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Hazy Hollywood Flicks

Colby Burnight
Iowa State University

Emerald Klauer
Iowa State University

Liz Zabel
Iowa State University

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Getting high is even more interesting when you watch the right movie—we have you covered.
If you’re a fan of Mary Jane, then you already know how cannabis enhances the movie viewing experience. You laugh harder, become more engaged and become more perplexed by the twists and turns of the narratives. This list could have had any number of worthy movies on it, complete with classics such as “Fight Club” and “Pineapple Express,” but I’ve decided to compile a list of personal favorites that includes stoner staples as well as lesser-known titles. So settle in, roll a fat one and happy smoking.

Warning: Ethos is not responsible for contact highs as a result of viewing these films.

**Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)**

This cult classic stars Tim Curry as the crazed Dr. Frank-N-Furter, who plays host to a young married couple seeking refuge from a storm. The conservative young couple’s world is flipped upside down when they walk in on the unveiling of the doctor’s latest creation. The film is an interesting combination of musical, comedy and horror that is sure to leave an unsuspecting stoner laughing with confusion.

*Where to find it:* iTunes, Amazon Instant Video

*Recommended strain:* 707 Headband

**John Dies at the End (2012)**

Imagine a drug that allows you to remember things before they happened. That’s the centerpiece of this dark comedy-horror hybrid. The film is about a drug that allows the user to see the into the future, leading to some bizarre plot twists that will leave you constantly guessing what happens next. The result is a mind-bending experience; a horror-thriller hybrid.

*Where to find it:* Netflix, Google Play

*Recommended strain:* Skywalker OG

**Pi (1998)**

At the beginning, the protagonist, Max Cohen, introduces us to his creed in the form of three assumptions: “One, mathematics is the language of nature. Two, everything around us can be represented and understood through numbers. Three, if you graph these numbers, patterns emerge. Therefore: There are patterns everywhere in nature.” His pursuit of a pattern in the stock market sends him down a path of self-destruction full of twists and turns. This movie isn’t just about numbers and theory; rather, it’s a psychological thriller shot in high-contrast black and white, which produces visuals just as mind-bending as the story.

*Where to find it:* Netflix, Amazon Instant Video, Google Play

*Recommended Strain:* Trainwreck

**Heat Vision and Jack (1999)**

Chances are you’ve never heard of this sc-fi comedy starring Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson and Jack Black from the late ‘90s. Okay well, it’s not really a movie but rather a television pilot that was never picked up, leaving a single episode that acts as a short film to preview what could have been (and only became public recently thanks to YouTube). In the episode, Black plays an astronaut who acquired super human intelligence after getting too close to the sun. The catch is that his powers only work when the sun is up, resulting in comical situations when he is forced to shift between the two mindsets. And oh yeah, did I mention that Heat Vision, his sidekick played by Wilson, is Jack’s old burnout roommate whose liveliness has merged with a motorcycle?

*Where to find it:* YouTube

*Recommended strain:* Skywalker OG

**Donnie Darko (2001)**

This cult classic has long been a favorite of stoners looking for a cerebral movie to ponder with elevated consciousness. The titular character is a deeply troubled high schooler who begins to see signs of the end of the world and searches for the meaning of the clues. The science fiction exploration of time and space is presented in such a mind-blowing fashion that you’ll have to watch it again just to piece everything together.

*Where to find it:* Netflix, Amazon Instant Video

*Recommended Strain:* Bud Bunny

**The Big Lebowski (1998)**

This Coen brothers’ classic follows the quintessential stoner played by Jeff Bridges, known as “The Dude,” who bowls instead of finding a job and can’t be found without a White Russian in hand. A crime comedy unfolds as The Dude seeks compensation for a rug destroyed by thugs after they mistake him for a millionaire. Often considered the greatest stoner character of all time, The Dude personifies the stoner mentality with his famous line of passivity, “The Dude abides.”

*Where to find it:* iTunes, Amazon Instant Video, Google Play

*Recommended strain:* California Dreamin’

**2001: A Space Odyssey (1968)**

Any movie by Stanley Kubrick could be included in this list. He is considered one of the most influential directors of all time across a variety of genres. The film unfolds over a four-part epic in which humanity has encountered mysterious enigmatic monoliths and is traveling to Jupiter to seek one out. Kubrick’s purpose was to propose deep philosophical questions about man by using minimalist performances and stylized visuals. This approach had a great impact on the cerebral-science fiction movies that smokers have grown to love so dearly.

*Where to find it:* iTunes, Amazon Instant Video, Google Play

*Recommended strain:* Northern Lights

**Wizard People, Dear Reader (2004)**

This is also not a movie in the traditional sense; it’s actually a soundtrack created by comic book artist Brad Neely that’s meant to be played over a muted “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone.” The soundtrack which can be found on YouTube in the form of a playlist—changes the fantasy movie into a hilarious comedy full of long winded monologues, hyperbolic motifs and vulgarity, satirizing the original. Virtually every line in “Wizard People, Dear Reader” is quotable, and once it hits its stride, you’ll be laughing until the end.

*Where to find it:* YouTube

*Recommended strain:* The Purps

**Bonus: “Skewrl” (2011)**

“Skewrl” is a short film created by Karl Eccleston and Brian Fairbairn, and it’s essentially a movie in fake English. The film features a couple’s conversation over dinner speaking fake English to attempt to show how English sounds to non-speakers, and it succeeds in perplexing viewers while drawing them in. This effect is increased greatly with marijuana. Oh, what a great highdea.

*Where to find it:* YouTube

*Recommended strain:* Alaskan Thunderf*ck 🍁