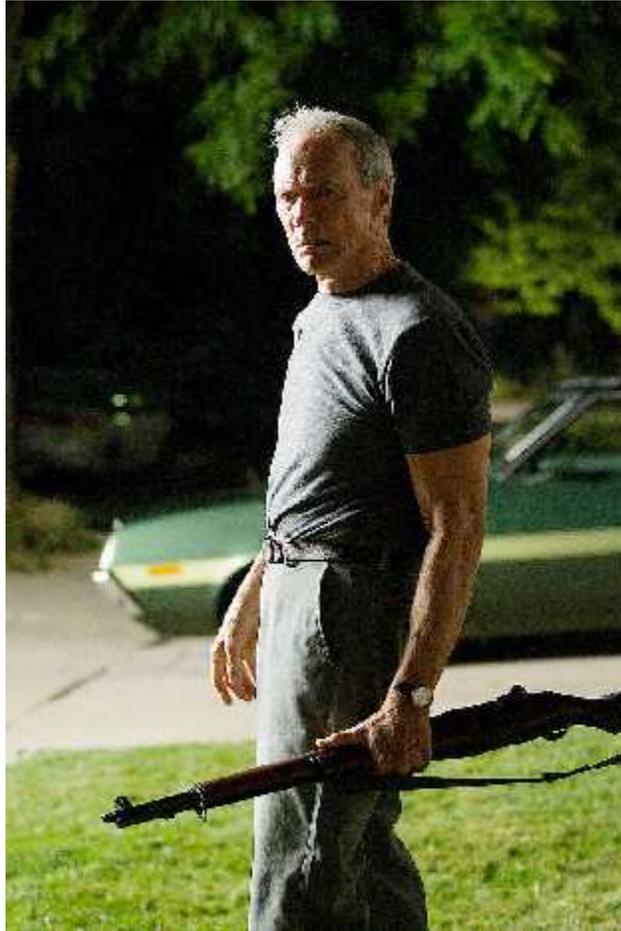


A Dollop of Clint Eastwood: Subjective Scores for 10 Random Movies



By

Gary Heartsill

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The Mule (2018) Clint Eastwood acted, directed, and produced. (1:56:23)

With Bradley Cooper, Laurence Fishburne, Michael Pena, Dianne Wiest, Andy Garcia.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yc5AWIimplfE>

Score 9.2

Don't let the old man in, I wanna leave this alone¹
Can't leave it up to him, he's knocking on my door
And I knew all of my life, that someday it would end
Get up and go outside, don't let the old man in

Saw in the credits the name Jan Hartsell, who was the 'Beauty School Admin' and Iris was played by Alison Eastwood – for what that is worth. The Dykes on Bikes comment was great.

This movie is done well, meaning it is enjoyable to watch especially with the apprehension of what is going to happen next. Course, the whole theme is in Toby's song and I have heard Clint remark to someone when he was asked what the movie was about he said "Don't let the old man in."

He finally figured out he would have to pay the price for doing all his driving. Am kinda glad we didn't see too much of the bad guys doing what they do to folks who don't deliver.

And deliver he did. Everyone will have gone down the road with him singing his songs and celebrating when he opened the glove to get his keys and manilla envelope.

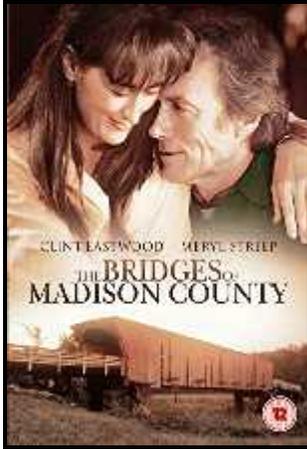
For some it will be easy to see what this ole Mule really was doing. He didn't miss keeping the old man in. Pulling over to help a 'Negro' family with a flat tire - remember what they said? It was almost a Google moment. And teaching his handler about pulled pork sandwiches?

I was impressed with taking the cop to the back of his pick up and giving him two cans of candied popcorn.

My kind of movie. Eastwood wasted no time in keeping it going - from flowers to flowers.

When he rides up on his horse
And you feel that cold bitter wind
Look out your window and smile
Don't let the old man in

¹ <https://genius.com/Toby-keith-dont-let-the-old-man-in-lyrics>



The Bridges of Madison County (1995)

(2:15)

Clint Eastwood (Actor, Director, Producer), Meryl Streep (Actor)

Score 6.1

Trailer: https://www.imdb.com/video/vi3755061529?playlistId=tt0112579&ref=tt_ov_vi

Actually, as pretty a lady as Merle Streep is, she just didn't look like herself (it may have been age) – and she was difficult for me to understand her mumbling. Both of these may have been my age difficulty. The set up and the four days of kissy face was just more than I could take.

However, it was all worth the last 14 minutes.

The movie finally came together in Eastwood fashion he is noted for. With him standing in the rain and then seeing her reach for the door handle to leave her husband was quite moving.

The movie was worth the time to get to the point of doing what she asked for in her will at the bridge scene at the end...this was the tear jerker. If you have been there you know what I am talking about.

Eastwood is famous for showing us a slice of life - or maybe a spice of life – whether we like it or not.



Million Dollar Baby

(2004)

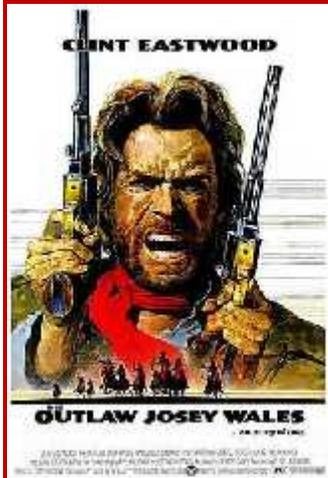
(10.0)

Clint Eastwood, Morgan Freeman

Million Dollar Baby is a 2004 American sports drama film directed, co-produced and scored by Clint Eastwood, and starring Eastwood, Hilary Swank and Morgan Freeman.

Most painful was the last scene in "Million Dollar Baby" – reminded me of "One flew over the cuckoo's nest" when Chief smothered McMurphy with a pillow...have almost been there.

Covered most of this movie in the Dollop of Freeman paper; however this is one of his best!



The Outlaw Josey Wales (1976) 135 minutes

Clint Eastwood (Director) Chief Dan George, Sondra Locke Score 8.8

“The film tells the story of Josey Wales, a Missouri farmer whose family is murdered by Union militants during the Civil War. Driven to revenge, Wales joins a Confederate guerrilla band and makes a name for himself as a feared gunfighter.”

One determined face. One horse. An army of One – with a bunch of pistols.



.44 cal Colt Dragoon, or the 1851 Navy. Also a Colt .31 cal 1848 Pocket.

Clint at his best in this one. This is what he does, revenge – here is the quote: “He lives by the gun, he lives by his word, he lives for revenge, he’s an army of one.”²

“Not a hard man to track. Leaves dead men wherever he goes.”

The article says “Eastwood himself claims it’s every bit as good as his Oscar-winning masterpiece, *Unforgiven*.” I think this one is better...and my grade below shows it.



Unforgiven (1992) (6.8)

Clint Eastwood, Morgan Freeman

Unforgiven is a 1992 American Western film produced and directed by Clint Eastwood with a screenplay written by David Webb Peoples.

² <https://www.wideners.com/blog/josey-wales-guns/>



FIREFOX (1982)

Score 4.9

Clint Eastwood (Director and Producer)

<https://www.amazon.com/Firefox-Clint-Eastwood/dp/B001N8Q6V0> 2 h 16 min

Did read and do have the book. It reads better than the movie and this is not surprising for ANY aviation books to movies – there are a couple, by the way.

Just took too long to set up the steal and yes it is how they flew the Russian jet. It looked like star wars on steroids or something. Yes, I am being too critical but jets just don't fly like that.



But comma it is a good looking Russian jet.



DIRTY HARRY (1971) (The first of five) (1:42)

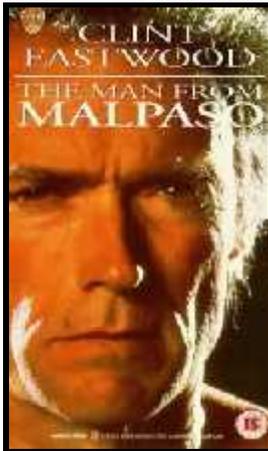
Image: ©Warner Bros. Pictures

Score 7.1

“Unquestionably one of Clint Eastwood’s most memorable roles.”

"Dirty" Harry Callahan who is notorious for his unorthodox, violent and ruthless methods against the criminals and killers he is assigned to apprehend.

Directed and Produced by Don Siegel. Production company: Malpaso Productions



(1944) Free Movie Online

EXTRA

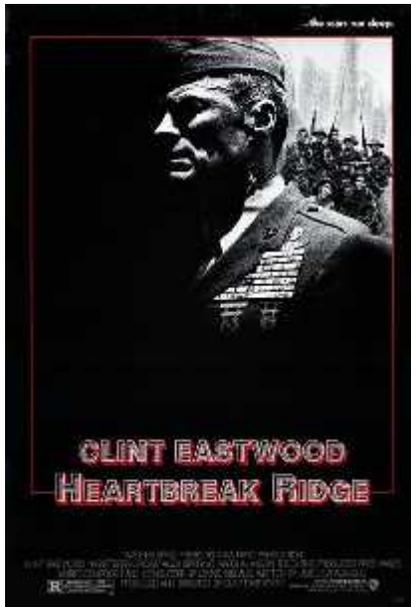
The Hollywood Collection: Clint Eastwood - The Man From Malpaso (58:42)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BR4MDne_nig

interview of Clint and a review of his history, movies, production, directing, wives, and automobiles.

A real quick way to get an over all view of his life and his accomplishment.

On May 31, 2021 Clint will be 91. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**



HEARTBREAK RIDGE (1986) (2:10) Score 8.4

Clint Eastwood (Director, Producer) Marsha Mason – Malpaso Productions - Warner Bros.

Showed my AF classes certain clips of this for 16 years as it was/is a classic movie on leadership. “Gunny” teaches what all Marines must learn and that is “Improvise, Overcome, and Adapt.” The lesson in the picture is to answer the question of “We will all dress alike.” Course, Gunny has a different color shirt every day and ‘Fag Eddie’ is asking “How the hell are we to know?” and then they get the lesson.

And like most leaders and teachers he gets them ready for combat – something that may/may not come.

When war does his troops respond to the rigorous and life like training Gunnery Sergeant Highway had taught them.

This one is a keeper!





SULLY (2016) 96 minutes Score 8.1

Directed and Produced by Clint Eastwood. Based on *Sully* (previously published as *Highest Duty*) by Chesley Sullenberger and Jeffrey Zaslow. Starring Tom Hanks, Aaron Eckhart and Laura Linney. There were six production companies to include Malpaso.

“The film follows Sullenberger's January 2009 emergency landing of US Airways Flight 1549 on the Hudson River, which all 155 passengers and crew survived—most suffering only minor injuries—and the subsequent publicity and investigation.”³

About 2 minutes and 11 seconds after takeoff, four miles from LaGuardia airport, and at an altitude of 2900 feet above the ground they had the bird strike. About 3 minutes and 32 seconds later Sully crashed landed in the Hudson.

Eastwood, along with a lot of other folks (and production companies), especially Sully himself – to say nothing of Tom Hanks, made a heck of a movie!

Having covered the details of the crash more from an Accident Prevention and pilot view⁴ I promise you there are some areas Eastwood pushed and pressed until he exposed this for what it was “The miracle on the Hudson.”

This portrayal is as close as you can get to being in the cockpit (or in the back) during an airplane that ‘is going to go down.’

Can not argue this (although the Feds tried – and Eastwood fought them to the end) Sully landed in the water, the Airbus floated, 155 survived, and he made history.

And Eastwood made another one of his remarkable movies...

³ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sully_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sully_(film))

⁴ www.gheart.net/magazine/Sully



GRAN TORINO (2008) Score 11.0

Clint Eastwood (Director and Producer) Bee Vang, Ahney Her, Christopher Carley – and a large Hmong American cast. His second highest-grossing film to date.



COLT'S MK/IV SERIE'S '70? It is cocked – he has a big hand.

Knew this would grade well.

And I knew the reason why.

Knew what he was going to do – and knew why.

(There is something in the Good Book about giving your life for someone else⁵...)

I knew how this was going to end – I saw this years ago, and it got high marks.

When he said good bye to his dog Daisy, I knew.

Had missed this part the first time – and it damn near killed me - but I knew what he had to do.

I knew.

This is Eastwood. This is his absolute best acting. Play them all back – here is where Clint is...

This is it.

Your story is nothing more

than what you see

Or what you have done, or will become, standing strong

Do you belong in your skin?

Just wondering, gentle now, the tender breeze blows⁶

Whispers thru my Gran Torino

⁵ John 15:13 - during the Last Supper.

⁶ Clint singing in the last minute of he movie.

Sermonette (you may skip this)

This was fun.

Looking back at these movies only excites the issue of seeing some more of Eastwood's work.

In a longer setting, conversation, or even an appreciation class on Clint Eastwood the areas to discuss are (or could be) his acting, directing, and producing. Of course, he wore three hats in some movies and others just one. Can we tell the difference or does it matter?

Yes, we can tell the difference and it matters. Eastwood is known for going places and doing different things. His range or his gift of being able to 'act' different parts is really his gift. He just pushes the envelope from doing it by directing to make sure it is done to producing it so all three blend to make sure the story gets told.

My example here is seeing him act first. The cowboy with hat, beard, cigar, and long barreled pistols. He transitions to the street bringing only the .44 Magnum. Then the remarkable happens as he ranges from a mule, to a boxing coach, to an ole war veteran who gives his life to help the Hmong people.

Can you see the thread that follows his 'splice of life' through his characters? In his greatness he can spit on a dog in one movie and say goodbye to his dog in another. He gives the needle to one person who dies and then takes the fusillade so others may live.

He tells stories. He acts the stories. He becomes the stories...and we see, feel, and also become his stories. His gift of vision or when to spit or not spit; better, when to have an old lady spit back, is his vision to portray the spice or slice we pay money to see and feel – to love and cry – and go back again and rent the movie for \$4.28.

Can you see the thread that weaves through what he has done? He is weaving life. Some of us have been in the same places, seeing the same dark places, feeling the very same pain, hearing the exact same music he acted, directed, and produced.

"Don't let the old man in..."

"Do you belong in your skin?"

"Go ahead. Make my day."

This means there is more of his movies to see – what, maybe all 60?

The joy is looking forward to more.

Actually, the joy is knowing the movies can be seen again and again - some for \$4.28.

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