



We Need to Talk About Kevin

Lionel Shriver

2003 novel about a fictional school massacre. It is written from the perspective of the killer's mother, Eva, and documents her attempt to come to terms with her son Kevin and the murders he committed. The 2011 film adaptation starred Tilda Swinton in the role of Eva and Ezra Miller as the eponymous Kevin.



Trainspotting

Irvine Welsh

Cult 1993 novel written in the form of short chapters chronicling the day to day life of various residents of Leith, Edinburgh, most of whom are heroin addicts. It became an instant classic howl of rage, despair and style from the Scottish capital's forgotten streets. The 1996 Danny Boyle film version made a star of Ewan McGregor and in 2004 was ranked 10th Best British Film of All Time by the British Film Institute.

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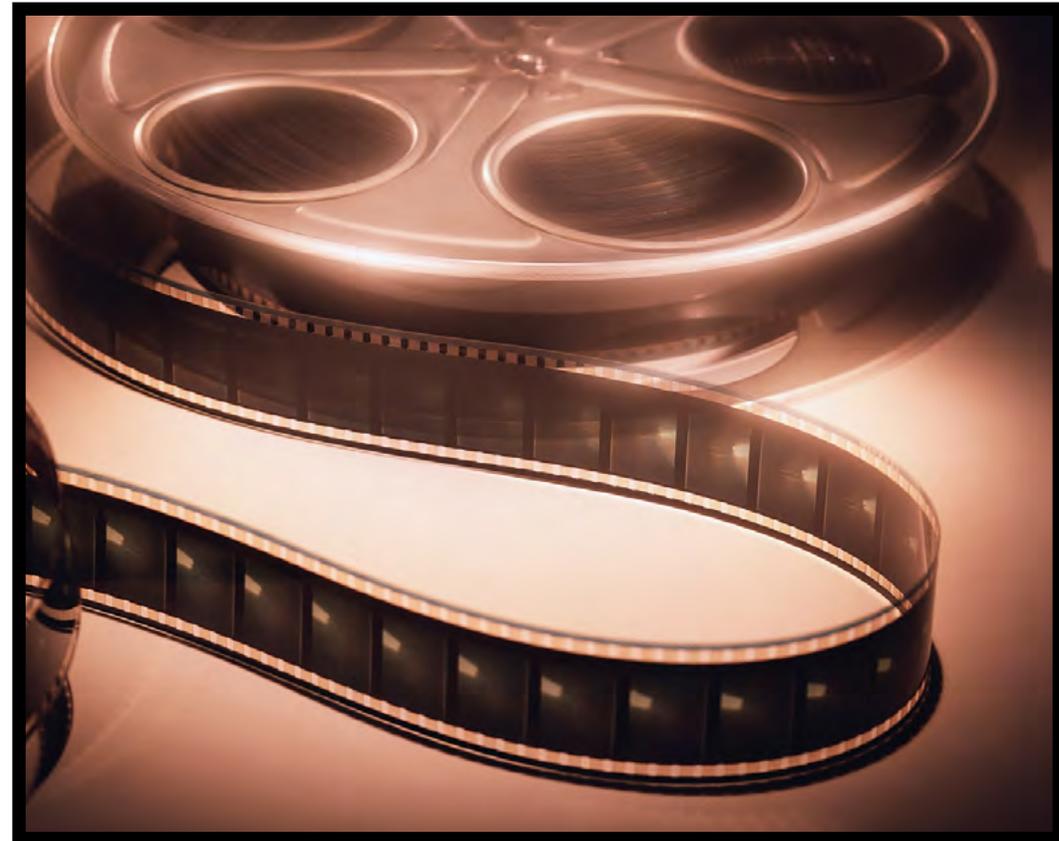
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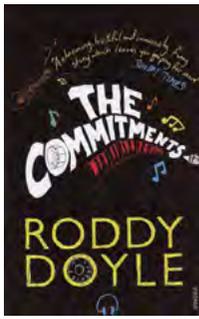
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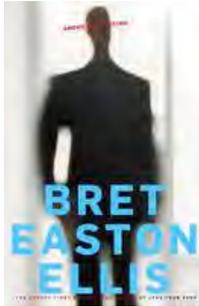




The Commitments

Roddy Doyle

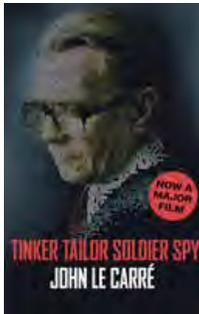
The first instalment of Roddy Doyle's 'Barrytown Trilogy' (1987) which chronicled the rise and eventual disintegration of a group of unemployed white Dubliners who form a soul band. Alan Parker's award winning film adaptation remains popular to this day with many of the original cast reuniting for a 20th Anniversary Tour in 2012.



American Psycho

Bret Easton Ellis

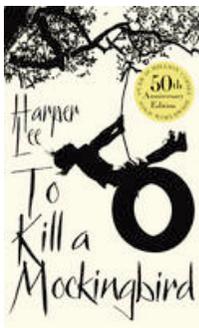
American Psycho is a psychological thriller and satirical novel by Bret Easton Ellis, published in 1991. The story is told in the first person by the protagonist, serial killer and Manhattan businessman Patrick Bateman. A film adaptation starring Christian Bale was released in 2000.



Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy

John Le Carré

1974 British spy novel by John le Carré, featuring George Smiley. Smiley is a middle-aged, taciturn, perspicacious intelligence expert in forced retirement. He is recalled to hunt down a Soviet mole in the "Circus", the highest echelon of the Secret Intelligence Service. The 2011 film version of the book starred Gary Oldman and Colin Firth.



To Kill a Mockingbird

Harper Lee

Published in 1960 it was instantly successful, winning the Pulitzer Prize and has become a classic of modern American literature. The plot and characters are loosely based on the author's observations of her family and neighbours, as well as on an event that occurred near her hometown in 1936, when she was 10 years old. The film adaptation was released in 1962 and starred Gregory Peck who picked up an Oscar for best actor in the role of Atticus Finch the lawyer at the centre of the story.



Let the Right One In

John Lindqvist

2004 vampire fiction novel by Swedish writer John Ajvide Lindqvist. The story centres on the relationship between a 12-year-old boy, Oskar and a centuries-old vampire child, Eli. It takes place in Blackeberg, a working class suburb of Stockholm, in the early 1980s. The book has spawned two film versions – 'Let The Right One In' (2008 Swedish) and the inevitable American remake 'Let Me In' (2010).



No Country for Old Men

Cormac McCarthy

2005 novel by US author Cormac McCarthy. Set along the United States–Mexico border in 1980, the story concerns an illicit drug deal gone wrong in a remote desert location. The 2007 Coen Brothers film won numerous awards and starred Javier Bardem, Tommy Lee Jones and Josh Brolin.



One Day

David Nicholls

Published in 2009, each chapter of the book covers the lives of the two protagonists, Dexter and Emma on 15th July, St. Swithin's Day, over a period of twenty years. It's a splendid and very readable on-off love story. The film version was released in 2011 and starred Anne Hathaway and Jim Sturgess.



True Grit

Charles Portis

1968 'western' novel told from the perspective of a woman named Mattie Ross who recounts the time when she was 14 years old and sought retribution for the murder of her father by a scoundrel named Tom Chaney by securing the services of US marshal Rooster Cogburn. It was first adapted for the big screen in 1969 starring John Wayne as Cogburn and subsequently remade in 2010 with Jeff Bridges taking on the main role.