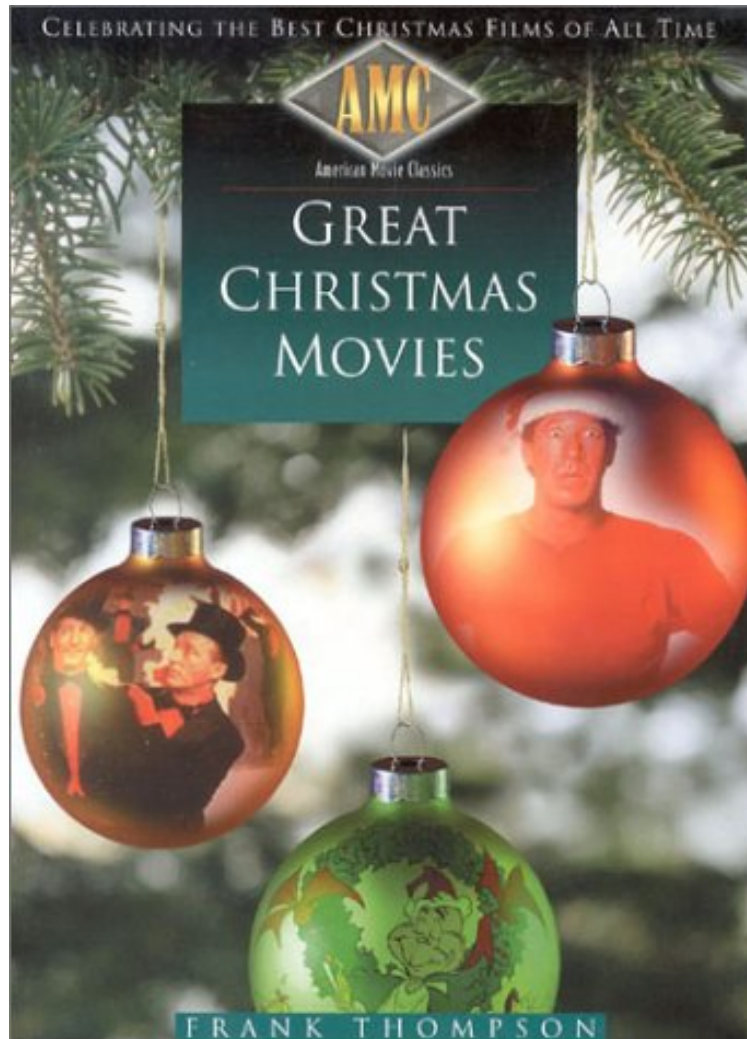


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AMC American Movie Classics: Great Christmas Movies - Celebrating the Best Christmas Films of All Time

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From Taylor Publishing : AMC American Movie Classics: Great Christmas Movies - Celebrating the Best Christmas Films of All Time before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised AMC American Movie Classics: Great Christmas Movies - Celebrating the Best Christmas Films of All Time:

14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. A disappointing rush job By M. Ritchie In the acknowledgments, the author admits that this book was rushed to print, apparently to be timed with an AMC special, and the rushing shows, both in the production--several typos, a rather poor selection of photos (too many photos from the MGM

"Christmas Carol" and none at all from the silent versions or the Seymour Hicks version, all of which get several pages of text attention)-- and in the odd imbalance of film coverage. Imagine a book on Christmas movies that gives 11 pages over to "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation, but only 4 1/2 pages to "It's a Wonderful Life"!! Because the author interviewed people like June Lockhart, Margaret O'Brien, and Chevy Chase, he apparently felt the need to include almost every word they said, even though most of the interviews have little light to shed on the movies under discussion. This is especially wasteful when 15 pages are devoted to an "oral history" of "A Christmas Story"; some judicious editing would have helped greatly. The space would have been much more wisely used for some deeper analysis of the Christmas movies. As it is, the author settles mostly for plot summary and the odd production detail and, despite mentioning the interesting fact that Fred Astaire bowed out of "White Christmas" because he hated the script, the author doesn't even get around to summarizing the plot at all, not even noting that it's basically a remake of "Holiday Inn." The chapters on silent films and the various "Christmas Carol" films are interesting, and he justly notes some overlooked gems like "Remember the Night" and "Come to the Stable." Still, my advice is to skip the book and wait for the TV special.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A salute to Christmas movies past and present
By LuvzFilmz
This glossy book would make an excellent festive gift for any movie buff who has even a passing interest in Christmas movies. Covering films old and new, running from the obscure to the true classics, the author makes an obvious effort to explore the different issues raised by the genre as well as looking at changing audience tastes over the years. The chapters are organised thematically, there are many illustrative photos and good interview material. Although it doesn't cover anything beyond the millennium (obviously, given its publication date), if you're looking for a well-presented guide to Christmas cinema from the good old days up until the nineties then you can't go wrong with this.

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. THE compilation of Christmas Movies -- more than just a list
By A Customer

Thanks Frank Thompson, for a starting place for a thorough listing of Christmas Movies. This book is a REFERENCE book in that you can breeze through it rather quickly. It's critiques and reviews are the reason you picked it up, but background stories and personal remembrances of the actors are the true backbone of the book. Lots of pictures, well designed, all the classics (except SCROOGED, THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS and CHARLIE BROWN'S CHRISTMAS) are listed and given coverage including Jesus films, the Monty Python LIFE OF BRIAN and the Christmas Horror classics. A VALUABLE ASSET FOR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATORS!

The Christmas movie has become an American tradition. Combining fascinating behind-the-scenes stories with insightful observations of favorite scenes, characters, and themes, American Movie Classics' Great Christmas Movies will delight readers of all generations for years to come.