

Foreword Review

Cinescopes: What Your Favorite Movies Reveal About You

Ezra Werb Risa WilliamsQuirk Books (Nov 15, 2007)

\$14.95 (176pp)

978-1-59474-191-3

Risa Williams, who holds a master's in psychology, and Ezra Werb, with a degree in film studies, have come up with a horoscope for anyone who believes in good movies. Surely everyone has a favorite movie or two, and that, claim the authors, is all it takes to shuffle and analyze personality.

It's very simple. Make a list of your top ten favorite flicks. (If you get stuck, go to the index and wander through the stacks.) Then, from this glossary, jot down the codes that follow the film titles. Whichever two-letter code occurs most often is your Cinescope. For example, if you're a Destined Hunter, you "have the ability to look evil in the eye and tell it where to go." One of your favorite movies might be *Unforgiven*, or *Die Hard*. On the other hand, if you're a Rebellious Lover, your favorites might be *Out of Africa*, or *Closer*. An Existential Savior will go for *I Heart Huckabees*, while a Dedicated Idealist will love movies like *Wall Street*.

More than just a peg to hang a favorite film, the personality categories describe (based on the movie characters) your strengths and weaknesses, your deepest secret, and your problems with work and love. No lack of hot air, the authors also include favorite cinematic transportation and culinary choices: "walking uphill in a blizzard" and "week-old birthday cake" ring in for the Determined Survivor. No surprise here, the *Die Hard* fan prefers snowmobiles and "mysterious liquid in a canteen."

The film glossary occupies about twenty percent of the book, and is both contemporary and replete with classics. A good amount of foreign fare fills out the menu. A Web site keeps it up-to-the-minute.

Unabashedly unscientific guilt-free fun, this is a great gift or waiting room book.

HEATHER SHAW (December 11, 2007)

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