

The Art of the Short Fiction Film

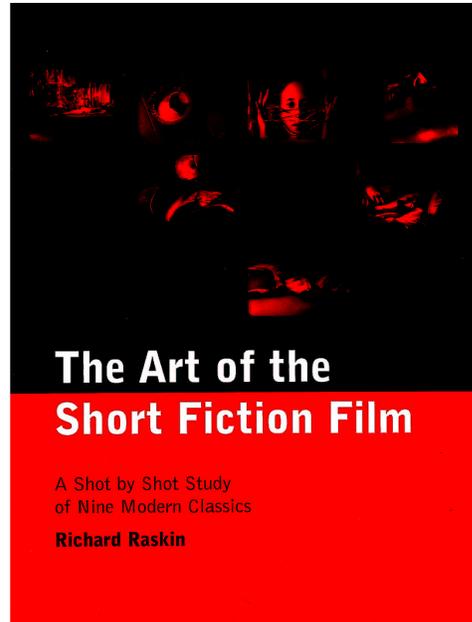
A Shot by Shot Study of Nine Modern Classics

Richard Raskin

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What a pleasure to see an unjustly ignored form of cinema treated with such care and creative imagination! Blending careful analysis, historical background, and a rich array of archive materials, Richard Raskin reveals in unprecedented detail how short films tell their stories. Raskin's study should become the definitive work on the subject.

David Bordwell

This is the first book to single out individual short fiction films for comprehensive presentation and close study. The nine short fiction films studied are:

- **Two Men and a Wardrobe (Roman Polanski, Poland, 1958, 15 min.)**
- **Coffee and Cigarettes (Jim Jarmusch, USA, 1986, 6 min.)**
- **Sunday (John Lawlor, Ireland, 1988, 8 min.)**
- **Cat's Cradle (Liz Hughes, Australia, 1991, 12 min.)**
- **Eating Out (Pal Sletaune, Norway, 1993, 7 min.)**
- **Come (Marianne Olsen Ulrichsen, Norway, 1995, 4.5 min.)**
- **Wind (Marcell Iványi, Hungary, 1996, 6 min.)**
- **Possum (Brad McGann, New Zealand, 1997, 14 min.)**
- **The War Is Over (Nina Mimica, Italy, 1997, 7 min.)**

These films represent a broad range of storytelling approaches and a number of very different film cultures. Each film has a chapter of its own, including a shot-by-shot reconstruction of the film with a still from every shot. In most cases, an interview with the director and an original screenplay or storyboard is also included. The book also proposes a new conceptual model, derived from the films studied in the work, which can be used both for analyzing the ways in which any given short fiction film tells its story and as a set of guidelines for student filmmakers writing their own screenplays.