

[Adam's Rib](#) (1949)

In this comedic “battle of the sexes” from director George Cukor, Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn play married lawyers who represent opposing sides of a case involving a woman who has shot her husband.

[An Affair to Remember](#) (1957)

Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr star in this romantic film as two people who fall in love on a cruise ship, despite both being engaged to other people. They decide to separate once the trip is over and reunite after six months, to see if their love is still strong.

[Brute Force](#) (1947)

In one of his earliest film roles, Burt Lancaster portrays Joe Collins, an inmate of Westgate Penitentiary. The prisoners of Westgate suffer cruel treatment from the authorities,

and soon Collins and other inmates begin to plot an escape.

[Dark Passage](#) (1947)

Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall team up in this film noir which tells the story of Vincent Parry, a prisoner who escapes from San Quentin, undergoes plastic surgery, and hides in the San Francisco home of an artist while plotting to prove his innocence.

[Meet Me in St. Louis](#) (1944)

Widely regarded as one of the best musicals ever made, this film features Judy Garland as Esther Smith, a young woman who falls in love, only to discover that her father will be moving the family from St. Louis to New York.

[The Fountainhead](#) (1948)

Gary Cooper plays architect Harold Roark, who refuses to change his ideas despite

pressure from others. Based on the novel by Ayn Rand.

[For Whom the Bell Tolls](#)

(1943)

In this adaptation of Ernest Hemingway’s novel, Gary Cooper portrays Robert Jordan, an American who travels to Spain to join the anti-fascist forces during the Spanish Civil War.

[It's A Wonderful Life](#) (1946)

It's Christmas Eve, and George Bailey plans to commit suicide. As he prepares to jump off a bridge, an angel appears who shows him how terrible the lives of those closest to him would be if he had not been there to influence them in a positive manner. This classic holiday film, directed by Frank Capra, stars Jimmy Stewart in one of his most memorable roles.

[The Pride of the Yankees](#)

(1942)

Gary Cooper portrays New York Yankee baseball player Lou Gehrig in this biographical film, which traces Gehrig's life from a young man who dreams of playing for the major leagues to his tragic death at age 37.

[The Quiet Man](#) (1952)

John Ford was awarded the Oscar for Best Director for this film, which features John Wayne as Sean Thornton, an American boxer who returns to Ireland, the country where he was born.

[Some Like it Hot](#) (1959)

In this comedy from director Billy Wilder, Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon play musicians who disguise themselves as women and join an all-female band, in order to escape from a group of gangsters.

The band includes Sugar Kane, portrayed by Marilyn Monroe in one of her most famous roles.

[South Pacific](#) (1958)

"I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair," "Some Enchanted Evening," and "Bali H'ai" are just a few of the renowned songs from this Rodgers and Hammerstein musical set during World War II.



All titles in this list are in DVD format.

October 2007



**Classic Films
from the
1940s &
1950s
at the
Civic Center
Library**

