007)
Million Dollar Baby (2004)
Mountain Patrol (2004, China)
Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939)
Mrs. Miniver (1942)
Nobody Knows (2004, Japan)
Not One Less (1999, China)
October Sky (1999)
Old Well (1986, China)
Peaceful Warrior (2006)
Pianist, The (2002, France/Germany/U.K./Poland)
Pixote (1981, Brazil)
Pride of the Yankees, The (1942)
Rabbit-Proof Fence (2002, Australia)
Rain (2001, New Zealand)
Ratcatcher (1999)
Return, The (2003, Russia)
Rocky (1976)
Rocky Balboa (2006)
Rudy (1993)
Secret of Dr. Kildare, The (1939)
Sergeant York (1941)
Sounnder (1972)
Spirit of St. Louis, The (1957)
Story of Qiu Ju, The (1992, China/Hong Kong)
To Live (1994, China/Hong Kong)
Touching the Void (2003)
Warm Springs (2005)
Whale Rider (2003, New Zealand)
White Oleander (2002)

HUMANITY: Love

2046 (2004, China)
3-Iron (2004, South Korea)
Across the Universe (2007)
Affair to Remember, An (1957)
Always (1989)
Anna Karenina (1948, U.K.)
Annie Hall (1977)
Atonement (2007)
Away from Her (2006, Canada)
Beaches (1988)
Beautiful Mind, A (2001)
Before Sunrise (1995)
Before Sunset (2004)
Brazil (1985, U.K.)
Breakfast at Tiffany’s (1961)
Bridges of Madison County, The (1995)
Casablanca (1942)
Central Station (1998, Brazil)
Changing Hearts (2002)
Cinderella (1950)
Cinema Paradiso (1988, Italy)
City Lights (1931)
City of Angels (1998)
Crash (2004)
Déjà vu (1997)
Don Juan DeMarco (1995)
Dopamine (2003)
Dr. Zhivago (1965)
Enchanted (2007)
Eros (2004, U.S./Italy/Hong Kong)
Feast of Love (2007)
Finding Forrester (2000)
Fisher King, The (1991)
Fountain, The (2006)
Ghost (1990)
Gone with the Wind (1939)

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<td>Paris, I Love You</td>
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<td>Pauline and Paulette</td>
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<td>Perfect World, A</td>
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<td>Postman, The (Il Postino)</td>
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<td>Pretty Woman</td>
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<td>Yesterday</td>
<td>(2004, South Africa)</td>
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**HUMANITY: Kindness**
(generosity, nurturance, care, compassion, altruistic love, niceness)

- About a Boy (2002) 
- Accidental Hero, The (France) 
- All About My Mother (1999, Spain) 
- Amelie (2001, France) 
- As Good as It Gets 
- Babe: Babe: Pig in the City (1995; 1998) 
- Babette’s Feast (1987, Denmark) 
- Bagdad Café (1987, West Germany/U.S.) 
- Bear, The (1988, France) 
- Black Snake Moan (2006) 
- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) 
- Cherry Orchard, The (1999, Greece/Cyprus/France) 
- Chocolat (2000) 
- Christmas Carol, A (1984) 
- Cup, The (1999, Bhutan) 
- Equus (1977) 
- Grand Canyon (1991) 
- Harvey (1950) 
- It Could Happen to You (1994) 
- Manderlay (2005) 
- Meet John Doe (1941) 
- Miracle on 34th Street (1947) 
- Monsters Ball (2001) 
- Mostly Martha (2007) 
- Pay It Forward (2000) 
- Savages, The (2007) 
- Schindler’s List (1993) 
- Secret of Dr. Kildare, The (1939) 
- Sister Helen (2002) 
- Something Like Happiness (2005, Czech Republic) 
- Touching Wild Horses (2002, Canada) 
- Tsotsi (2005, South Africa/U.K.) 
- Vera Drake (2004, U.K.) 
- Waitress (2007) 
- Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory (1971) 

**HUMANITY: Social Intelligence**
(emotional, personal intelligence)

- African Queen, The (1951) 
- Away from Her (2006, Canada) 
- Before Sunrise (1995) 
- Breach (2007) 
- Children of a Lesser God (1986) 
- Coal Miner’s Daughter (1980) 
- Don’t Come Knocking (2005) 
- Driving Miss Daisy (1989) 
- Equilibrium (2002) 
- Erin Brockovich (2000) 
- Five Senses, The (1999) 
- Great New Wonderful, The (2005) 
- Juno (2007) 
- K-PAX (2001) 
- Nine Lives (2005) 
- Once (2006, Ireland) 
- Searching for Bobby Fischer (1993) 

**JUSTICE: Citizenship**
(social responsibility, loyalty, teamwork)

- Across the Universe (2007) 
- Bad News Bears, The (1976; 2005) 
- Batteries Not Included (1987) 
- Believe in Me (2006) 
- Best Years of Our Lives, The (1946) 
- Coach Carter (2005) 
- Cool Runnings (1993) 

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Appendices


Eight Below (2006)
Friday Night Lights (2004)
Glory Road (2006)
Grapes of Wrath, The (1940)
Hoosiers (1986)
Hotel Rwanda (2004)
In Good Company (2004)
Joyeux Noel (Merry Christmas) (2005)
L.A. Confidential (1997)
Lars and the Real Girl (2007)
League of Their Own, A (1992)
Little Miss Sunshine (2006)
Lost in Translation (2003)
Manderlay (2005, Denmark)
March of the Penguins (2003, France)
Mighty Ducks, The (1992)
Million Dollar Baby (2004)
Miracle (2004)
Mr. Deeds Goes to Town (1936)
Opal Dream (2005)
Paper Clips (2004)
People Say I'm Crazy (2003)
Places in the Heart (1984)
Remember the Titans (2000)
Sea Inside, The (2004, Spain)
Shipping News, The (2001)
Shrek, Shrek 2, Shrek the Third (2001; 2004; 2007)
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants, The (2005)
Station Agent, The (2003)
Superman (1978)
Tell Me That You Love Me, Junie Moon (1970)
We Are Marshall (2006)
Widow of Saint Pierre, The (2000, France)
Winged Migration (2001, France)
Without a Trace (2002)
Yankee Doodle Dandy (1942)
Z (1969, Algeria/France)

JUSTICE: Fairness

12 Angry Men (1957)
Adventures of Robin Hood, The (1938)
Capote (2005)
Compulsion (1959)
Crimson Gold (2003, Iran)
Dead Man Walking (1995)
Defiant Ones, The (1958)
Do the Right Thing (1989)
Focus (2001)
Gandhi (1982)
 Gentleman’s Agreement (1947)
Guess Who’s Coming to Diner (1967)
In the Heat of the Night (1967)
Last Wave, The (1977, Australia)
Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks (2002)
Motorcycle Diaries (2004, Argentina)
Music Within (2007)
Norma Rae (1979)
Philadelphia (1993)
Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves (1991)
Serpico (1973)
Shane (1953)
Sullivan’s Travels (1941)
To Kill a Mockingbird (1962)
V for Vendetta (2005)
Working Girl (1988)

JUSTICE: Leadership

Amazing Grace (2006) 
Apollo 13 (1995) 
Ben-Hur (1959) 
Braveheart (1995) 
City of God (2002, Brazil) 
Dances with Wolves (1990) 
Darfur Now (2007) 
Evita (1997) 
Gandhi (1982) 
Gladiator (2000) 
Gunga Din (1939) 
Henry V (1989) 
High Noon (1952) 
Jonestown: The Life and Death of Peoples Temple (2006) 
Kundun (1997) 
Last King of Scotland, The (2006) 
Lawrence of Arabia (1962) 
Lion King, The (1994) 
Little Buddha (1993, France) 
Man for All Seasons, A (1966) 
Matrix, The (1999) 
Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939) 
Norma Rae (1979) 
Paths of Glory (1957) 
Prize Winner of Defiance Ohio (2005) 
Seven Samurai (1954, Japan) 
Sixth Sense, The (1999) 
Spartacus (1960) 
Twelve O’Clock High (1949)

TEMPERANCE: Forgiveness and Mercy

Angela’s Ashes (1999) 
Changing Lanes (2002) 
City of No Limits, The (2002, Spain) 
Crossing Guard, The (1995) 

Cry, the Beloved Country (1995, South Africa/U.S.) 
Dead Man Walking (1995) 
Diary of a Mad Black Woman (2005) 
Flatliners (1990) 
In My Country (2005, South Africa/U.K.) 
Kite Runner, The (2007) 
Levity (2003) 
Mind the Gap (2004) 
Mother Ghost (2002) 
No Man’s Land (2002, Bosnia-Herzegovina) 
Noel (2004) 
Ordinary People (1980) 
Queen Margot (1994, France) 
Regret to Inform (1998) 
Squid and the Whale, The (2005) 
Straight Story, The (1999) 
Tender Mercies (1983) 
Terms of Endearment (1983) 
Volver (2006) 
World Traveler (2001)

TEMPERANCE: Humility and Modesty

Being There (1979) 
Charisma (1999, Japan) 
Dalai Lama Renaissance (2007) 
For Your Consideration (2006) 
Fourth Wise Man, The (1985) 
Gandhi (1982) 
Hero (2002, Hong Kong) 
Keys of the Kingdom, The (1944) 
Little Buddha (1993, France) 
My Super Ex-Girlfriend (2006) ΨΨΨ
Peaceful Warrior (2006) ΨΨΨΨ
Rain Man (1988) ΨΨΨΨ
Ringer, The (2005) ΨΨΨ
Seven Years in Tibet (1997) ΨΨΨ
Son of the Bride (2001, Argentina) ΨΨΨΨ
Spider-Man (2002; 2004; 2007) ΨΨΨΨ
Tiger and the Snow, The (2005, Italy) ΨΨΨΨ
Truman Show, The (1998) ΨΨΨΨΨ
Unbreakable (2000) ΨΨΨΨΨ

TEMPERANCE: Prudence

As Good as It Gets (1997) ΨΨΨ
Danny Deckchair (2003) ΨΨΨ
Day the Earth Stood Still, The (1951) ΨΨΨΨ
Driving Miss Daisy (1989) ΨΨΨΨΨ
Not One Less (1999, China) ΨΨΨΨΨ
Queen, The (2006, U.K.) ΨΨΨΨΨ
Road Home, The (1999, China) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Sense and Sensibility (1995) ΨΨΨΨΨ
Shawshank Redemption, The (1994) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Story of the Weeping Camel, The (2004, Mongolia) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ

TEMPERANCE: Self-Regulation (self-control)

Be Cool (2005) ΨΨΨ
Birdman of Alcatraz (1962) ΨΨΨΨΨ
Breaking Away (1979) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Bridge on the River Kwai, The (1957) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Brothers, The (2001) ΨΨΨ
Chorus, The (2004, France) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Forrest Gump (1994) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Karate Kid, The (1984) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Klepto (2003) ΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Mad Hot Ballroom (2005) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Maltese Falcon, The (1941) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
March of the Penguins (2005, France) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Maria Full of Grace (2004) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
National Velvet (1944) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Paper Chase, The (1973) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Queen, The (2006, U.K.) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Snow Walker, The (2003, Canada) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter…and Spring (2003, South Korea) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Super Size Me (2004) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Syrian Bride, The (2004, Israel/France) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Warm Water Under a Red Bridge (2001, Japan) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Warrior, The (2001) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ

TRANSCENDENCE: Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence (awe, wonder, elevation)

Amelie (2001, France) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
American Beauty (1999) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
America’s Heart and Soul (2004) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Baraka (1992) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Celestine Prophecy (2006) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Color of Paradise, The (1999, Iran) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon (2000, Taiwan) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Eldra (2002, U.K.) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Faraway, So Close! (1993, Germany) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Fearless (1993) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Genesis (2004, France/Italy) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Grizzly Man (2005) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Hero (2002, Hong Kong) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
House of Flying Daggers (2004, China/Hong Kong) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
Into Great Silence (2004, France/Germany) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ
It’s a Wonderful Life (1946) ΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨΨ

King Kong (2005)
Microcosmos (1996, France)
My Life Without Me (2003, Spain/Canada)
Noi the Albino (2003, Iceland)
Out of Africa (1985)
Pauline and Paulette (2000, Belgium)
Tea with Mussolini (1999, Italy/U.K.)
Vertical Ray of the Sun, The (2000)
Waking Life (2001)
Winged Migration (2002, France)
Wings of Desire (1987, West Germany)

TRANSCENDENCE: Gratitude

After Life (1998, Japan)
Amelie (2001, France)
Big Night (1996)
Click (2006)
Color Purple, The (1985)
Delivering Milo (2001)
Doctor, The (1991)
Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (2004)
Fearless (1993)
For One More Day (2007)
Fried Green Tomatoes (1991)
God Grew Tired of Us (2006)
Good Year, A (2006)
Groundhog Day (1993)
Harvey (1950)
It’s a Wonderful Life (1946)
New World, The (2005)
Rory O’Shea Was Here (2004)
SherryBaby (2006)
Willow Tree, The (2005, Iran)

TRANSCENDENCE: Hope
(optimism, future mindedness, future orientation)

16 Years of Alcohol (2003)
Antonia’s Line (1995, Netherlands)
Awakenings (1990)
Black Stallion, The (1979)
Boys Town (1938)
Cape of Good Hope (2004, South Africa)
Cast Away (1999)
Cinderella Man (2005)
Enchanted April (1992)
Eternity and a Day (1998, Greece/Germany)
Everything’s Coming My Way (2005)
Fiddler on the Roof (1971)
Freedom Writers (2007)
Hustle and Flow (2005)
In America (2003)
Joshua (2002)
Lilies of the Field (1963)
Lonesome Jim (2005)
Man Escaped, A (1956, France)
Miracle on 34th Street (1947)
Miracle Worker, The (1962)
Pelle the Conqueror (1987, Denmark)
Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio, The
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TRANSCENDENCE: Humor (playfulness)

Assisted Living (2003)

Beautiful Mind, A (2001)

Before Sunrise (1995)

Before Sunset (2004)

Best in Show (2000)

Big Fish (2003)

Corpse Bride (2005)

Good Morning, Vietnam (1987)


Laughing Club of India, The (1999, India)

Life Is Beautiful (1997, Italy)

Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World (2005)

Marie Antoinette (2006)


Muddernark (2005)

Nothing (2003, Canada)

One Last Thing (2005)

Patch Adams (1998)

Ridicule (1996, France)

Road to Welville, The (1994)

Smile (2005)

Waiting for Guffman (1996)

Zorba the Greek (1964)

TRANSCENDENCE: Spirituality (religiousness, faith, purpose, meaning)


11'09"01 – September 11 (2002)

13 Conversations About One Thing (2001)

About Schmidt (2002)

Alice in Wonderland (1951)

America’s Heart and Soul (2004)

Apostle, The (1987)

Around the World in 80 Days (1956)


August Rush (2007)

Beauty and the Beast (1991)


Box of Moonlight (1996)

Breakfast on Pluto (2005, Ireland)

Broken Flowers (2005)

Bruce Almighty (2002)


Children of Men (2006)

Contact (1997)

Conversations with God (2006)

Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, The (2005)

Crime of Father Amaro, The (2002, Mexico)


Day Christ Died, The (1980)

Dead Poets Society (1989)

Don’t Come Knocking (2005)


Emmanuel’s Gift (2005)
Employee of the Month (2006)
Enlightenment Guaranteed (2000, Germany)
Field of Dreams (1989)
Francesco (1989, Italy)
Francis of Assisi (1961)
From the Manger to the Cross (1912)
Gandhi (1982, U.K./India)
God Is Great and I Am Not (2001, France)
Godspell (1973)
Golden Compass, The (2007)
Gospel According to Saint Matthew, The (1964, Italy)
Greatest Story Ever Told, The (1965)
Happenstance (2000, France)
Heaven (1986)
Heaven’s Bookstore (2004, Japan)
Holes (2003)
I Heart Huckabees (2004)
Ikiru (1952, Japan)
Illusion (2004)
Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989)
Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984)
Indigo (2003)
Into Great Silence (2006, France/Germany)
Into the Wild (2007)
James’ Journey to Jerusalem (2003, Israel)
Jarhead (2005)
Jesus (1979)
Jesus Camp (2006)
Jesus Christ Superstar (1973)
Jesus Devant Pilate (1898, France)
Jesus of Montreal (1989)
Jesus of Nazareth (1977)
Joe Versus the Volcano (1990)
Johanna (2005, Hungary)
Joshua (2002)
Julie Walking Home (2002, Germany)
King of Kings, The (1961)
Kingdom of Heaven (2005)
Kissing Jessica Stein (2001)
Kundun (1997)
Lagaan: Once Upon a Time in India (2001, India)
Last Temptation of Christ, The (1988)
Little Buddha (1993, France)
Mindwalk (1990)
Monsieur Ibrahim (2003, France)
Monty Python’s Life of Brian (1979)
Monty Python’s the Meaning of Life (1983, U.K.)
Moonstruck (1987)
Mother Teresa (2003, Spain/U.K.)
Naked (1993, U.K.)
Paradise Now (2005, Palestine/Israel)
Pleasantville (1998)
Priest (1994, U.K.)
Princess and the Warrior, The (2000, Germany)
Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)
Ram Dass, Fierce Grace (2001)
Run Lola Run (1998, Germany)
Secret of Roan Inish (1994, U.S./Ireland)
Serpico (1973)
Seventh Seal, The (1957, Sweden)
Shane (1953)
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<td>St. Francis of Assisi</td>
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<td>Tao of Steve, The</td>
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<td>What the Bleep Do We (K)now!?</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<td>What the Bleep!?: Down the Rabbit Hole</td>
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<td>1989, South Korea</td>
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