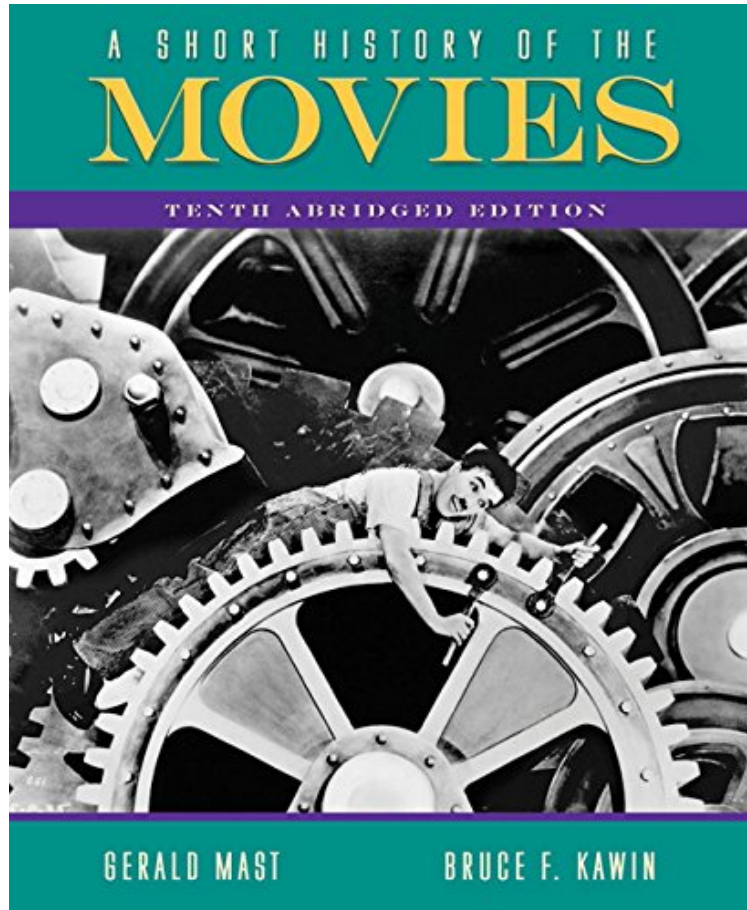


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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I actually learned something By ZuluQueen This was the textbook for a college film history class I took. I haven't read every single chapter, of course, but what I did read I liked very much. You can expect a nice softcover with black and white images of memorable movie moments throughout. They're usually not the iconic images, but ones used to make a point. The textbook takes you from cinema's roots all the way to at least the '90s. Not only do you learn about the key players involved in the growth of the art of film making, the authors take great pains to mention key films and why you should probably watch them. If you don't have to read this book for a class, it's still useful. You can flip through it and search for film recommendations. You can even read it all the way through to understand the history of the movies and how they came to be. If you have to read this for a class, you're in for a treat. The authors do a good job of describing the subtleties of the world's most famous films and why they're so famous. This book will help you appreciate and maybe even learn to love black and white movies. My

favorite aspect of this textbook is the way the authors lovingly describe films, directors, and actors. They mention an early short film clip of, if I remember correctly, a man dancing in front of the camera. It's called Monkeyshine or something. The camera's not the best; they were only invented recently at that point, and the man is blurry. But the authors still describe the film as "thrilling and pure." I love that description, and I loved reading this book. It doesn't patronize you, and instead of looking like a textbook with graphs, charts, and bold "vocab terms" all over the place, it reads like a lecture. The writers even have a sense of humor, as can be seen from their clever little remarks slyly enclosed in parentheses, which made the textbook even more of a joy to read. Like I said before, you actually end up learning something. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Short but comprehensive! By Music Lover Very comprehensive and detailed look at the history of film and its growth and development over the years. Can't believe the cost of the book, though! 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Great book By Alison This book was required for my History of Film class but I think I'll be keeping it for myself instead of returning it. It's full of short, concise descriptions of some of the important points in film starting at the beginning. I've referenced it in every paper I've written for the class, must buy.

This is the essential core of Mast and Kawin's classic in a streamlined volume: the most accurate, carefully updated account of cinema today in a clear and lively book. Building on Mast's astute and lively history of cinema, Kawin has refined and updated the fascinating story of cinema's evolution from its earliest beginnings to the digital age. Probing deeper than most movie books, he takes us into the studio vaults, corrects the record, discloses what goes on inside the industry, clarifies the mysteries of movie technology, and offers a precise, thoroughly researched account. Kawin's analysis is witty and engaging, rich in instructive insights and entertaining illustrations of the art, history, technology, business, and fun of film. Now the essentials of Mast and Kawin's classic book are available in a compact version, judiciously streamlined at an even trimmer price.