

Movie recommendations





CINE LIBRARY

Movies and Documentaries
about libraries

Free for all: inside the Public library



2020 (USA). Documentary.

Director: Dawn Logsdon

Synopsis: It's America's most beloved, yet most endangered, public institution. The public library's founding principle is breathtaking: build a place where anyone can enter, free of charge, and encounter a universe of ideas. Now a new documentary film unfolds the grand drama of how America's public libraries came to be, and the surprising—and ongoing—battles over what belongs there, who can come in, and how to define and defend our public commons. Free for All is a rollicking road trip across a diverse nation, told through the voices of generations of Americans who have helped forge the library's starring role in our democracy.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61lou8F0nXI0>

Change the subject



2019 (USA). Documentary. 55min

Director: Jill Baron, Sawyer Broadley

Synopsis: Change the Subject shares the story of a group of college students, who from their first days at Dartmouth College, were committed to advancing and promoting the rights and dignity of undocumented peoples. In partnership with staff at Dartmouth, these students – now alumni – produced a film to capture their singular effort at confronting an instance of anti-immigrant sentiment in their library catalog. Their advocacy took them all the way from Baker-Berry Library to the halls of Congress, showing how an instance of campus activism entered the national spotlight, and how a cataloging term became a flash point in the immigration debate on Capitol Hill.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ebphd5Rg6c8>

The Public



2018 (USA). Drama. 119 minutos

Director: Emilio Estevez

Synopsis: A librarian helps a group of homeless people take refuge from a brutal winter night by staging a sit-in at the free public library. A misunderstanding causes his noble act to wrongly escalate into a hostage situation with a political candidate and a TV reporter stoking the drama for their own agendas.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TlBJv9C9yYc>

Available at: **ST★R+**

The Bookshop



2017 (Spain, UK, Germany. Drama. 113min.)

Director: Isabel Coixet

Synopsis: Florence Green, a free-spirited widow, puts grief behind her and risks everything to open up a bookshop -- the first such shop in the sleepy seaside town of Hardborough, England. But this mini social revolution soon brings her fierce enemies: she invites the hostility of the town's less prosperous shopkeepers and also crosses Mrs. Gamart, Harborough's vengeful, embittered alpha female who is a wannabe doyenne of the local arts scene.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5pbuzNpZUo>

Available at: NETFLIX 

Ex libris: The New York Public Library



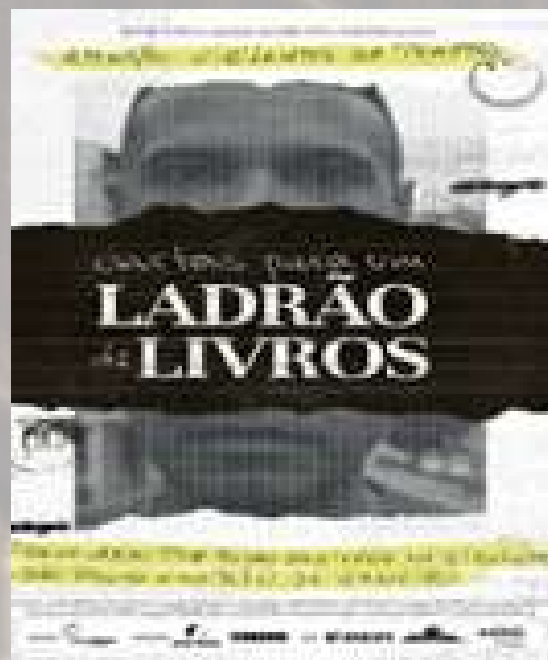
2017 (USA). Documentary. 197 min.

Director: Frederick Wiseman

Synopsis: A documentary about how a dominant cultural and demographic institution both sustains their traditional activities and adapts to the digital revolution.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ddjnbbjl0kM>

Letters to a Book Thief



2017 (Brazil). Documentary. 96min.

Director: Caio Cavechini

Synopsis: Laessio Rodrigues de Oliveira, a former assistant pizza maker from São Bernardo do Campo, SP, made headlines in the police news several times for a series of curious crimes: he was the greatest rare book thief ever seen in Brazil. Even from inside jail, where he was serving time for his crimes, Laessio continued to command his scheme. However, this unconditional Carmen Miranda fan eventually decided to come clean.

Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smKSFyC_UIQ

Disponível em: [globoplay](#)

To Enjoy Reading



2017 (Brazil). Documentary. 58min.

Director: Eduardo Rajabally

Synopsis: This documentary explores the importance of reading to children and features emotional family stories about reading, as well as insights from specialists in various fields of knowledge, including literature, education, neurology, psychology, medicine, and pedagogy.

Watch in full: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9jvCncB-WA>

Endless Readers

2016 (Brazil). Documentary. 37min.

Director: Roberto Seabra

Synopsis: This documentary tells the stories of people whose lives have been transformed by the habit of reading. Starting with the reality of public libraries in low-income areas of Rio de Janeiro, it also showcases a new model for creating cultural spaces based on the successful experience of Parque da Colombia. The film explores the state of reading in Brazil and the efforts of lawmakers to promote universal access to school libraries throughout the country.

Watch in full: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYKYzSa9R0w>

Library Wars: the Last Mission



2015. Japan. Drama. 120 minutos

Director: Shinsuke Sato

Synopsis: Set 18 months after movie "Library Wars." After the government's enactment of the Media Betterment Act, battles wage between the Betterment Squads and the Library Defense. The Library Defense resists censorship and advocates freedom of expression. The biggest battle awaits for the Library Defense.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyQWoBwIPyo>

Open this door



2015 (Brazil). Short. 8 min.

Director: Lucas Camargo and Danielle Rosa

Synopsis: From the question "What feeds you?", the young people from the Querô Workshops brought the project to life with the "Literary Refrigerators" initiative, transforming refrigerators into outdoor libraries.

Watch in full: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fyitAydYDKM>

The book thief




2013 (USA). Drama. 131 min.

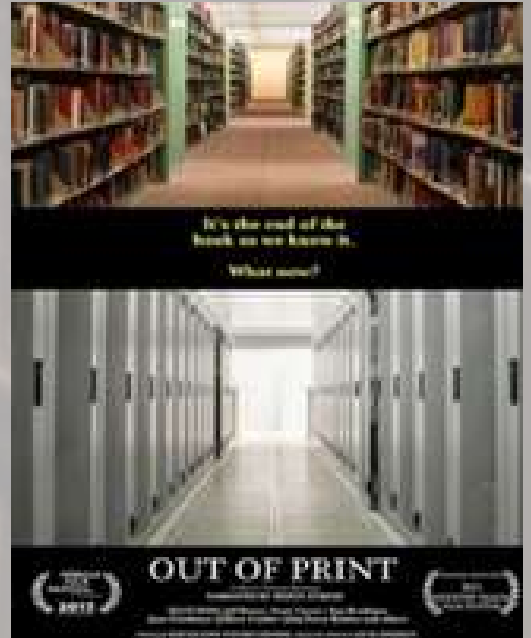
Director: Brian Percival

Synopsis: While subjected to the horrors of World War II Germany, young Liesel finds solace by stealing books and sharing them with others. In the basement of her home, a Jewish refugee is being sheltered by her adoptive parents.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCOwipZviSc>

Available at: 

Out of print



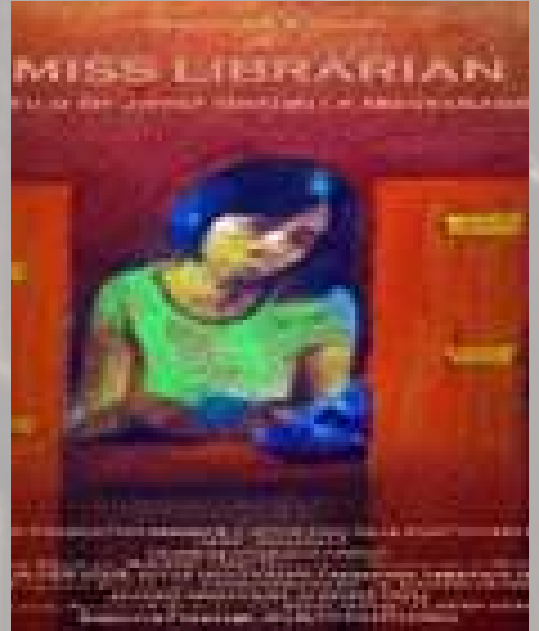
2013 (USA). Documentary. 55 min.

Director: Vivienne Roumani

Synopsis: Dive into the riveting debate over the future of ideas. To some, the digital revolution can offer an extraordinary gift to humanity: unfettered access to all published content. The other side defends copyright as indispensable in ensuring that the best minds commit their energy and time to the written word. This documentary visits the libraries, book clubs, classrooms and corporate offices on the frontline of this fight, to give the whole story.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jGsjgeABbpA>

Miss Librarian



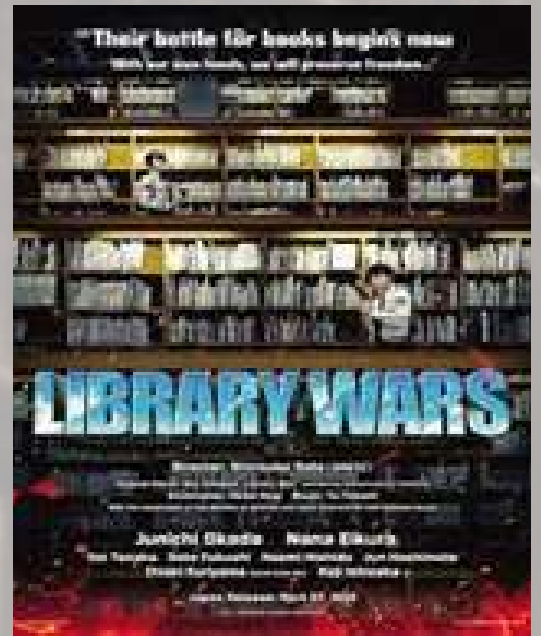
2013. Philippines. Short. 17min.

Director: Joyce Rochelle Montañano

Synopsis: A depressed school librarian named Jeanette is confined between two different worlds – the four corners of the school's library and the four walls of her house.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7XQbT4Fd7s>

Library Wars (Toshokan sensou)



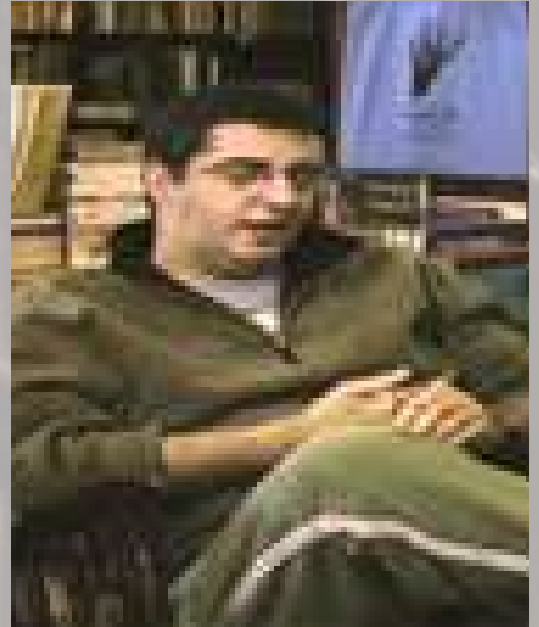
2013. Japan. Drama. 128min.

Director: Shinsuke Sato

Synopsis: Set in the year 2019 in Japan. In order to crack down on free expression, a new law is passed, which allows for the government to create an armed force to find and destroy objectionable printed material. Meanwhile, to oppose this oppressive crackdown, the Library Defense is created. The Library Defense, including instructor Atsushi Dojo (Junichi Okada) and Iku Kasahara (Nana Eikura), work to protect the libraries. A fierce battle then ensues between these two groups.

Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_xuZ1-i1mg

Sebos e sábios (Used Bookstores and Wise People)



2006. Brazil. Documentary. 15min.

Director: Marcelo Rennó

Synopsis: This documentary explores the world of used bookstores. It focuses on the habit of reading, and highlights the importance of professionals in used bookstores, who are fundamental in the preservation and dissemination of culture.

Watch in full: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JanjF78UaLY>

L'homme qui voulait classer le monde



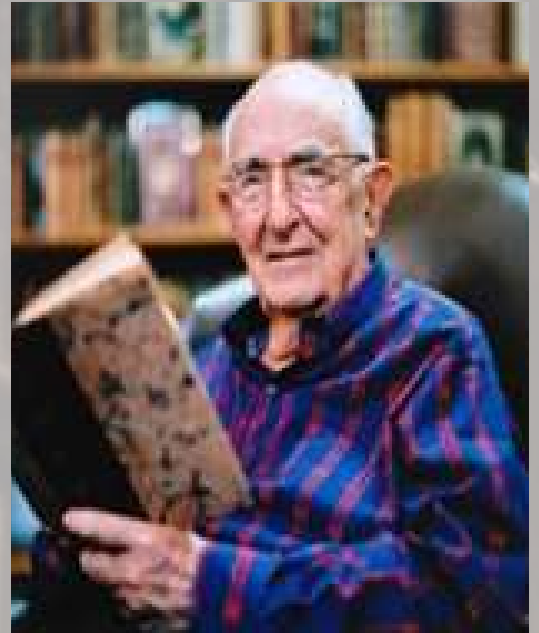
2002. Belgium. Documentary. 60min.

Director: Françoise Levie

Synopsis: The story of a Belgian utopian, Paul Otlet (1868–1944). Barely known in his own country, Paul Otlet is considered today by historians of communication as one of the precursors to the Internet. As early as 1934, he conceived of a library with no physical books whose contents could be viewed on a screen. All his life, this Belgian utopian cultivated a strange sort of obsession: to classify, encode, and unify all kinds of books and documents published in the world.

Watch in full: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HieMUSgnkSE>

Biblioteca Mindlin (Mindlin Library)



2002. Brazil. Documentary. 60min.

Director: Cristina Fonseca

Synopsis: A documentary about the rare book library of businessman and bibliophile José Mindlin. Through the rare books in the library, it tells the story of the book, from oral literature and Gutenberg to recent technological developments. Featuring contributions from José Saramago, Haroldo de Campos, Jean Claude Carrière, Nelson Pereira dos Santos, and Maria Bethânia.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4EHUc61Hw>

The ninth gate

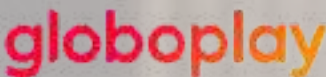
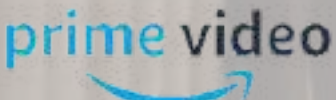


1999. USA. Triller. 127 min.

Director: Roman Polanski

Synopsis: The film stars Johnny Depp as a dealer of rare books who is tasked with authenticating a 17th-century book that purportedly contains a magical secret for summoning the Devil.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKc1n-nllx0>

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Destiny (Al-Massir)



1997. France, Egypt. Drama. 135min.

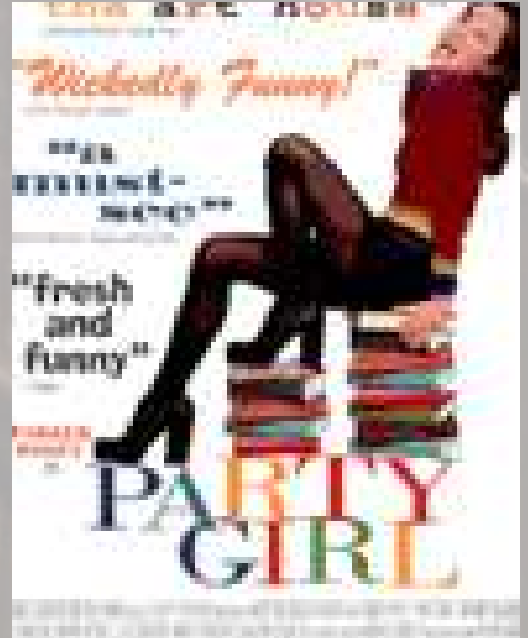
Director: Youssef Chahine

Synopsis: In the 12th century, in Cordoba, the writings of philosopher Averroes shocked Muslims. To appease the situation, the caliph AlMansour ordered that all of his works be burned. It was then that the philosopher's disciples decided to make handwritten copies of his works to take them beyond the borders of Islam.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lusJxBk8ha4>

Available at: **NETFLIX**

Party girl



Ano: 1995 (EUA). Comédia. 98 minutos

Direção: Daisy von Scherler Mayer

Sinopse: Adolescente se mete em confusão e é presa. Sua única tia que é bibliotecaria a tira da cadeia com a condição de dar-lhe trabalho na biblioteca. No início a garota odeia os serviços de biblioteca, no entanto com o passar do tempo, passa a gostar das atividades e decide estudar para se tornar uma bibliotecária.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5xo1splpgos>

84

Charing cross road



1987. UK. USA. Romance. 97min.

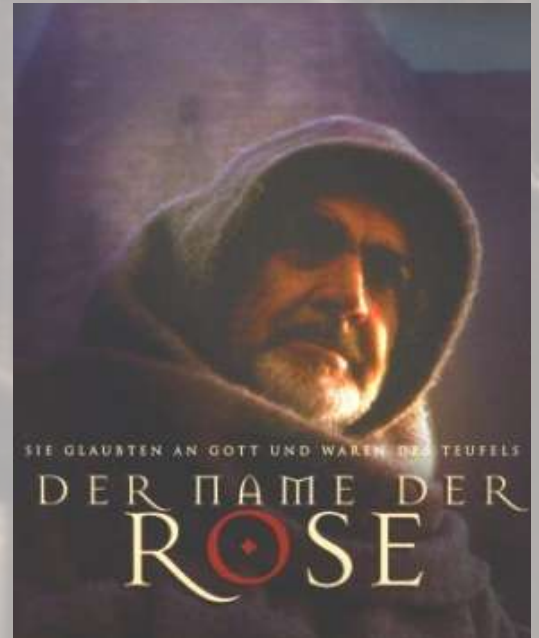
Director: David Jones

Synopsis: This charming classic brings together the correspondence between Helene Hanff, a freelance writer living in New York City, and a used-book dealer in London. Through the years, though never meeting and separated both geographically and culturally, they share a winsome, sentimental friendship based on their common love for books.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cC7i98SXGpY>

Disponível em: 

The name of the rose (Der name der rose)



1986. Italy. France. Germany. Mystery. 130min.

Director: Jean-Jacques Annaud

Sinopsis: In the 14th century, William of Baskerville (Sean Connery), a renowned Franciscan monk, and his apprentice, Adso of Melk (Christian Slater), travel to an abbey where a suspicious death has occurred. Using his deductive powers, William begins investigating what he believes to be murder. During the course of his investigation, several more monks wind up dead. With fear running through the abbey, the church leaders call forth Bernardo Gui (F. Murray Abraham), William's nemesis, to find the truth.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-yYJgpQ-CE>

Fahrenheit 451



1966. France. Scientific fiction. 112 min.

Director: François Truffaut

Synopsis: Based on the 1953 novel of the same name by Ray Bradbury, the film takes place in a controlled society in an oppressive future, in which the government sends out firemen to destroy all literature to prevent revolution and thinking.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6VUExA5UKA>

StormCenter



1956. USA. Drama. 85min.

Director: Daniel Taradash

Synopsis: Widowed librarian Alicia Hull (Bette Davis) becomes the center of a McCarthyist firestorm when she refuses to remove from her library "The Communist Dream," a book seen by her town council as incendiary anti-American propaganda. Condemned at a town meeting by her former assistant Martha Lockridge (Kim Hunter) and Martha's opportunist attorney boyfriend, Paul Duncan (Brian Keith), the principled Alicia chooses the moral high ground even as she must endure the town's oppressive rancor.

Watch in full: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NxIS-rTChrY>