

50 Spiritual Movies



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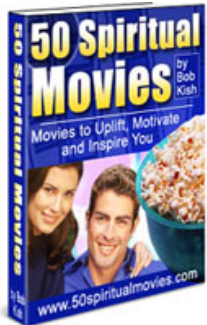
How Many of These 50 Spiritual Movies Have You Seen? Did Any of Your Favorites Make The List?

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Warm welcome to 50 spiritual movies. Not only will you find some of the best spiritual cinema reviewed here but interspersed throughout you'll also find links to some of the best charities around. (In order to use the links make sure you are connected to the internet.) The charities chosen have been independently reviewed and found to have the highest percentage of donations going to the recipients.

If you can't donate to one of these top charities then by passing this ebook on to others you will still be making a big difference as others who receive it may be able to give generously. And, of course, hopefully both you and those you pass this book on to will find and enjoy some wonderful inspirational and motivational movies.

As a result, not only do you have full rights to give this ebook away but it likely will be a great blessing for a number of people if you do! Just think, contained within are not only motivational and inspirational movies that should have a positive impact on those you give it to – but if they or anyone else that they distribute it to are able to make a donation to any of the worthy charities featured within then you are spreading ripples of positivity and charity. (By the way, ripples of good have a way of finding their way back to those that start them. :)

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The motivational movies that comprise this list are a varied lot. They range from fun family fare to out of this world encounters. What these spiritual movies do have in common is an ability to get you inspired, motivated and uplifted. Failing that – they'll make you think about more than just your own little world. They'll expand your mind and hopefully your horizons. They're movies that can bring out the spiritual in you. In fact, if you watch enough of them you just might find Shangri-La... :)

Of course, this list is not all-inclusive – there are so many wonderful spiritual films that space did not permit the inclusion of what are likely some of your favorites. That and the fact that **I've tried to include some spiritual movies that you might not have seen before.** Movies like those listed here, though, deserve to be heard, seen and shared.

Have you ever thought of starting a movie night devoted to sharing a positive movie or two with a group of friends? Great idea. Spiritual movies can be very therapeutic. And, a ton of fun. And starting a movie night devoted to sharing a positive movie or two with a group of friends is a great idea.

Though I've tried to include movies out of the mainstream, you and your friends may have already seen some of those listed here. **However, what if there was a way to get new, fresh, spiritual movies that most people have never seen?** Enter Stephen Simon and Spiritual Cinema.

[SpiritualCinema](#)

Stephen Simon, Producer of *Somewhere in Time* and *What Dreams May Come*, Producer/Director of *Indigo* said "Before now, hardly anyone got to see the best movies made each year. **Now, by joining [SpiritualCinema](#), you'll see movies that will warm your heart, expand your mind, and stir your soul...without leaving home.**"

The cost of the service is kept deliberately low, so the maximum number of people can participate. You could even share the minimal cost with some friends and start your own Spiritual Movie Night every month.

Each month you receive 3–5 features and shorts on DVD. These movies represent the best of spiritual cinema and art.

The movies are new films you're unlikely to see anywhere else.

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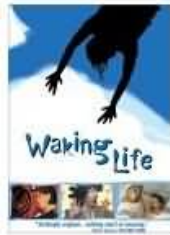
The DVDs are yours to keep. You don't have to return them. In fact, you're encouraged to share them with friends and family, in order to broaden the worldwide Spiritual Cinema community.

You don't need to go to the theatres and clean out your wallet. You can stay home and relax in comfort.

There's no risk – you can cancel at any time – but once you begin receiving your spiritual movies every month you'll want to continue. You'll be doing something great for yourself and you'll be helping those you share the spiritual movies with. So, why not Join the [SpiritualCinema](#), Club NOW and enjoy an inspiring experience month after month.

And now, drum roll please...50 Spiritual Movies! (in no particular order)

1. Waking Life



Richard Linklater's surreal animated dreamscape floats from one deep conversation to the next. The thread holding the conversations together is main character Wiley Wiggins. He and we constantly wonder if he is awake or dreaming or something in between. Reminds me of the taoist sage's butterfly dream.

Chuang Tzu dreamed that he was a butterfly.
All day long, he floated on the breeze
Without a thought of who he was or where he was going.
When he awoke, Chuang Tzu became confused.
"Am I a Man", he thought, "who dreamed that I was a butterfly?
Or am I butterfly, dreaming that I am a man?
Perhaps my whole waking life is but a moment in a butterfly's dream!
This is a story of transformation"

And, so too is Waking Life.

Lots of food for thought in this one – so much you might want to try it in bite size chunks to better digest it.

It was a nice surprise to catch an erudite exchange between Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy, seemingly reprising their roles that they started in Before Sunrise and then later added to in Before Sunset. The opportunity to see a little more interaction between these two characters again (even if just as cartoon characters) was just the icing on the cake filled with alot of goodies.

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What was spiritual about this movie? Lots of esoteric ideas exchanged throughout the various monologues and dialogues. The animation was trippy and there was always the question of just what was going on here. Knowledge is power – plug into Waking Life today.

Memorable Quotes:

Guy Forsyth: The trick is to combine your waking rational abilities with the infinite possibilities of your dreams. Because, if you can do that, you can do anything.

Guy Forsyth: The worst mistake that you can make is to think you're alive when really you're asleep in life's waiting room.

Get [WakingLife](#) on sale.

2. Box of Moonlight

John Turturro stars as Al Fountain, a stiff man stuck in the dreary routine of his life. Chained by an obsessive attention to his own rules, he seems to lack passion for anything. While on a business trip he meets some characters who help him find that lost passion. One of those characters played by Sam Rockwell is Bucky, a happy go lucky young buckskin-clad misfit who "lives off the grid." Rockwell's character, also known as the Kid, in his raccoon cap, makes this movie an adventure. And wait til you see Bucky's "house." If you want to pump a little passion into your life grab A Box of Moonlight.

The movie is backed by a sharp soundtrack featuring Wall of Voodoo, Elmore James, Chaser, The Fireballs, the Chrome Cranks and others.

What is spiritual about this movie? It is invigorating to know that your life – or at least your attitude about it – can sometimes be changed for the better by a simple little road trip. And, if you happen to meet a character like Bucky then well you know you're in for some excitement. If you can't hit the road for a bit why not try doing something different? Take a chance – go somewhere different – make new friends, etc... Pull a George Costanza – do the opposite and see what strange and new turns your life might take. You might even want to make cereal like Bucky does – a bowl of Oreos with milk. Hey, live a little!

Get [BoxofMoonlight](#) on sale.

3. DreamKeeper

This made for tv movie from Hallmark is a great introduction to Native American myths and storytelling. Eddie Spears plays a wild Lakota teen who is cajoled into driving his grandfather (August Schellenberg) to an All-Nations powwow in New Mexico.

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Enroute, the grandfather relates a series of Native American stories to his grandson who he is trying to persuade to become a storyteller himself. In essence the goal is to keep the tradition of his people alive via the stories. The stories, augmented with some impressive special effects, eventually have a positive influence on the grandson.

Some of my favorite stories included Blue Bird Woman, the Thunder Spirit, Texas Red and the Seven Brothers. In Texas Red, Red is a white boy who was raised as an Indian. He is frequently belittled by his other tribe members. He and his sister, a full-blooded Indian, however, grew up together and have a deep bond. This story details what happens when the white man recaptures Texas Red.

If you are looking for educational insight into Native American culture combined with some beautiful cinematography and nifty special effects, DreamKeeper is a Keeper.

What is spiritual about this movie? It is all in the story. The Native American myths aren't alone in using stories to pass on important messages. Who says we can't use storytelling to teach and learn lessons in our own lives. So, what's your story – and more importantly – is it worth passing on?

Get [Dreamkeeper](#) on sale.

Why not visit and help this related charity? American Indian Services at <http://www.americanindiainservices.com>. They provide scholarships, opportunity and hope for Native Americans.

4. The Razor's Edge

Bill Murray stars in this movie based on W. Somerset Maughams' classic book. I've always been a Bill Murray fan. However, be prepared – this is not your usual outlandish Bill of Stripes and What About Bob fame. Here the story dictates a much more contemplative Bill. And Bill delivers contemplation. Oh, you'll still get snippets of the dry wit and humor and a hint of the trickster behind his eyes. It is all just a bit more muted than usual but in the right doses for this film.

After experiencing the horrors of WWI Larry Darrell (Murray) returns to a wealthy Chicago suburb. He delays marriage to find the meaning of life. He ends up doing what many have often thought of doing but have never done – travelling in search of the meaning of life. He "bums" around in Europe for awhile and then farther east – always soaking up new lessons.

When he returns life's lessons test Larry as they test all of us. Only now he seems better equipped than most to deal with it. The lessons don't change but Larry does. And that makes all the difference.

This is a rich story of how one man answers society's incessant whining on what is the "proper" way to live a life. To see how Larry answers society see

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The Razor's Edge. And, after seeing it you might have a different answer the next time life throws you a curve.

What is spiritual about this movie? Although you don't really have to leave your backyard to find enlightenment – the very act of leaving the house in search of spiritual exploration could spur you up the spiritual path. I like the fact that Larry Darrell was brave enough to do what he really wanted to do – convention be damned. If more people had his attitude there just might be a lot more happy folks out there.

Memorable Quotes:

Larry Darrell: It's easy to be a holy man on top of a mountain.

Why not visit and help this related charity? The Tibet Fund at <http://www.tibetfund.org/>.

The Tibet Fund was founded in 1981 with the guidance of the Dalai Lama. The Tibet Fund is dedicated to helping Tibetans improve their lives and preserve their culture and national identity. Their main emphasis to date has been to fund health, education, community development and cultural preservation projects in Tibetan refugee settlements in India, Nepal and Bhutan, and to support rehabilitation services for the thousands of new refugees who continue to arrive from Tibet every year. Through the Khawachen Assistance Program (KAP), the Tibet Fund also helps Tibetans in Tibet by providing funds to local NGOs for projects that treat and prevent blindness, house and care for orphans, and provide educational opportunities and emergency relief.

Get [TheRazor'sEdge](#) on sale.

WHAT WERE THE BOOKS THAT CHANGED THEIR LIVES?

A Book Changed the Lives of Deepak Chopra, Louise Hay, Neale Donald Walsch, Jack Canfield and Many other Transformational Leaders, NOW one Can Change Yours Too!

Do you want to be a part of something that is sweeping the world with inspiration? This new program is a life-changing transformational journey that opens you up to the wisdom of some of the world's best-loved Authors and Teachers. Joining is a Gift to Yourself and a Contribution to the World. Are you ready to be [Transformed?](#)

5. Wings of Desire

Wings of Desire was the original German movie that inspired Hollywood to produce City of Angels with Nicolas Cage and Meg Ryan. In this case,

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Wings of Desire provides a much bigger slice of heaven than City of Angels.

Wings of Desire is a dreamy angelic ride through the streets of Berlin. The angels are like ghosts able to record brief bits of humanity but unable to experience it themselves.

Bruno Ganz plays Damiel, an angel who falls in love with Marion, an earth-bound trapeze artist. He crosses over from mere observer to actually live and feel as a human. In an interesting aside, Peter Falk plays himself as a fallen angel.

What is spiritual about this movie? This movie will get you thinking about what is important in life and also make you realize how many beautiful slices of life you take for granted. Catch Wings of Desire. And why not enjoy every single moment of your life – in other words be here now.

Get [WingsofDesire](#) on sale.

6. Baraka

Cinematographer Ron Fricke spans the planet blessing you ("Baraka" means blessing) with an out of this world experience based on earthly experiences. There is no real dialogue – this is 104 minutes of sights from around the world (24 countries) backed by a soundtrack that nicely complements the action on screen.

There were many mesmerizing scenes in this movie. From the yogi meditating to the worshippers praying at the Wailing Wall to the poor rummaging through the garbage dumps in Calcutta all the way to the human-like expression of the monkey in the hot-pool. One of my favorites was the tribal group of men carrying out a spiritual ritual of sorts mimicking each others movements. It was like calisthenics for the soul only set in a lush outdoor temple in some forest.

Baraka will transport you around the globe where you'll witness volcanoes, fields of stars, time-lapsed human-robots in Japan, exotic tribes in various locales, water-falls, birds, herds, death camps, bathers in the Ganges, factory workers and even subway riders.

What is spiritual about this movie? You can almost treat this dvd like a meditation unto itself. Absorb and transcend. Many people have reported that just watching it is a very moving spiritual experience. Don't expect a "movie" movie with traditional plot or action. Expect nothing. Enjoy everything.

Get [Baraka](#) on sale.

7. Up Series

Yeah, putting it at number 7 was intentional – couldn't resist the obvious. Anyway, this is a fascinating documentary.

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I first heard about the 7 Up series while listening to some motivational cds some years ago that described the change in circumstances undergone by a group of people in England that had been followed and filmed every seven years. The series began in 1963 as part of Granada television in Britain interviewing a group of 7 year old kids.

They then followed these 14 children from the age of 7 on to chart how their lives progressed as they grew up. It's like the Real World on prozac but with a more indepth and lengthier look at the characters without all the manufactured goofy games and prizes – this IS the Real world. As you get to watch these lads and lasses grow up and mature into adults it is interesting to see the ups and downs they've experienced as well as what type of life they have created for themselves. The latest edition is 42 Up which came out in 1999.

As with most people, these folks hopes and dreams are shaped by their environment and upbringing. The individuals with wealthy backgrounds had loftier goals and aspirations than those less fortunate individuals. Often though it is those from the less privileged origins that have the more interesting insights and lives. Get 7 Up and get refreshed – with the likes of Neil, Tony, Jackie, Lynn, John, Nick, Bruce, Suzy and the rest of those real folks.

Now packed as a set of dvds you have access to the original 7 Up from 1963, 7 Plus 7 from 1970, and then the dvds from every 7 years from 21 Up, 28 Up, 35 Up and then 42 Up.

Make [7 Up](#) yours.

8. Maria Full of Grace



Hail Maria, full of grace. Pray tell child is that Holy Communion you are swallowing on the cover of that dvd? Actually, no... That's not a holy wafer she is ingesting but rather a heroin capsule and unlike the Church of the Peyote Way she is not partaking of it as part of any spiritual ritual. It is however a ritual of sorts – a rite of passage as it were – a dangerous one of passing drugs across the border. It is suffered by many of the indigent of Third World countries whose desperation leads to doing almost anything for money.

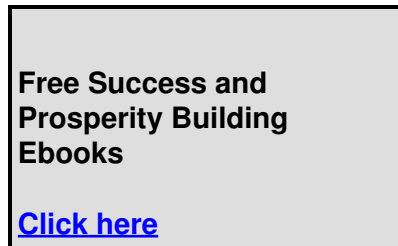
Maria Alvarez (Catalina Sandino Moreno) is a young (17-year old) but savvy Columbian girl. She is cursed with a no-good boyfriend, a poor paying job dethorning roses, and a family in need of monetary assistance. Add to that a recent pregnancy and she makes the choice to become a drug runner. Maria hence becomes filled with more than just grace. That is, as a mule for drug smugglers she's full of heroin capsules that she's swallowed and attempting to bring into New York. For the relative fortune of \$5,000.

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Maria is not alone. She is one of several mules that will be making the flight to New York. Maria Full of Grace, which won the audience award at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival, chronicles their plight. Moreno was nominated for an Oscar for her amazing portrayal of Maria. Will Maria survive the journey? Catch Maria Full of Grace – if you can.

What is spiritual about this movie? What is the measure of a good life – is it money? Maybe one should research all options before leaping into something life threatening – especially if it is just for money. Maria leaves her job dethorning roses for what is ultimately an even thornier situation. As they say the grass always looks greener on the other side.

Get [MariaFullofGrace](#) on sale.



9. Winged Migration



Do you ever feel like flying? Soar with the birds of Winged Migration and you'll feel like you are – and you don't even have to get out of your Lazy Boy.

Produced and directed by Frenchman Jacques Perrin this 99–minute documentary is a spiritual soar–fest. The close up shots of the various groups of migrating birds is amazing. Even more amazing is the fact that there is no trick photography involved. You actually feel like you're right there flying with them. Your spirit will soar along with the birds as they fly through 40 countries. Winged Migration grabbed a 2002 Academy Award for Best Documentary.

This is a keeper for any movie library. I've seen it over 20 times and will continue to watch it on a regular basis. One caveat – there is a hunting scene or two where some birds are taken down. However, it along with a couple of other scenes help make you aware of the many dangers that migrating birds face.

What is spiritual about this movie? Watching Winged Migration is like an hour and a half meditation of flight. Not only do you get the feeling of flight as these birds fly through a variety of gorgeous scenery, mountains, and

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cities, but the soundtrack is exhilarating as well. If you want to experience flight – Winged Migration is your ticket.

Get [WingedMigration](#) on sale.

Why not visit and help this related charity? The Wildlife Care Center at <http://www.wildcare.org/> works to rescue, rehabilitate, and release native wildlife that has been harmed or displaced; to treat and place certain needy domestic, exotic and farm animals; and to educate the public toward coexistence with all animals. Incorporated in 1969 as the S.P.C.A. of Broward County, Inc., the Wildlife Care Center has grown into a modern, professionally staffed hospital. Last year, the Center treated over 12,000 animal patients for poisoning, gunshot wounds, malnutrition, fractures, and injuries from cars, fish hooks, and other hazards. Dedicated to healing animals, the Wildlife Care Center has become the largest wildlife hospital in South Florida, complete with a surgery and diagnostics area, an intensive care area, over 90 cages and 13 large habitats for injured birds, mammals and reptiles.

10. Defending Your Life

Albert Brooks plays Daniel Miller, a man hit by a bus. The fatal accident lands him in Judgement City. There he is put on trial to see if he is worthy to advance to the next level or if he must return to earth for another incarnation. While there he meets the wonderful Julia (Meryl Streep) who is also on trial. Julia has lived an exemplary life while Brooks is subjected to watching his many shortcomings.

Rip Torn does a great job as Brooks' defense lawyer Bob Diamond and Lee Grant plays the prosecutor Lena Foster. But it is Brooks and Streep who carry this film. Brooks is at his best as his usual hyperchondriacish self. And, Streep is very sweet as his love-interest.

Will Brooks get to stay with Streep? What criteria is Brooks ultimately judged on and what can he do to gain salvation? Watch Defending Your Life for the answers and for a spiritual journey with a lot of laughs.

What is spiritual about this movie? I like the notion that redemption is just around the corner if you are only willing to take a chance at it – in the case of this movie that payoff comes at the very end – a lesson well-learned by Brooks' character. There is also the uncommon spiritual notion that life doesn't have to be some solemn austere enterprise but should be for the living. To that end, Brooks is given kudos for upgrading his ticket on a long flight to first class.

Essentially, life is for the living, so live it – cause, hey, like Daniel Miller, you could get hit by a bus tomorrow. Along the way though you may want to help some folks, do some charity work, and love others cause if you end up landing in Judgement City watching a movie review of your life you'll want to be able to enjoy it...

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Memorable Quotes:

Bob Diamond: Did we ever stop to think that this young boy had a bond with his father? I don't think it had anything to do with the friend. I just think Daniel couldn't lie to his dad. That's all.

Lena Foster: You're nodding, Mr. Miller. Does that mean you agree with Mr. Diamond?

Daniel Miller: Oh, yes. I had a bond with my father. I pretty much never lied to him.

Lena Foster: You never lied to your father? Would you like me to show you at least 500 examples?

Daniel Miller: I said "pretty much" never lied. I didn't say I never, ever lied. You have to lie sometimes... in an emergency. But, ah, it doesn't mean the bond is affected. If you've got the bond the bond is always there, and if you have to lie occasionally you're not going to interfere with the bond. You know, the bond can wait for a little lie and... in the end it's there for you. You know, sometimes in the middle of a lie I found that the bond would kick in... maybe squeeze a little truth out.

Bob Diamond: Psst, wrap it up.

Daniel Miller: I'm through.

Get [DefendingYourLife](#) on sale.

11. Can You Guess What This Mystery Movie Is?

How good is your movie knowledge?

This movie, produced by Disney Home Video, was released in 2001. In Japan it stayed in theaters almost a year and became the highest-grossing movie in Japanese box office history. It broke the record previously held by Princess _____, another animated film from the same director with the initials H.M.

What is this mystery movie? Who was the director? To grab the answers to these questions [click here now!](#)

Did you know that Disney now has a [Movie Club](#) that features the greatest Disney classics? It is run similarly to the current low cost industry giant [Netflix](#).

12. Hotel Rwanda

What can one man do? What would you do? Ask yourself that question after you watch Hotel Rwanda – a movie based on a true story.

Hotel Rwanda charts the tale of one man's response to the genocide that took place in Rwanda in 1994. That man, Paul Rusesabagina (Don Cheadle) was the manager of the Hotel Milles Collines in Kigali. Part of the Hutu majority, Rusesabagina was married to one of the Tutsi minority, Tatiana (Sophie Okonedo). Following the death of the Hutu president by Tutsi extremists, many of the Hutus went on a bloody rampage, massacring many Tutsi innocents, whom they called "cockroaches."

At first Rusesabagina turned a blind eye as the abuse began. But faced with watching the death of a group of Tutsi neighbors he quickly sprang into action to secure their reprieve – at least momentarily. From that moment on, he set about helping and harboring as many endangered Tutsis as he could manage – using the hotel as a homebase.

Hope that the U.N. and other countries would intervene to stop the genocide remained only that – hope. As the situation rapidly deteriorated Rusesabagina valiantly struggled to protect the Tutsis and his own family using his smooth negotiating skills. Were they enough to prevent the bloodshed of his family and new friends? Watch Hotel Rwanda to see who expired and what transpired.

Memorable Quotes: Paul Rusesabagina: There will be no rescue, no intervention for us. We can only save ourselves. Many of you know influential people abroad, you must call these people. You must tell them what will happen to us... say goodbye. But when you say goodbye, say it as if you are reaching through the phone and holding their hand. Let them know that if they let go of that hand, you will die. We must shame them into sending help.

What is spiritual about this movie? Watching Hotel Rwanda forces you to think about a number of life and death matters. How would we respond in a similar situation? Why didn't the international community do something to stop the killings? What can we as individuals and a community do to prevent future situations from arising?

Get [Hotel Rwanda](#) on sale.

Why not visit and help this related charity? The American Refugee Committee International (ARC) at <http://www.archq.org/>.

The American Refugee Committee International (ARC) works for the survival, health and well being of refugees, displaced people, and those at risk, enabling them to rebuild productive lives of dignity and purpose, striving always to respect their values. ARC was founded in 1979 to assist the victims of the Cambodian refugee crisis. Today, ARC works in 12 countries

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around the world, including Rwanda, helping victims of war and civil conflict rebuild their lives. ARC programs in Africa, the Balkans, Central Asia, and Thailand provide health care, clean water, shelter repair, legal aid, trauma counseling, microcredit, community development services, and repatriation assistance to nearly one million people annually.

13. Dragonfly

Kevin Costner is Dr. Joe Darrow, a doctor whose pregnant wife Emily, also a doctor, was killed while doing humanitarian work in a third world country. Darrow's atheism is tested as enigmatic signs, often in the form of a dragonfly, come fluttering into his physical realm. The signs seem to indicate to him that his dead wife is contacting him for some reason.

Is she really getting through to him or is he cracking up? And, what can he do to soothe his soul and that of his departed wife? Dragonfly is a rollercoaster ride that'll whipsaw you through a variety of emotions. In the end it should leave you drained but glad for the experience.

What is spiritual about this movie? The movie Dragonfly, seems to mirror it's main character Joe Darrow. Throughout he is a bit fractured emotionally as he attempts to come to grips with his wife's passing and the messages from beyond that seem to be appearing to him. In a similar vein the movie is a bit fractured as well. It flashes from love story, to horror story to psychological melodrama and back again.

Ultimately though, the movie, like Joe Darrow, is made whole in an ending that is as satisfying as it is surprising. The culmination is a transformation from darkness to light for both Joe Darrow and Dragonfly. For further illumination get Dragonfly.

Get [Dragonfly](#) on sale.

14. Life is Beautiful

When I first viewed this film years ago I had no idea that it had anything to do with the Nazi's. It started as a bit of a slapstick comedy with Italian Robert Benigni as the funny man Guido. As a Jewish lad in Italy during the time of Mussolini he woos and weds Dora (Nicoletta Braschi his real life wife). Together they have a son, Giosue (Giorgio Cantarini).

As the tentacles of fascism insidiously begin to weave their way into and throughout the town the lighthearted Guido tries to shield his son from the discrimination.

Giosué Orefice: "No Jews or Dogs Allowed." Why do all the shops say, "No Jews Allowed"?

Guido: Oh, that. "Not Allowed" signs are the latest trend! The other day, I was in a shop with my friend the kangaroo, but their sign said, "No Kangaroos Allowed," and I said to my friend, "Well, what can I do? They

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don't allow kangaroos."

Giosué Orefice: Why doesn't our shop have a "Not Allowed" sign?

Guido: Well, tomorrow, we'll put one up. We won't let in anything we don't like. Why don't you like?

Giosué Orefice: Spiders.

Guido: Good I don't like vampires. Tomorrow, we'll get sign: "No Spiders or Vampires Allowed."

Soon, father and son find themselves being herded onto a train bound for a German concentration camp:

Giosué Orefice: There aren't any seats?

Guido: Seats? On a train? It's obvious you've never ridden one before! No, everybody's packed in, standing up. Look at this line to get on! Hey, we've got tickets, save room for us!

As the horrors mount Guido's banter and ingenuity continue in an effort to protect his son. How does it turn out? See *Life is Beautiful* to find out.

What is spiritual about this movie? It is inspirational to watch Benigni use his humor and positivity to create a tolerable situation when one is not present. It is good motivation for all of us. Here he faces a life or death situation with an unmatched positive outlook. For many folks just the opposite is true – trivial matters are treated like life or death situations and emotions are accordingly skewed. Are there situations in our life where we can lighten up?

Get [LifeisBeautiful](#) on sale.

15. Gates of Heaven



This is a slow building but ultimately riveting documentary about two different pet cemeteries. Sort of like *Tokyo Story* in the respect that the power of the film slowly works its way in and before you know it you're entrenched in some serious soul searching about the meaning of life.

The premise is simple – interview those associated with a couple of pet cemetery businesses and those who are in need of their services. The viewer gets to see a series of interviews from pet owners going through a loss to the business owners "helping" them through it. Helping might be too loose a word for one set of owners as their primary goal seems to be maximizing their profits. If it is spiritual profits you seek though this offers a good glimpse into man's relationship with animals and himself.

Get [Gates of Heaven](#) on sale.

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Why not visit and help this related charity? Animal Haven at <http://www.animalhavenshelter.org/> works to carefully place cats and dogs in loving homes, as well as give lifetime care for those who cannot be placed. They fulfill their no-kill mission through adoption programs at shelters in Queens, Animal Haven @ Biscuits and Bath in Murray Hill and the Village, and their Mobile Adoption Program. Animal Haven University provides courses in positive reinforcement training to help keep dogs in their original homes. Animal Haven Acres is a sanctuary and rehabilitation Center in Delaware County, NY, where hard to place dogs and cats can live out their lives in a homelike setting.

16. Whale Rider



In this 2003 New Zealand film 12-year-old Pai (Keisha Castle-Hughes) is almost drowned by a wave of Maori tribal tradition. Historically, the tribal leader is the first-born son of a first-born son. In this case, Pai survives a birth in which her twin brother and mother perish. She is blamed for the bad luck by her grandfather Koro (Rawiri Paratene), the tribal chief. Recognizing her connection to the whales Pai carries on despite the attitude of her grandfather. In her heart she believes she is destined to be the next leader and her actions reflect that attitude.

Pai is named after Paikea, a legendary figure who was said to have ridden on the back of a whale in leading his people to New Zealand. Pai's village is a tight clan that has a special kinship with the sea and the land. **What is spiritual about this movie?** Pai's unwavering focus and determination along with her unwillingness to let even seemingly unsurmountable problems (like the fact that she is female and traditionally eliminated from consideration to becoming a tribal leader) deter her from her mission is powerful motivation for all viewers. That and the spiritual bonds that tether the villagers to each other, the land, the sea, and the whales make this a Ride worth taking.

Get [Whale Rider](#) on sale.

Why not visit and help this related charity? Save the Whales at <http://www.savethewhales.org>. Their purpose is to educate children and adults about marine mammals, their environment and their preservation.

Save the Whales was founded in 1977 when Maris Sidenstecker was 14 years old, and focuses on educating the public, especially children, about marine mammals and the fragile ocean environment.

Save the Whales believes children, the future of the planet, need to be empowered and know that their actions can promote change. Education is the key to saving whales, oceans, and ourselves.

17. Lost Horizon

Looking for Shangri-La?

You've found it. This secret land of enchantment lies well beyond New Mexico. It can be found (but not easily) in the mighty Himalayas.

Based on James Hilton's novel, Shangri-La was found by a diplomat (Ronald Colman) who's plane crashed in the Tibetan mountains. There he discovers an idyllic community of peaceful inhabitants who live to be hundreds of years old.

Directed by Frank Capra of *It's A Wonderful Life* fame, Shangri-La is a paradise you will want to see. Amidst this paradise Colman's only dilemma is whether he should stay or go. Does he stay? Does he go? Watch it and find out.

Looking for Shangri-La? You've found it.

What is spiritual about this movie? While experiencing the physical beauty of Shangri-La you might begin to ask yourself a number of questions. Among them – What is paradise? And, does it have to be a place or can it be a state of mind?

Memorable Quotes:

Lord Gainsford: Gentlemen, I give you a toast. Here's my hope that Robert Conway will find his Shangri-La. Here's my hope that we all find our Shangri-La.

Get [LostHorizon](#) on sale.

18. Babette's Feast

French chef Babette leaves behind the French Civil War and arrives in an austere little village in Denmark. There she resides with two sisters who are devoutly religious. The movie, like the residents and the town, initially seems a bit stern and dour. It doesn't take long however, for Isak Dinesen's Babette's Feast to warm the heart and the soul of the viewer, not to mention the bellies of those invited to the feast.

Not long after arrival, Babette wins a little lottery and decides to spend all the money on one great feast. The meal is attended by not only the peasants of the village but also by a Danish general who years before had been unable to keep wooing one of the sisters because of her religious views. The peasants of the village vow to eat but not enjoy the meal thinking it would be against God's will.

Can the meal melt the austere hearts of the villagers? Enjoy Babette's Feast to find out.

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What is spiritual about this movie? Realizing that sometimes all it takes is breaking bread with some friends to transform relationships. So my friend, where are we going for dinner?

Get [Babette's Feast](#) on sale.

Why not visit and help this related charity? At The Hunger Site at <http://www.thehungersite.com> you can donate for FREE by simply clicking one link. The Hunger Site is one of a series of sites that will enable you to do this. It takes about 2 seconds and at the hunger site you will be donating at no cost to yourself the equivalent of a cup of food for a hungry person.

Other related charities you can help for Free include The Animal Rescue Site, The Child Health Site, The Literacy Site, The Breast Cancer Site, and the Rainforest Site. You can go direct to the sites or visit via the Hunger Site link above.

19. Starman

John Carpenter's 1984 film *Starman* earned an Oscar nomination for Jeff Bridges as best actor. And, deservedly so. Bridges plays an alien who comes to earth and takes form as a widow's (Karen Allen) dead husband. When he first comes to life you think he might be one of those rare breed of mentally-challenged aliens. Alas, it's just a case of the alien adapting to his new body and environment.

The love relationship between Allen and Bridges blossoms as he attempts to evade government agents via car enroute to Arizona. One of the reasons it does develop is that Karen Allen's character gets to see just what a loving creature this alien is. A powerful scene that encapsulates the alien's reverence for all life involves a deer that some hunters have killed and left in the back of their truck while stopped at a diner.

What is uplifting about this movie? Jeff Bridges hair. Okay, okay, let me explain. At one point Bridges' character releases one of his "power spheres." After doing so his hair stands on end and his face has this other worldly glow. The picture is funny and bizarre at the same time and in an ironic aside reminded me of his dear old dad Lloyd in *Airplane* striking a similar pose accompanied with the immortal quip, "It's a bad day to give up sniffing glue..."

What is spiritual about this movie? The gentle loving spirit of the alien lifts this sci-fi story into the spiritual category. Although the alien story is overshadowed by the love-story both work well. *Starman* is a must have addition to any spiritual movie collection. Check it out today.

Memorable Quotes:

Starman: I watched you very carefully. Red light stop, green light go, yellow light go very fast.

Get [Starman](#) on sale.

20. Don't Die Without Telling Me Where You are Going

From Eliseo Subiela, director of *Man Facing Southeast* and *Dark Side of the Heart* comes the story of a film projectionist Leopoldo (Dario Grandintetti) who has created a machine that can record his dreams. Or at least that is what he thinks the machine does. What it does do is give him a glimpse of a woman who could be his soulmate.

Eventually this woman Rachel is able to appear to Leopoldo though no one else can see her. She relates that the two of them have lived through many lives and many centuries together. Furthermore, she tells him that he is the reincarnation of one of the inventor's of cinema.

Is there a way that Leopoldo, who is married in this life, can ever be together with the spirit Rachel in this life? There is – but it only takes place via an unusual twist. Discover what it is when you watch the Argentinian classic *Don't Die Without Telling Me Where You are Going*.

What is spiritual about this movie? This dose of magic–realism transcends the ordinary love–story with a love that spans the ages. Gives you pause to wonder about love in general and the concept of soulmates specifically. Especially what happens if you are in a relationship and you come in contact with someone you believe might be a soulmate.

Get [Don'tDieWithout](#) on sale.

21. The Color of Paradise and Children of Heaven

The Color of Paradise and *Children of Heaven* are two Iranian films from Majid Majidi. Both movies are centered around children as the main characters and both showcase lush cinematography.

The Color of Paradise is a moving story about a blind boy (Mohsen Ramezan) who attends a school for the blind in Tehran. Though blind his other senses are acutely attuned to the environment around him.

At school break time his father (Hossein Mahjub) showed up (late) and then drove him to Northern Iran to spend three months. Loved by his sisters and grandmother but not wanted by his father, the boy is pawned off on a blind carpenter. The carpenter takes him in and we come to "see" and better relate to the life of the blind.

What is spiritual about this movie? This is a special movie about a blind boy whose spirituality glows within and without.

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Children of Heaven is the first film from Iran to win an Oscar nomination for best foreign film. This is the story of a young boy Ali and sister Zahra and their quest for a pair of shoes. A pair of shoes? Yes, a pair of shoes. You think you have problems. Watch this and your problems might seem a little smaller in comparison.

Here, the brother loses the sister's shoes and knowing that their family can't afford another pair sets about trading off the one pair that they have in common. This gets old fast for the both of them – especially for Ali as he starts becoming late for school. The solution?

There is a long distance race for school kids that features three big main prizes. One of the prizes includes a new pair of shoes. Tricky part is that it is given to the person that finishes in third place. Even trickier is that Ali has missed the deadline for trying out to even get in the race.

This is one part of the movie that I loved and highlights the persistent nature of children that we sometime lose as we grow older. Because Ali has a burning desire to get into that race and win those shoes for his sister he absolutely won't take no for an answer when asking his coach to get in the race. His coach is adamant that the deadline has passed. As unyielding as he is it seems no match for Ali's insistence that he must be in that race. A little thing maybe but amazing to watch unfold.

The race itself is exciting. How does Ali do? Is he able to win the shoes for his sister? This is one worth watching to find out.

What is spiritual about these movies? The warm loving relationship between the family members, particularly the brother and sister, take center stage in this film. It's not the wealth of the family that is important but rather the wealth of their relationships. That doesn't mean that it is all love and light – there are definitely some true to life confrontations that any family might experience but overall the feeling is a good one that will stay with you.

Get [ChildrenofHeaven](#) on sale.

Get [ColorofParadise](#) on sale.

Why not visit and help these related charities?

Dr. Mani's Children's Heart Fund at <http://www.chdinfo.com/> Dr. Mani is a great guy doing great work – please help him help the children.

Make–A–Wish Foundation® International is a not for profit organization established to grant wishes to children around the world who are living with life–threatening illnesses. The Make–A–Wish Foundation can now be found in 30 countries and territories around the world. You can visit at <http://www.worldwish.org>

22. What the Bleep Do We Know?



Do your thoughts create your reality? For many folks on a spiritual path that idea is second nature. For them, the question is to just what extent do those thoughts create your existence. For others the concept is novel and radical. So, how far down the rabbit hole do you want to go?

"What the Bleep Do We Know?!" is a movie that blends storytelling and special effects with discourses from philosophers, shamans and scientists on the nature of reality. It is an intriguing work that offers up a number of fascinating ideas and concepts. And, for those stuck on the science aspect, those fringes are coming ever closer to the mainstream. For a good book check out *The Conscious Universe* by PhD Dean Radin.

In the movie, Amanda (Marlee Matlin) is a photographer who begins to experience shifts in consciousness and reality based on her thoughts. While in a subway, Amanda comes across a display called *Messages in Water* in which water molecules were analyzed and photographed after being exposed to certain words taped on the bottles. If you don't believe your words have an effect on your physical state of being just check this out. Powerful.

Interwoven with the story line are dialogues from a variety of scholars and scientists detailing the latest advances in Quantum physics and what it means to us in regards to our ability to create our own realities.

What is spiritual about this movie? The notion that our thoughts play a large part in dictating our reality – both emotionally and physically. Which should lead you to ask yourself what do you think about most often? Which in turn should lead you to look at just what your life looks like right now. What have you created?

In "What the Bleep Do We Know?!" you can step onto Duke Reginald's Court of Unending Possibilities. Our planet can be compared to the court. Are you in the game? Are you taking your shots?

Get [WhattheBleepDoWeKnow?](#) on sale.

23. The Scent of Green Papaya



From 1993 comes Tran Anh Hung's *The Scent of Green Papaya*. It is a film of lush cinematography and a soothing soundtrack filled with the symphony of crickets, birds, pattering rain and Vietnamese winds and bells. Amazingly enough, though the story centers around a household in Vietnam, it was filmed entirely in France.

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The movie moves slow and the destination is really nothing special when you arrive. What makes this one worth watching is that it is all about the journey. Shots of frogs on leaves and ants at work seamlessly blend in with the 10-year-old Vietnamese servant girl Mui as she works in a wealthy household in Saigon. Lingering shots of Mui carrying out her daily chores of cooking and cleaning against a tropical backdrop are mixed with interactions with the family that employs her. Mui is a hard worker and appreciated by the family, save for the impish young boy who loves to pull pranks on her (like dangling a salamander on a stick on her back).

A little over halfway through the movie the story shoots forward 10 years. Mui is forced to leave the economically suffering family and becomes employed by a man who plays the piano for a living. A man who was a guest in the house she worked in when she was still a child.

The marital conflict between Mui's employers and her later romantic involvement 10 years down the road with the new employer seem secondary to the visuals themselves. This is a beautiful movie to watch. You get the feeling that this director could almost make watching grass grow a pleasure.

What is spiritual about this movie? A sparse dialogue and a rich backdrop helps create an introspective journey as we watch Mui carry out her simple life.

Get [TheScentofGreenPapaya](#) on sale.

24. Vision Quest

High-school wrestler Loudon Swain (Matthew Modine) enters his senior year ready to make his mark with one great Vision Quest. His quest? He is going to drop from the 191 pound weight class down to the 168 pound class to take on the best wrestler in the state. That wrestler is a one-man wrecking crew named Brian Schute who routinely destroys all comers.

Swain's mission is complicated by a tragedy that every high-school boy dreads – the arrival of a beautiful 21-year old girl who in a helpful gesture by Loudon's father is allowed to live in the house with them. Carla (Linda Fiorentino) saunters around the house half-clothed considerably fogging Loudon's "vision." As if that wasn't enough, the quick weight loss is causing him nose bleeds during practice and matches.

Helping him in his quest is a high-school friend who thinks he is part-Indian, an older cook at the hotel where Loudon works, and one of his high-school teachers.

The movie zings with high-energy and a great soundtrack. Can Loudon lose enough weight to wrestle Schute? Can he even stay in the ring with him if he does? And what about Naomi, er I mean Carla – can he stay in the ring with her? For the answers to these "Quest"ions see Vision Quest.

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What is spiritual about this movie? The value of one extremely lofty goal in one's life. And, the notion that with an intense enough focus and enough determination even seemingly impossible tasks can be valiently attempted and possibly achieved.

So, do you have a lofty goal? Do you even have a goal?

Get [VisionQuest](#) on sale.

Need a jump start for your vision? Why not experience a real Vision Quest?

Check out: <http://ritesofpassagevisionquest.org> or <http://www.sacredpassage.com> or <http://www.sedonavisisionquest.com>.

For more great motivational and inspirational sports movies [click here](#).

25. Groundhog Day

Bill Murray in two spiritual movies? Get outta town... The Razor's Edge is a solid film for spiritual questers. But the comedy Groundhog Day? Yes – and again, yes – and again, and again... Watching Groundhog Day is like watching the evolution of a soul in one day.

Murray plays egocentric weatherman Phil Connors who is sent out to Punxatawny to cover Groundhog Day. Accompanied by his producer (Andie McDowell) and cameraman (Chris Elliott) Phil goes through the motions of covering the event – obviously bored and feeling that it is beneath him.

The next day he wakes up and finds that it is Groundhog Day all over again. The day won't change until Phil does – and that takes a number of replays of that one day – and therein lies the story.

For Phil Connors, although it is the same day every day each day is different. He learns how to turn that day from one of frustration and boredom to one of fun, sharing, caring and love. It isn't easy and it is ripe with laughs. But here is the interesting part – he is able to make it happen in one day. Think about that one for awhile. Then think about how we can all change our life by changing one day – today. And if you are happy with today then you will be happy pretty much all the time because every day is "today."

What is spiritual about this movie? The time-loop only ends for Phil Connors when Phil is perfectly happy enjoying the friends and relationships he has nurtured on that day. You get the feeling that finally Phil would be perfectly content reliving that day over and over again. Can we say the same about the days in our lives?

Memorable Quotes: Phil: Well, what if there is no tomorrow? There wasn't one today.

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Rita: I like to see a man of advancing years throwing caution to the wind. It's inspiring in a way.

Phil: My years are not advancing as fast as you might think.

Get [GroundHogDay](#) on sale.

26. Dead Poet's Society

Carpe diem. Carpeeeee Dieeeem. Carpeeeeeee Diiiiiiiiemmmmm. The ghostly echo of English teacher John Keating (Robin Williams) calls to his prep school students as they view pictures of students long dead. His message reverberates then at the beginning of their school year and then throughout – "carpe diem" – "seize the day." Seize the day right now for tomorrow you will be food for the worms. We all will.

This movie is as inspiring for those just starting out in life as it is to those in their golden years. Keating constantly quotes the great poets urging his students and us to "suck the marrow out of life."

How does Keating's sometimes over the top inspiration play out at the conservative prep school? You'll have to catch Dead Poets Society to find out. Don't put it off until tomorrow.

What is spiritual about this movie? The notion that we can change our lives right now today by taking chances that we might not ordinarily take. We can conquer our fears – take ordinary steps forward to transform our lives into extraordinary ones. Seize the Day.

Get [DeadPoet'sSociety](#) on sale.

Memorable Quotes:

(Looking at a picture of a class long since dead and buried.)

John Keating: They're not that different from you, are they? Same haircuts. Full of hormones, just like you. Invincible, just like you feel. The world is their oyster. They believe they're destined for great things, just like many of you, their eyes are full of hope, just like you. Did they wait until it was too late to make from their lives even one iota of what they were capable? Because, you see gentlemen, these boys are now fertilizing daffodils. But if you listen real close, you can hear them whisper their legacy to you. Go on, lean in. Listen, you hear it? – Carpe – hear it? – Carpe, carpe diem, seize the day boys, make your lives extraordinary.

Why not support this worthy charity? Endorsed by Dr. Phil, **Happy Hill Farm Academy/Home** has been giving at-risk children a second chance in life since 1975. Physical, emotional, and spiritual needs are met. The Farm feeds, clothes, medically treats, educates, and trains each student. A fundamental belief – that each human being is created in the image of God –

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provides the strong spiritual underpinning for the mission of Happy Hill Farm Academy/Home to serve children in crisis and to strengthen families. Socially and academically disadvantaged boys and girls – regardless of their religion, race, national origin, or gender – are given the opportunity to live, work, and study in a year-round, residential school/farm setting. Why not Visit Happy Hill Farm at <http://www.happyhillfarm.org>.

27. Run Lola Run

Run Lola Run is a fast-paced thriller that starts out with an intriguing premise. Lola (Franka Potente) must come up with 100,000 deutsche marks to bail her boyfriend Manni (Moritz Bleibtreu) out of some serious trouble – lose your life kind of trouble. Manni had just lost the bundle of cash which he was supposed to give to a big time drug dealer. As if that isn't bad enough he has 20 minutes to get the cash. Lola's race to find the money and get it to Manni begins.

Now, if that was all the story was it would be pretty good in and of itself. But, just when you think the race is over and know how it ends it begins again. And, again. How? This is one you need to see for yourself.

What is spiritual about this movie? We make choices and those choices have consequences. Run Lola Run deals nicely with the result of big and small choices that we make in life – who to turn to for help and even which direction to turn when running. We get fleeting and often funny glimpses of lives that turn out differently based on seemingly insignificant choices or turns. Things that seem chaotic may result in order – a butterfly's wings flapping in Japan causing a storm in Texas type of stuff.

Get [RunLolaRun](#) on sale. Run, don't walk...

Memorable Quotes: Narrator: Mankind, probably the most mysterious species on our planet. A mystery of open questions. Who are we? Where do we come from? Where are we going? How do we know what we believe to know? Why do we believe anything at all? Innumerable questions looking for an answer, an answer which will raise the next question and the following answer will raise a following question and so on and so forth. But in the end, isn't it always the same question and always the same answer?

28. Star Wars

Star Wars.
The myth.
The legend.
The power of the force.
It's all here.

The science fiction epic that has spanned three decades in earth time and untold decades in story time is timeless in its appeal to fans. Combining cutting edge science fiction with ageless mythological archetypes the Star

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Wars series delicately balances flashy techno wizardry with a strong spiritual center. Add a cast of unforgettable characters from Han Solo and Chewbacca to Darth Vader, C3PO and R2D2 and the one and only Yoda and you have legend that comes to life.

What is spiritual about this movie? The Star Wars universe highlights the struggle between good and evil waged on a universal scale as well as within individuals themselves. Fortification against the evil empire is found by tapping into and wielding the power of the Force – a Tao-like consciousness available to the suitably trained and enlightened. Mentored by the Jedi master Obi-Wan Kenobi in the arts of the Force, young Luke Skywalker is initiated into the ways of this ancient order. Here in a science fiction setting we get to see the ancient myth of the quest of the Hero played out once again. Though the underlying story remains the same this is one version that you don't need to Force yourself to watch over and over again.

Memorable Quotes:

Luke: All right, I'll give it a try.

Yoda: No. Try not. Do... or do not. There is no try.

Han Solo: May the Force Be With You.

Get [StarWars](#) on sale.

Why not visit and help this related charity? Challenger Center for Space Science Education at www.challenger.org.

29. Somewhere in Time

Christopher Reeve stars as a writer who becomes smitten with a woman (Jane Seymour) in a photograph. His burning desire to meet her seems to be thwarted by just one thing – the fact that the photograph dates from 1912. Ah, but what is 70 or so years when a burning desire is involved? Evidently nothing... :) So begins a tale of love that spans the ages.

Somewhere in Time sparks a fire with all those who believe in the power of love. This love story that crosses time has gained a devoted following.

What is spiritual about this movie? The power of love. The power of a burning desire. The power of a burning desire for love.

Get [SomewhereinTime](#) on sale.

30. Bagdad Cafe



Bagdad Cafe is an oasis in the desert. That is if you like your oasis's in the mold of run down gas stations/cafes/motels where it's tough to find a real cup of joe. What you will find it stocked with is a ready band of eccentric characters willing to make you not only forget the desolate surroundings but even appreciate it.

One of those characters is a German tourist named Jasmin (Marianne Sägebrecht). She had ambled away from her husband in the middle of the Mojave and found refuge at the Bagdad. Initially there was a bit of friction with Brenda (CCH Pounder) who runs the Bagdad Gas and Oil Cafe. But gradually Brenda begins to appreciate her.

In fact, Jasmin's exotic spirit infuses magic into the dusty lifeless Bagdad both literally and figuratively. She begins to perform magic that brings in truckers from miles around and she forms solid relationships with the Bagdad regulars including a laid back artist played by Jack Palance.

What is spiritual about this movie? Jasmin was fearless. She was like an alien on another planet who in short order not only learned to blend in and live with the inhabitants but became indispensable to them. In a sense she became the heart and soul of Bagdad. Her easy manner of bonding with others may cause you to reflect about the friendships in your life. Is there a group of people who consider you indispensable? If not, what might you do to create one?

Get [BagdadCafe](#) on sale.

31. The Game

Do you ever feel stuck in life? Like you're just going through the motions? Stuck in the rat race without any cheese? Is Life getting a little too serious? Maybe you need The Game to wake you up. Nicholas Van Orten did.

Michael Douglas is wealthy investment banker Nicholas Van Orten. Nicholas is like one of those zombies from Dawn of the Dead wandering around in his expensive suits stuck in the drab routine of a dreary life. His younger brother played by Sean Penn gives him the gift of the Game to inject some "life" into him. The game is touted as an experiential game where you'll never know what happens next. And despite the havoc it causes it does inject some much needed excitement into his "life." As Douglas gets embroiled in the game he begins to suspect that it may be a grand con designed to milk his wealth dry. Which in turn makes the game even more dangerous and entertaining.

Is it all a deception or a con or a little of both? For that answer play The Game in a dvd unit near you.

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What is spiritual about this movie? The Game is the kick in the pants that Nicholas Van Orton needed to get about actually living his life.

Our lives are often compared to a game. Are you playing it or are you just the little gamepiece being manipulated on the board by someone or something else? What is the kick in the pants you need to start turning it into a game you want to play every minute?

Get [TheGame](#) on sale.

32. Chariots of Fire

Winner of the 1981 Oscar for best picture, this is a top-notch movie about going after what you want while still adhering to your principles.

Chariots of Fire stars Ian Charleson as Protestant Eric Liddell and Ben Cross as Jew Harold Abrahams. Backed by an inspirational soundtrack from Vangelis with slow motion running scenes this movie chronicles these British runners as they strive for gold in the 1924 Paris Olympics.

Liddell is a divinity student from Scotland who is so devout that he refuses to run a race at the Olympics because it is scheduled for a Sunday. How is this resolved? And what happens when Liddell and Cross meet head to head? There are a number of interesting battles that develop – both athletically and emotionally. These battles come wrapped in a gorgeous foil of European castles and countryside.

What is spiritual about this movie? It is a testament to the power of focus and belief and how far it can take you. In this case, Liddell's focus is his religious beliefs while Abraham's is his belief in himself. Both prove ample fuel to propel them to their dreams.

Memorable Quotes:

Eric Liddell: Then where does the power come from, to see the race to its end? From within.

Eric Liddell: I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel His pleasure.

Get [ChariotsofFire](#) on sale.

33. Thunderheart

Val Kilmer plays FBI agent Ray Levoi who is sent to the Oglala Sioux reservation to investigate a murder. Met there by fellow agent Frank Coutelle (Sam Shepherd) they start their investigation. They are aided on occasion (when they're not bickering) by tribal policeman Walter Crow Horse (Graham Greene). Fred Ward of Tremors fame plays the leader of some local vigilantes.

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There is a great scene in which Ray goes with Crow Horse to meet with Grandpa Sam Reaches. After letting Ray know that the cartoon character Mr. Magoo shouldn't be trusted, he gives Ray some insight into his own life. As the movie progresses these insights increasingly come to Ray – some in the form of visions or dreams.

What is spiritual about this movie? As Ray Levoi begins to uncover the clues that lead to the killer the layers of his persona also begin to peel away. As his Indian roots surface he starts to empathize with those on the reservation. Sometimes it takes putting ourselves into someone else's shoes to appreciate their viewpoint on life – and also to help shape our own.

Get [Thunderheart](#) on sale.

34. What Dreams May Come



What Dreams May Come (the title springs from Hamlet's "to be or not to be" soliloquy) is a moving masterpiece. Dreams stars Robin Williams as Dr. Chris Nielsen and Annabelle Sciorra as his artist wife Annie. Chris and Annie lose their children in an auto accident and soon after that Chris himself crosses over to the other side. What dreams come for Chris?

Chris is guided in the afterlife by Albert (Cuba Gooding Jr.). What he comes across is often a vision of stunning beauty and lively colors – a death more alive than life itself. A beautiful place – and one primarily of his own creation. Which is interesting to consider as many life after death case studies often report that the individual has an ability to conjure and create in the next plane.

As an interesting aside to make the colors even more vibrant it was filmed with Fuji Velvia (RVM) film stock, film usually reserved for still photography of landscapes. As a result, the landscapes that Chris moves through drip with color like a DaVinci painting. However, Chris' separation from his wife does lend an underlying melancholy to his explorations of the land beyond death.

Annie misses her family so much that she eventually commits suicide and goes to a much darker place than Chris. Is it one of her own making? Will Chris ever be able to go there too? Annie's dilemma does add a bit of a dark dimension to Dreams but one that mirrors the state that many folks in the physical realm undergo. And one that might be overcome with the realization that it is not what happens in our lives that dictate how we feel but rather how we choose to react to what happens. In other words we can create our own reality inside irrespective of the events that take place.

What is spiritual about this movie? The possibility that we can bring our dreams to life and that death is no barrier to making your dreams come true!

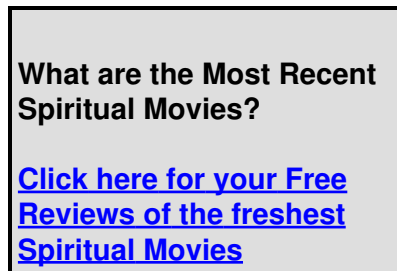
50 Spiritual Movies

Memorable Quotes:

The Tracker: Your wife love you as strong ? We'll find her. But when we find her nothing will make her recognize you. Nothing will break her denial. It's stronger than her love. In fact, reinforced by her love. You can say everything you long to say, including good-bye. Even if she can't understand it. And you'll have the satisfaction that you didn't give up. That has to be enough.

Chris Nielsen: You just get me there, I'll decide what's enough.

Get [WhatDreamsMayCome](#) on sale.



35. Made in Heaven

Are you with your soulmate? Are you looking for your soulmate? What happens when you find your soulmate and then lose that person? These are questions that Made in Heaven evoke as you watch the life and death and life of Timothy Hutton.

In 1946 Timothy Hutton's character dies in a car accident at a fairly young age. In the between life state he meets up with Kelly McGillis who has never been born but is anxiously awaiting the experience. While there they fall in love and decide to get "married." However, McGillis' character is whisked away to an earthly incarnation.

No longer holding quite the "heavenly" charm without his new found love, Hutton asks the power to be (in this case a quirky dapper chap named Emmett) to allow him to leave this paradise and be born again in an attempt to find her. Emmett finally relents with the one caveat that Hutton must find her within 30 years or he will lose her forever.

As their new lives develop it is interesting to see just how close they come on numerous occasions to meeting. Will they meet? And if they do meet will they even recognize each other? Get Made in Heaven to find out.

What is spiritual about this movie? There are a number of feel-good moments in this film. A typical one occurred when Hutton as a young poor musician bums a ride with an elderly couple that were his parents in his previous life. This touching snippet is typical of the strands of synchronicity that help give Made in Heaven its cosmic charm. It also gives one pause to

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consider the cosmic significance of our own daily interactions and relationships. Could we be just missing an important meeting of souls? If so, what can we do to improve our chances of connecting with those that would enhance our lives and in turn allow us to better the lives of others? What can we do to make our life a heaven on earth and thereby enrich the lives of those around us?

Memorable Quotes:

Emmett: Remember Heaven, Elmo? All you have to do is think about where you want to be and you're there.

Get [MadeinHeaven](#) on sale.

36: HeadCandy: Sidney's Psychedelic Adventure

While not a movie per se – this dvd will take you on a far inward journey. A soundtrak filled with trippy Ambient music combines with some seemingly mushroom–manufactured visuals.

This colorful holographic fantasy comes complete with 3–D prism glasses – yeah, baby... The journey includes music from Merl Saunders plus psychedelic music by Alpha Wave Movement, cyan, The Bohemian Swingers and Richard Bone. Bad to the bone.

Get tripindicular. Get Head Candy.

Got it?

What is spiritual about this movie? This is a film to be experienced – like life. So, get off the couch (well, at least after your done watching it) and get living!

Get [Headcandy](#) on sale.

To see similar exotic esoteric dvds [click here](#).

37. Genghis Blues

Genghis Blues is a documentary detailing blind San Franciscan bluesman Paul Pena's quest to remote Tuva to visit the Tuvan throat singers. Tuva, in outer Mongolia is home to a people with a unique singing technique. Their voices reverberate through their throat creating a sound comparable to the guttural chanting of Tibetan monks. Sometimes it almost sounds like the Australian musical instrument the didgeridoo.

Pena, who had penned "Jet Airliner" which Steve Miller made famous, first heard the Tuvan singing on a shortwave radio. He was lead to the

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organization "the friends of Tuva" and a trip was organized.

While in Tuva, Paul Pena competes in its annual music festival where he wins a prize. The real prize however is the lasting friendships that Pena forms with the Tuvan people most notably famous Tuvan singer Kongar-ol Ondar.

It isn't all fun and games for Pena in Tuva. He begins to run low on his medication which turns into a mind-altering experience for him. That and some other less than positive experiences lead the team to call in a medicine man to examine one of the drums they are using to see if it is imbedded with evil spirits. By and large though this is a movie highlighting the cross-cultural bonds that can be created when one seeks to explore and learn from others.

What about this movie was spiritual? Genghis Blues is not flashy or filled with techno wizardry. What it is filled with is a loving spirit. That spirit flows from Paul Pena to the Tuvan people and back again.

Get [Genghis Blues](#) on sale.

38. Gandhi

The question is "can one man (or woman) make a difference in the world today?" Watching the movie Gandhi will provide a powerful example of one man who changed a country. And he changed it while preaching a position of nonviolent resistance. Ben Kingsley does an admirable job of portraying that man, Mohandas K. Gandhi. Gandhi was the catalyst for India gaining its independence from Britain.

Gandhi won Oscars for the best picture, best director and best actor in 1982.

What is spiritual about this movie? The notion that the power that Gandhi called on to move a nation to change is within all of us. Watching his example should prove powerful motivation to anyone who has a desire to effect change in their community or in their world or even just in their own life.

Memorable Quotes:

Gandhi: Whenever I despair, I remember that the way of truth and love has always won. There may be tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they may seem invincible, but in the end, they always fail. Think of it: always.

Get [Gandhi](#) on sale.

39. Before Sunrise/Before Sunset

In the early nineties Richard Linklater produced Before Sunrise starring Ethan Hawke (Jesse) and Julie Delpy (Celine). In that movie, Jesse is an American travelling by a train who meets Celine, a French girl heading back

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to Paris. They meet and begin chatting on the train. Jesse convinces Celine to get off the train in Vienna to continue their conversation and see the city on his last night in Europe. She agrees and the romance blossoms.

The movie is propelled by crisp dialogue and a simmering undercurrent of the possibility of love blossoming and withering in one day. The romance blooms in a beautiful European city between two good-looking smart kids from different countries. "Im Prater blühen wieder die Bäume" translates as "The trees are flowering again in the Prater" and sums up the joy of life experienced by those who get to enjoy springtime in Vienna or the springtime of love. Here Jesse and Celine get to experience both.

One of my favorite scenes involves the couple walking near a river who come upon a self-proclaimed poet. The "poet" offers to create a poem for them using any word of their choosing. They choose the word "milkshake" and the poet proceeds to pump out a poem just for the two of them – and it actually seemed to apply to them. For me that encounter summed up the movie. You don't expect much going in, but you eventually succumb to the budding romantic connection, not noticing the lack of any real action. Nice.

You keep wondering where the relationship could possibly go with only one day and night between them. What develops is a movie leaving you feeling satisfied with what you got but also wanting to see more of these characters.

Finally, in 2004, Linklater gave many who saw *Before Sunset* what they wanted – a sequel. And, like the first installment this one rekindles the characters' stellar dialogue while probing their new connection. For years I watched and then rewatched *Before Sunrise* thinking that I was one of the few who wanted to know what happened with these characters. Evidently I was not alone.

What is spiritual about these movies? The notion that the love of a lifetime can literally happen at anytime. That is encouraging and uplifting. Both films also point up the fact that one chance encounter taken or not can have a profound impact on the rest of your life. When you think about that for your own life then every encounter becomes an opportunity. The question is what will we do with these opportunities? To see what Jesse and Celine did with their opportunities watch *Before Sunrise* and then see *Before Sunset*. Then why not catch a sunset with someone special?

Memorable Quotes:

Celine: I had worked for this old man and once he told me that he had spent his whole life thinking about his career and his work. And he was fifty-two and it suddenly struck him that he had never really given anything of himself. His life was for no one and nothing. He was almost crying saying that.

Jesse: I heard this story once about when the Germans were occupying Paris and they had to retreat back. They wired Notre Dame to blow, but they had to leave one guy in charge of hitting the switch. And the guy, the soldier, he couldn't do it. You know, he just sat there, knocked out by how beautiful the

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place was. And then when the allied troops came in, they found all the explosives just lying there and the switch unturned, and they found the same thing at Sacre Couer, Eiffel Tower. Couple other places I think...

Celine: Is that true?

Jesse: I don't know. I always liked the story, though.

Get [Before Sunrise](#) on sale.

Get [Before Sunset](#) on sale.

40. Millions



Millions is the story of two young brothers from Manchester that find a bag filled with lots of cash – British pounds to be exact. The premise is that the money is found just days prior to the bank of England switching over to the Euro. Anthony (Lewis McGibbon) is more interested in investing and what the money can do in terms of winning over his schoolmates than in anything altruistic. Damian (Alex Etel) on the other hand is obsessed with the lives of the saints and thinks the money should be used in God's service to help the poor.

What will the boys do with the money? What lessons will they learn along the way? What will we learn?

What is spiritual about this movie? While you may not have a million bucks fall into your lap after watching this movie you might just feel like a million.

Get [Millions](#) on sale.

Why not support this worthy charity? **The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp**, founded by Paul Newman in 1988, is a residential summer camp, an ingeniously designed and dazzlingly equipped Wild West hideout in northeastern Connecticut, where children with cancer or other serious blood diseases do not have to sit on the sidelines. Over 1,000 children from 7 to 15 years old come each year, free of charge, from across the United States and abroad. The Hole in the Wall Gang Fund supports the camp and has helped to found other camps with missions like The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp by providing medical, programmatic, architectural, accounting, and fundraising advice and financial support. Please visit thte Hole in the Wall Gang Camp website at <http://www.holeinthewallgang.org>

41. Martial Arts

A central component of most martial art disciplines is the ability to tap into and use one's spiritual power or lifeforce. The martial arts movies contained herein all offer up more than just your standard chop chop stuff.

The Matrix

The Matrix blends science fiction, fantasy and martial arts into an out of this world feast for the eyes and mind. It's the 22nd century and Keanu Reeves plays computer hacker Neo who meets legendary hacker Trinity (Carrie-Ann Moss). Trinity introduces Neo to the mysterious Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne). And Morpheus introduces Neo to the Matrix and the true nature of reality – a reality in which humans are merely the batteries for the robotic computers that actually control the world. Not only must Neo come to grips with these mind-blowing revelations but with the added pressure that many, including Morpheus, consider him to be The One, the savior of mankind.

What is spiritual about this movie? The Matrix is a fantastic fusion of sci-fi, martial arts, action, and romance. But while the action rages it also sets one to thinking about the many possibilities raised by the intriguing scenarios presented. The whole metaphysical concept that this world is just Maya or an illusion becomes a stark reality in the Matrix. This in turn leads one to question the very nature of the physical universe we see around us. It also make us ponder, like Neo, to what extent we can influence or control that reality we find ourselves immersed in.

Memorable Quotes:

Morpheus: What are you waiting for? You're faster than this. Don't think you are, know you are. Come on. Stop trying to hit me and hit me.

Morpheus: I'm trying to free your mind, Neo. But I can only show you the door. You're the one that has to walk through it.

Neo: What are you trying to tell me? That I can dodge bullets?

Morpheus: No, Neo. I'm trying to tell you that when you're ready, you won't have to.

Get [TheMatrix](#) on sale.

Circle of Iron

Circle of Iron, aka The Silent Flute, was a labor of love for Bruce Lee but it was a project he would never see to fruition. With the help of cowriters James Coburn and Stirling Siliphant, he conceived and wrote Circle of Iron. It wasn't until five years after his death that it saw the light of day.

Circle of Iron is an adventure kickstarted by a blend of martial arts, fantasy and esoteric wisdom. Although it is missing the onscreen charisma of Bruce Lee himself it does sport a powerful cast including Eli Wallach, Christopher Lee, Roddy McDowall and David Carradine. Carradine of Kung Fu fame plays four different characters. The lead is the relatively unknown Jeff Cooper.

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He plays Cord, a lone nomad in search of the Book of All Knowledge. On his quest he encounters a number of obstacles among them Carradine's characters.

Get [Circle of Iron](#) on sale.

Enter the Dragon

Enter the Dragon is several cuts above your standard kung fu fare. Not only does it showcase the whirling fury that is Bruce Lee but it is loaded with a dynamite cast of real martial experts (including the big young Bolo Yeung) displaying their craft. Throw in John Saxon and Jim Kelly spice it with the charismatic Lee and put them in a martial arts tourney on a remote island ruled by a dangerous madman named Han (Shih Kien) and you have the stuff of legend. Legend and a healthy combination of beauty and action. Pit Lee against the guy who murdered his sister Oharra (Robert Wall) and you add more fuel to the inferno. Hey Chuck Norris and Jackie Chan even have bit roles in this megawatt powerhouse.

What is spiritual about this movie? Watching Bruce Lee stretch beyond what one would consider the limits of physical ability is a great motivator. Listening to him dispense words of wisdom is a pacifier. Ultimately, though this is a vehicle to display Bruce's skill. That in itself is a spiritual experience. Watch Enter the Dragon and you'll learn the art of fighting without fighting among other essential techniques. What is it? I'll show you later...

Memorable Quotes:

Lee: Don't think. Feeeel. It is like a finger pointing away to the moon.

Lee: My style, you can call the art of fighting without fighting.

Get [Enter the Dragon](#) on sale.

The Last Dragon

Berry Gordy's The Last Dragon is cheesy 80's camp. Witness a couple of Chinese guys working at a Fortune Cookie factory masquerading as soul brothers. But it has something more than that – it has real Soul. Real soul, a cast of characters that are at that same time ridiculous and loveable and an 80's soundtrack that starts and sputters but ends up kicking as much tail as the martial artists themselves.

Taimak stars as the martial arts master in training Leroy Green (aka Bruce Leroy). The only thing he needs is the knowledge that he IS the master. The man who covets the title of the Last Dragon is none other than Sho Nuff, the Shogun of Harlem (Julius Carry). He along with Eddie Arcadian, a crimelord/record producer are perfect foils for Leroy.

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Laura Charles (Vanity) is sizzling as the love interest that innocent Leroy sets out to protect. Despite many folks desire to forget the 80's, Leroy's journey to become the Last Dragon should stick in your memory – mostly that's a good thing.

Memorable Quotes:

Sho'nuff: Now, when I say, "Who's da mastah?" you say, "Sho'nuff!"

Sho'nuff: Who is the master?

Leroy Green: I am.

Get [The Last Dragon](#) on sale.

42. Marital Arts

Tokyo Story

From the legendary Yasujiro Ozu comes this 1953 movie that has landed on many folks list of the 10 best movies ever made. From Japan this film is an interesting study on how we as individuals deal with with our parents as they get older. But it goes deeper than that. It becomes how do we spend our own life?

Specifically, an elderly couple, Tomi and Shukichi travel from their village to visit their married kids in Tokyo. As is true of many in today's society, the married folks are too busy and shuffle them off to a health spa. The only one who really spends time with the couple is the widowed daughter (Setsuko Hara) of one of their sons who died.

After returning home Tomi takes ill and the children are called to be with their ailing mother.

Lulled and disarmed by its slow pace, Tokyo Story will creep up on you and clock your noggin with a velvet hammer. As you watch the retired couple visit with their busy, harried relatives many questions may start invading your thoughts. How much time are we able to spend with our parents? How much time are we able to devote to those in our lives that we care about? How much time do we have for ourselves?

What is spiritual about this movie? It makes you reexamine your relationship with your own parents. Do you spend enough time with them? Do you take them for granted? When will it be too late? It also may make you examine your own life. Where do you spend your time and is time running out?

Get [TokyoStory](#) on sale.

Waking the Dead

Filmmaker Keith Gordon has created a powerful mystery/love story. Billy Crudup stars as young politician Fielding Pierce who meets his soul-mate in the beautiful activist Sarah Williams (Jennifer Connelly). The mystery begins after the death of Connelly while she was working with the sanctuary movement. In flashbacks we see the relationship of Connelly and Crudup build as Crudup's political star begins to rise. Crudup's career and sanity is jeopardized with repeated visions of the supposedly dead Connelly.

The repeated flashbacks of Crudup's and Connelly's relationship may invoke memories of relationships that have come and gone in your own life. In the case of Fielding, his repeated visions make him question what he is seeing. Is the vision a ghost? Is Sarah still alive? What is he seeing? Catch *Waking the Dead* to stir up the memories.

What is spiritual about this movie? The transcendent power of strong relationships percolates throughout this film. You begin to sense that no matter how important the career or life situation you are involved in that it is your relationships with others that matters most. The border between life and death becomes a thin veneer that can't really separate love – especially when that love seems to be of the soulmate variety.

Get [WakingtheDead](#) on sale.

It's a Wonderful Life

What would life be like if you had never lived? That is the question that gets asked in Frank Capra's timeless classic *It's a Wonderful Life* from 1947. In George Bailey's case the result is gloom and doom for Bedford Falls. (What would it be like in your world?)

George Bailey (James Stewart) grows up in Bedford Falls wanting desperately to get out of town to live out all his big dreams. For one reason after another he is tied to his hometown.

But it is not an entirely boring proposition for there is the wholesome young Mary Hatch (played by Donna Reed) who has grown up into a feisty fetching woman. George marries Mary and continues to run the Savings and Loan.

Because of a possible scandal brought on by some missing money, George contemplates suicide on Christmas eve. Enter the bumbling angel Clarence played by Henry Travers. Clarence shows George what would have happened had he never been born. Is it enough to bring George to his senses. Enjoy *It's a Wonderful Life* to find out (as if you haven't already watched it 100 times!)

What is spiritual about this movie? It's a feel-good film that highlights love and friendship as prime ingredients for a life worth living. Beyond that though there is the question – What Would your world be like if you had not graced it with your presence in this life.

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It begs the question – What kind of contribution have YOU made in this world? Is it one in which a world without you is a place worse off? If so, congratulations! If the alternative is true, or if at best there would be no noticeable difference had you not been around what then can you do to change that – starting today? What kind of positive impact can you make impact?

Ask yourself this – when the game is done what kind of legacy will you have left?

Get [It's a Wonderful Life](#) on sale.

A Walk in the Clouds

Verdant vistas abound as Paul Sutton (Keanu Reeves) and Victoria Aragon (Aitana Sanchez-Gijon) exchange sparks in wine country. The heat between Reeves and Sanchez-Gijon is enough to melt the screen, the wine fields, and even a highly contrived storyline.

Unbeknownst to Victoria's overbearing father Alberto Aragon (Giancarlo Giannini), head of the family wine business, Paul who has just met the pregnant husbandless Victoria has agreed to marry her in order to help her avoid being disowned by her family. Of course, the father and Paul butt heads. Despite all the tension Paul and Victoria slowly start to develop a real love between them.

What is spiritual about this movie? The notion that although helping others and doing the right thing are reward in themselves sometimes the universe comes into play rewarding those folks where no reward was asked for. What are Paul and Victoria's rewards? I was gonna say see the movie, but hey you know this is a love story so let's just come out with it – Paul and Victoria's reward is each other.

Get [AWalkintheClouds](#) on sale.

43. The Shawshank Redemption



This classic from 1994 is based on a Stephen King short story. It was nominated for seven Academy Awards including Best Picture, Actor, and Screenplay. It stars Tim Robbins as Andy Dufresne, a man falsely convicted of the murder of his wife and her lover and sent to Shawshank prison to serve two life sentences beginning in 1947. There he confronts the harsh realities of prison life. At the same time he bonds with several of the inmates most notably Red (Morgan Freeman).

The mood alternates from despair and hopelessness as the years pass by for Andy Dufresne. You begin to realize that he just may spend the rest of his years behind bars. As this realization begins to sink in for both the viewer and Andy he develops a number of lifelong friendships.

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In what form does redemption eventually come to Andy? You'll need to see *Shawshank Redemption* to discover and appreciate its power.

What is spiritual about this movie? It is a testament to the individual's ability to persevere in the face of overwhelming physical, emotional and mental persecution. Andy Dufresne not only maintained a system of coping with the hardships of prison but adapted to the system and made it work for him. He also maintained and used a network of close friendships to help make it through. Do you have a system to adapt to change? How about a system of friends to fall back on for support?

Memorable Quotes

Warden Samuel Norton: I believe in two things: discipline and the Bible. Here you'll receive both. Put your trust in the Lord; your a** belongs to me. Welcome to Shawshank.

Red: These walls are kind of funny. First you hate 'em, then you get used to 'em. Enough time passes, gets so you depend on them. That's institutionalized. They send you here for life, that's exactly what they take. The part that counts, anyways.

Andy Dufresne: Get busy living, or get busy dying.

Get [TheShawshankRedemption](#) on sale.

Why not support this worthy charity? The Southern Center for Human Rights (SCHR) at <http://www.schr.org> was created in 1976 to respond to the deplorable conditions in prisons and jails in the South and the United States Supreme Court's decision that year allowing the resumption of capital punishment. Since its creation, SCHR has been engaged in litigation, public education, advocacy, and work with other organization and individuals to protect the civil and human rights of people prosecuted in the criminal courts – particularly those facing the death penalty – and confined in the prisons and jails of the South. SCHR's work has been widely recognized and is the subject of two books, *Proximity to Death* by Pulitzer-Prize winning historian William S. McFeely and *Finding Life on Death Row* by Katya Lezin.

44. Blade Runner

Do androids dream of electric sheep? After watching *Blade Runner* your answer might just be yes. Ridley Scott's dreamy vision stars Harrison Ford as Deckard a 1930's style detective. Through a gloomy rainy futuristic Los Angeles Deckard hunts Replicants – androids with a shortened lifespan. His search for the replicants often yields more than he can handle, both physically and psychologically.

The all-star cast includes Sean Young as a love interest, and Rutger Hauer as the rogue replicant leader Roy Batty. Harrison, Young and Hauer are supported by the likes of Edward James Olmos, Daryl Hannah, and M.

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Emmet Walsh.

The powerful replicants battle for equal rights and as Deckard searches for them they search for their own souls. The final confrontation between Deckard and Roy yields a non-typical ending that leaves the characters and us grasping for answers to the nature of the soul itself.

What is spiritual about this movie? Blade Runner makes one contemplate the idea of the soul. If one believes that our physical bodies are merely containers for our souls then one must ask what is wrong with the idea that those containers if working could be non-physical – such as the bodies of the Replicants?

Get [Blade Runner](#) on sale.

45. Collateral

How does a movie about a hitman make a spiritual movie list? Like a good hit man it sort of creeps up on you and takes you by surprise. There have been other hitman movies that could contend for a place on a spiritual movie list – Road to Perdition and Leon the Professional come to mind. In this case, Collateral is not only a slick typical Michael Mann production with a fast pace, hypnotic soundtrack and crisp acting but it is at the same time a moving story about dreams deferred. A story that will make you ponder your own life. And that ability to make you look at where you are at in your own life is what contributes to making it a spiritual film.

Tom Cruise is the silver-fox hitman Vincent that hops in Max's (Jamie Foxx) cab and proceeds to use him as the driver in an overnight L.A. killing spree. But he also pushes Max to start thinking about his own life and why he hasn't pursued the dreams that he's had.

What is spiritual about this movie? Though steeped in violence there is a cutting undercurrent of hope that beats throughout. The metaphorical long dark night of the soul becomes a literal one for Max. By the same token it becomes the catalyst that he needs to reexamine his own life and by transference a catalyst that we can use to reexamine our lives as well. Are we where we want to be. Are we following our own dreams? If not, what are we waiting for – someone to put a gun to our heads? :)

Memorable Lines:

Max: First time in L.A.?

Vincent: No. Tell you the truth, whenever I'm here I can't wait to leave. It's too sprawled out, disconnected. You know? That's me. You like it?

Max: It's my home.

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Vincent: 17 million people. This is got to be the fifth biggest economy in the world and nobody knows each other. I read about this guy who gets on the MTA here, dies.

Max: Oh.

Vincent: Six hours he's riding the subway before anybody notices his corpse doing laps around L.A., people on and off sitting next to him. Nobody notices.

More Lines:

Vincent: Max, six billion people on the planet, you're getting bent out of shape cause of one fat guy.

Max: Well, who was he?

Vincent: What do you care? Have you ever heard of Rwanda?

Max: Yes, I know Rwanda.

Vincent: Well, tens of thousands killed before sundown. Nobody's killed people that fast since Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Did you bat an eye, Max?

Max: What?

Vincent: Did you join Amnesty International, Oxfam, Save the Whales, Greenpeace, or something? No. I off one fat Angelino and you throw a hissy fit.

Max: Man, I don't know any Rwandans.

Vincent: You don't know the guy in the trunk, either.

Get [Collateral](#) on sale.

46. Local Hero

Peter Riegert plays Mac MacIntyre a representative of Knox Oil and Gas of Houston, Texas, who is sent to Scotland to buy the rights to Furness, a seaside town. There Knox Oil's boss Felix Happer, played by Burt Lancaster, has decided he will erect an oil refinery.

Once he gets to Scotland, Mac's all business approach is slowly but surely softened and then melted by the combination of the simple relaxed lifestyle of the inhabitants and by the natural beauty of the area. In fact, he becomes so enamored with the place that he seriously thinks about trading in everything he has to live there.

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Local Hero, like the town of Furness, moves along at a relaxed pace. An eclectic cast of characters adds depth, warmth, and a homey feel to the movie. It is not an unrealistic portrayal of a town unwilling to consider the idea of being bought out though as some of them actually relish the idea. In the end the prospect of being displaced from their gorgeous village frightens not only the villagers but Mac himself.

Local Hero's beauty is complemented nicely by native son Mark Knopfler's soundtrack.

What is spiritual about this movie? This is a love story. Not between two people but between Mac and a village and a lifestyle that he comes to fall in love with. Mac comes to realize that both are very worthy of being preserved.

It gives one pause to consider – are you doing what you want to be doing in your life? Are you living where you want to live? Are you surrounding yourself with those people that bring you joy and happiness? If not, why not and what can you do to make those desires a reality?

Memorable Quotes:

Rev. Macpherson: You want to buy my church?

MacIntyre: Not as a going concern.

Get [LocalHero](#) on sale.

47. The Secret of Roan Inish



Magic. The Secret of Roan Inish is filled with it. It is a movie based on The Secret of Ron Mor Skerry, a novel by Rosalie Fry. The Secret of Roan Inish is draped in beauty and mystery – gorgeous island and sea shots backed by haunting celtic melodies. Though steeped in myth it is told as a simple family tale. A tale worth telling and watching.

Fiona's (Jeni Courtney) mother dies and she goes to live with her grandparents across from the island of Roan Inish near the Irish coast. While with her grandparents she is told tales and myths concerning her family and the area of Roan Inish where they grew up. She learns of the magical Selkies, or seal women, who were reputed to swim ashore as seals before stripping their skins off and revealing themselves to be beautiful women. One of the stories has the family being descended from these creatures.

With sightings of her brother Jamie, long believed to be dead (lost at sea in a wooden cradle), the mystery intensifies. Fiona comes to believe that it is necessary for the whole family to return to and live on Roan Inish. The task then becomes to convince her grandparents of that necessity. It is a task that just might take the power of magic to accomplish.

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Get [TheSecretofRoanInish](#) on sale.

48. The Castle

This winner from Australia concerns a close family firmly entrenched in their castle. Actually, the castle is a ramshackle house situated next to a bustling airport, high power lines and built on a toxic landfill. Family patriarch Darryl Kerrigan (Michael Caton) and his happy go lucky family discover that their castle is going to be purchased without recourse for them.

At first the family seems a trifle too silly. However, as the movie progresses their infinite optimism and good nature grows on you. You begin to grow more and more attached to their family and their cause. Their too simple life is at the same time absurd and refreshing. They and the Castle become a charming getaway.

Darryl employs a thoroughly incompetent lawyer but with the help of a knight in shining armor he is able to take the case to the Australian Supreme Court. Do they get to keep the castle? Or is it all folly? You don't have to go to Australia to find out, just to your local store – or even quicker click below.

What was spiritual about this movie? It was great to see an ordinary family (some would almost say nitwits) bound together by a positive supportive loving attitude. I guess love does conquer all.

Get [The Castle](#) on sale.

49. Lorenzo's Oil

If you want something done right – do it yourself. Often heard and frequently accepted as fact in everyday life this phrase becomes a tad bit frightening when used in conjunction with medically treating you or one of your loved ones. However, in the case of Lorenzo, the unswerving single-minded desire of his parents to find a cure for their son's disease (A.L.D. – a brain disease believed to be incurable) was his only real hope and as it turned out – his best hope.

From 1992, Lorenzo's Oil stars Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon as the parents of 5-year-old Lorenzo. The parents do what most folks won't take the time to do – thoroughly educate themselves about the disease and then set out to find a way to battle it.

What is spiritual about this movie? The notion that with a focused desire and intent anything is possible. Albeit, the parents had the ultimate incentive – trying to save their son. But even the recognition that seemingly impossible tasks can be conquered with enough targeted intent should give us all hope.

Get [Lorenzo'sOil](#) on sale.

50 Spiritual Movies

Why not visit and support the City of Hope at <http://www.cityofhope.org>. Compassion was the driving force that led to the founding of City of Hope in 1913. That spirit lives on at City of Hope National Medical Center and Beckman Research Institute, which today provides help to millions of people who are battling life-threatening diseases.

Located just northeast of Los Angeles in Duarte, California, City of Hope is a most unusual and remarkable place where compassion and leading-edge care go hand-in-hand. Here, some of the world's most knowledgeable physicians, researchers, scientists and health care professionals join forces to treat and to one day cure cancers and other life-threatening diseases. These distinguished experts provide state-of-the-art patient care and also conduct leading-edge research.

There are some powerful dvds dealing with healing. To see a nice selection please [click here for healing movies](#).

50. Out of This World or Out of Their Minds?

K-Pax

Man Facing Southeast

Happy Accidents

Are they crazy or just from very, very, very far away?

That is the question that all three of these movies ask – each in a slightly different way. From Argentina comes Man Facing Southeast. It was the movie that inspired the making of K-Pax. In Man Facing Southeast, the main character, Rantes heads out into the yard of the institute every day and faces southeast in an attempt to communicate with his alien friends.

The benevolent and beloved character Rantes asserts he is an alien. Because his psychiatrist does not consider this as a possibility the only other alternative is that he is crazy. Has Rantes gone crackers? Is Rantes really from a planet far far away? Man Facing Southeast leaves it up to you to decide.

K-Pax stars Kevin Spacey as the "alien/nut." It is great to see how his character has such a positive affect on those around him. It shows how tapping into the spiritual/loving side of your being can have a profound affect on the environment of everyone around.

And, Happy Accidents you get the same "is this guy an alien or is he crazy" storyline, only this time it is wrapped within the guise of a love story. Marisa Tomei's character Ruby hooks up with the eccentric yet endearing Sam (Vincent D'Onofrio). Little by little it becomes apparent that Sam is quite possibly "looney tunes."

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Can Ruby accept Sam as he is? Will his idiosyncrasies be too much for Ruby? *Happy Accidents* doesn't leave you wondering.

What is spiritual about these movies? All three of these similarly-themed films are well-worth seeing. It also tests one's level of tolerance. How far does one have to deviate from "our" norm before we consider them crazy. Are they really crazy or are we stuck in a bandwidth that is too narrow?

These questions don't just apply to crazy people. You can use them to evaluate relationships that you have with anyone who believes differently from you. Just maybe watching these films will make us think twice about how we deal with them.

Get [K-Pax](#) on sale.

Get [ManFacingSoutheast](#) on sale.

Get [HappyAccidents](#) on sale.

More Great Spiritual Movies

- ◆ Breaking the Waves
- ◆ Secondhand Lions
- ◆ Cider House Rules
- ◆ Dersu Uzala
- ◆ Grand Canyon
- ◆ Jerry Maguire
- ◆ Frequency
- ◆ The Shipping News
- ◆ The Saint
- ◆ Breaking Away
- ◆ The Last Emperor
- ◆ The Emerald Forest
- ◆ Casablanca
- ◆ Ghost
- ◆ The Gift
- ◆ Always
- ◆ Miracle Worker
- ◆ Motorcycle Diaries
- ◆ Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within
- ◆ Serendipity
- ◆ ET: The Extraterrestrial
- ◆ Donnie Darko
- ◆ The Wizard of Oz
- ◆ Meet Joe Black
- ◆ Heaven Can Wait
- ◆ The Sixth Sense
- ◆ Close Encounters of the Third Kind
- ◆ Truly, Madly, Deeply
- ◆ Being There
- ◆ Amelie
- ◆ American Beauty

50 Spiritual Movies

- ◆ Kundun
- ◆ Born Into Brothels
- ◆ Jesus of Montreal
- ◆ Lord of the Rings
- ◆ Powaqqatsi
- ◆ Chocolat
- ◆ Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind
- ◆ The Miracle Worker
- ◆ Children of a Lesser God
- ◆ Down and Out in Beverly Hills
- ◆ Rain Man
- ◆ Schindler's List
- ◆ Chances Are
- ◆ Yi Yi
- ◆ Vanilla Sky
- ◆ My Life
- ◆ Cocoon
- ◆ Seven Samurai
- ◆ The Big Blue
- ◆ Big Fish
- ◆ Citizen Kane
- ◆ The Big Lebowski

**What are the Most Recent
Spiritual Movies?**

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Reviews of the freshest
Spiritual Movies](#)

Bonus Charity

Founded in 1933, the International Rescue Committee at <http://www.theirc.org> is a world leader in relief, rehabilitation, protection, post–conflict development, resettlement services and advocacy for those uprooted or affected by violent conflict and oppression.

At work in 25 countries, the IRC delivers lifesaving aid in emergencies, rebuilds shattered communities, cares for war–traumatized children, rehabilitates health care, water and sanitation systems, reunites separated families, restores lost livelihoods, establishes schools, trains teachers, strengthens the capacity of local organizations and supports civil society and good–governance initiatives.

For refugees afforded sanctuary in the United States, IRC offices across the country provide a range of assistance aimed at helping new arrivals get settled, adjust and acquire the skills to become self–sufficient. Committed to restoring dignity and self–reliance, the IRC is a global symbol of hope and renewal for those who have taken flight in search of freedom.

Bonus Pick: Indigo

The plot of Indigo revolves around a man and his 10-year-old granddaughter. She is one of those extraordinary children known as an Indigo child. What is an Indigo child? These are children being born today that are of a higher consciousness. Some might refer to them as "old souls." They are often more mature and possessed with psychic powers of one sort or another.

On the run to protect her from kidnappers the story displays this Indigo child's powers and the positive influence that she has on those she comes into contact with.

Directed by Stephen Simon of Spiritual Cinema this is a movie that should help spread the word about this new breed of child entering the world.

What is spiritual about this movie? The recognition that there are children of a higher spiritual nature coming into our planet is inspirational. How we deal with them will be a test for us and them.

Get [Indigo](#) on sale.

[SpiritualCinema](#)

Visit the [SpiritualCinema](#) site today to start receiving spiritual dvds every month

The DVDs are yours to keep. You don't have to return them. In fact, you're encouraged to share them with friends and family, in order to broaden the worldwide Spiritual Cinema community.

Hope you've enjoyed this ebook, 50 Spiritual Movies. Thank you in advance for passing it along to friends and family – hopefully it will contribute to some good discussion and maybe even start a wave of charity giving. That is my hope.

Best wishes and many blessings to you and yours,

Bob Kish

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