



Fiction and Film

This is a list of books and film adaptations in English which are available in the university library.

- (1) Some comments on how this list came into being and its purpose.
- (2) The list of book and film titles.

Part (1)

This list of books and film adaptations is actually a combination of lists originally made for my Fiction and Film Classes (open to students of all subjects, not just English).

Each of these classes had a slightly different focus. Sometimes the books were chosen more on the basis of their topic, sometimes on the basis of their themes, or on the period they were written in, but the main tasks were the same. We looked at the characters of the books we chose, at the story, the themes and possible filming difficulties. Then we watched the film and made a comparison. (We did much more than that, but that belongs to the class and not here.) It is, quite simply, a fascinating experience to read a book, imagine it, then watch the film.

The setting of the stories, i.e. the where and the when, is very varied, from a farming community in the north-east of Scotland during the Second World War to a castle in Italy in the 1920s, from a coffee plantation in Africa to the backwoods of New Zealand in the 19th century. Although the settings of the books are so different, they not only have many topics in common but also share many recurrent themes.

Some of the books are short, others long. Some are action-packed, others slow moving, thought-provoking. Some have a story line which is easy to find and follow, others need puzzling out. Some are openly challenging, from the first page. But even the short and slim books have a lot to offer, provided you read carefully.

Please note:

This is not intended to be a complete list of all the books in the library which have been turned into films. Many of the classics, Shakespeare, Dickens, the

Bronte sisters, Jane Austen, for example, have been left out. They are easy to find in KOALA. Most of the books on this list we have actually read, with pleasure, in class. They are definitely all worth reading, for themselves, not just as a forerunner to the film.

Although the books are catalogued in the library only as “eng“ or “ame“ the writers can be Scottish, English, Canadian, American, Indian, New Zealand, Australian, Irish, South African. The same goes for the film directors.

Over the last fifteen years or so I have tried to build up an interesting collection of books-and-film for the library. I also keep my own databank of the English language films, of all kinds, which are available in the library, with information on title, director, publication date, topic, main accent (Scottish, Canadian, Irish etc.).

(2) List of titles

I have written the list as follows:

Title of the book (which is usually the same as the title of the film)
Author, library classification, date of publication
Director, date of publication, length of film

Accidental Tourist, The

Tyler, Ann, ame, 1985
Kasdan, Lawrence, 1989, 116 m

Age of Innocence, The

Wharton, Edith, ame, 1920
Scorsese, Martin, 1994, 138 m

Amadeus

Shaffer, Peter, eng, 1980
(a play)
Forman, Milos, 1984, 152 m

Angel at my Table, An

Frame, Jane, 1984
Campion, Jane, 1992, 120 m

Anita and Me

Syal, Meera, eng, 2006
Hooper, Tom, 2006, 107 m

Another Time, Another Place

Kesson, Jessie, 1983

Radford, Michael, 1983, 110 m

Atonement

McEwan, Ian, eng, 2001

Wright, Joe, 2007

Beautiful Mind, A

Nasar, Silvia, tff, 1998

Howard, Ron, 2002, 130 m

Beloved

Morrison, Toni, ame, 1987

Demme, Jonathan, 1991, 172 m

Birdy

Wharton, William, ame, 1979

Parker, Alan, 1984, 115 m

Caine Mutiny, The

Wouk, Herman, ame, 1951

Dmytryk, 1954, 119 m

Cement Garden, The

McEwen, Ian, eng, 1978

Birkin, Andrew, 1992, 105 m

Charlotte Grey

Faulks, Sebastian, eng, 1998

Armstrong, Gillian, 2001, 116 m

Cider House Rules, The

Irving, John, ame, 1985

Hallstroem, 1999, 90 m

Color Purple, The

Walker, Alice, ame, 1982

Spielberg, Steven, 1985, 150 m

Comfort of Strangers, The

McEwen, Ian, eng, 1981

Schrader, Paul, 1995, 100 m

Constant Gardener, The

Le Carré, John, eng, 2001

Mereilles, Fernando, 2005, 120 m

Corelli's Mandoline

De Bernières, Louis, eng, 1998
Madden, John, 2003, 124m

Damage

Hart, Josephine, eng, 1991
Biziou, Peter, 1992, 104 m

Dead Man Walking

Prejean, Helen, ame, 1996
Robbins, Tim, 1995, 120 m

Ebony Tower, The

Fowles, John, eng, 1974
Knights, Robert, 1984, 78 m

Educating Rita

Russell, Willy, eng,
(a play)
Gilbert, Lewis, 1984, 108 m

Emma

Austen, Jane, eng, 1815
McGrath, Douglas, 1996, 116 m

Enchanted April

Von Arnim, Elisabeth, eng, 1922
Newell, Mike, 1991, 89 m

English Patient, The

Ondaatje, Michael, eng, 1992
Minghella, Anthony, 1996, 155 m

Fall of the House of Usher, The

Poe, Edgar Allan, ame, 1839
Corman, Roger, 1960, 76 m

French Lieutenant's Woman, The

Fowles, John, eng 1969
Reisz, Karel, 1982, 121 m

Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café

Flagg, Fannie, ame, 1992
Avnet, Jon, 1993, 125 m

Girl in a Swing, The

Adams, Richard, eng, 1980
Hessler, Gordon, 105 m

Golden Bowl, The

James, Henry, ame, 1904
Ivory, James, 2000, 125 m

Gone to Earth

Webb, Mary, eng, 1917
Powell, Michael, 1950, 110 m

Grapes of Wrath

Steinback, John, ame, 1939
Ford, John, 1940, 120 m

Great Gatsby, The

Fitzgerald, F. Scott, ame, 1925
Clayton, Jack, 1985, 140 m

Hallam Foe

Jinks, Peter

Handmaid's Tale, The

Atwood, Margaret, ame, 1986
Schloendorff, Volker, 1990, 104 m

Heat and Dust

Jhabvala, Ruth, eng, 1976
Ivory, James, 1989, 125 m

Hideous Kinky

Freud, Esther, eng
MacKinnon, Gillies, 1999, 95 m

Housekeeping

Robinson, Marilynne, ame, 1981
Forsyth, Bill, 1987, 117 m

House of Mirth, The

Wharton, Edith, ame, 1914
Davies, Terence, 2001, 134 m

Howard's End

Forster, E. M., eng, 1910
Ivory, James, 1993, 136 m

Jane Eyre

Bronte, Charlotte, eng, 1847
Zeffirelli, 1995, 110 m

Jewel in the Crown, The

Scott, Paul, eng, 1978
Morahan, Christopher, 1987

Jude (The Obscure)

Hardy, Thomas, eng, 1895
Winterbottom, Michael, 1996, 117 m

Last King of Scotland, The

Foden, Giles, eng
Macdonald, Kevin, 2006, 117m

Last Orders

Swift, Graham, eng, 1996
Schepisi, Fred, 2001, 106 m

Little Drummer Girl, The

Le Carré, John, eng, 1983
Hill George, 1984, 125 m

Mary Reilly

(Stevenson, Robert Louis, eng, 1924)
Martin, Valerie, (on order)
Frears, Stephen, 1995, 104 m

Memoirs of a Survivor, The

Lessing, Doris, eng, 1974
Gladwell, 1981, 111 m

Morvern Callar

Warner, Alan, eng, 1995
Ramsey, Lynne, 2002, 93 m

Mrs Dalloway

Woolf, Virginia, eng, 1925
Gorris, Marleen, 1997, 97 m

My Left Foot

Brown, Christy, eng, 1954
Sheridan, Jim, 1989, 98 m

My Son the Fanatic

Kureishi, Hanif, eng,
Prasad, Udayan, 1999, 83 m

Needle, The

Follett, Ken
Marquand, Richard, 1981, 108 m

Nineteen Eighty Four

Orwell, George, eng, 1949
Radford, Michael, 1985, 122 m

Not without my Daughter

Mahmoody, Betty, ame, 1988
Gilbert, Brian, 1992, 111 m

Orlando

Woolf, Virginia, eng, 1928
Potter, Sally, 1992, 90 m

Out of Africa

Blixen, Karen, skd, 1937
Pollack, Sydney, 1985, 155 m

Passage to India

Forster, E. M., eng, 1924
Lean, David, 1984, 157 m

Piano, The

Campion, Jane, tff, 1994
Campion, Jane, 1992, 120 m

Portrait of a Lady, The

James, Henry, ame, 1881
Campion, Jane, 1997, 144 m

Pride and Prejudice

Austen, Jane, eng, 1813
Langton, Simon, 1995, 301 m
Coke, Cyril, 1985, 109 m

Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, The

Spark, Muriel, eng, 1961
Neame, Ronald, 1969, 110 m

Rabbit Proof Fence

Pilkington, Doris, eng, 2002
Noyce, Philip, 2002, 94 m

Red Dust

Slovo, Gillian, eng, 2006
Hooper, Tom, 2006, 107 m

Regeneration

Barker, Pat, eng, 1993
MacKinnon, Gillies, 1997, 109 m

Remains of the Day, The

Ishiguro, Kazuo, eng, 1989
Ivory, James, 1993, 129 m

Return of the Soldier, The

West Rebecca, eng, 1918
Bridges, Alan, 1989, 102 m

Room with a View

Forster, E. M., eng, 1908
Ivory, James, 1985, 112 m

Scarlet Letter, The

Hawthorne, Nathaniel, ame, 1850
Joffe, Roland, 1997, 129 m

Schindler's Ark

Keneally, Thomas, eng, 1982
Spielberg, Steven, 1993, 187 m

Sense and Sensibility

Austen, Jane, eng, 1811
Lee, Ang, 1995, 131 m

Shadowlands

Nicholson, William, eng, 1989
(a play)
Attenborough, Richard, 1993, 126 m

Snow Falling on Cedars

Guterson, David, ame, 1995
Hicks, Scott, 1998, 122 m

Sophie's Choice

Styron, William, ame, 1979
Pakula, Alan, 1982, 140 m

Taking Sides

Harwood, Ronald, eng, 1995
Szabo, Istvan, 2002, 105 m

Talented Mr Ripley, The

Highsmith, Patricia, ame, 2002
Minghella, Anthony, 1999

To the Lighthouse

Woolf, Virginia, eng, 1927
Gregg, Colin, 1985, 116 m

Tunes of Glory

Kennaway, James, eng, 1956
Neame, Ronald, 1994, 138 m

Waterland

Swift, Graham, eng, 1983
Gyllenhaal, Stephen, 1992, 95 m

White Mischief

Fox, James, ame, 1982
Radford, Michael, 1989, 104 m

Wings of the Dove, The

James, Henry, ame, 1902
Softley, Iain, 1997, 98 m

Women in Love

Lawrence, D. H., eng, 1920
Russell, Ken, 1969, 127 m

Young Adam

Trocchi, Alexander, eng, 1954
Mackenzie, David, 2002, 94 m

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