

## 43 Films That You Absolutely Must See

This list is in no particular order and many of you film-o-philes will undoubtedly find some curious omissions. For one, no Citizen Kane, a movie I love but, c'mon, it's been used. I tried to keep the list director or genre specific, meaning that I might skip a film in order to make it a more inclusive list. I'd also like to apologize to some of my favorite auteurs that are conspicuously absent: Martin Scorsese, David Lynch, Fritz Lang, François Truffaut, Ridley Scott, Jean Luc Goddard, Pedro Almodovar, and certainly others I can't remember.

1. **Casablanca** – “Best script ever written,” according to “Robert McKee.” If you don't get this joke don't worry, but you missed another good movie. Not much to be said here; you'd have to be one cynical son-of-a-bitch not to love it. “How extravagant you are, throwing away women like that. Some day they may be scarce.”

10/20/16 – So much has been about Casablanca it's hard to add anything. Just watch it, again and again.

2. **The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly** – It figures an Italian would make the best films about the most American genre there is. The film I've seen more times than any other, it's sorta the soundtrack for my life. “He who double crosses me and leaves me alive, he understands nothing about Tuco... nothing.”

7/17/16– Obviously as a Clint Eastwood fan, this is one of my favorites films of all time. About 15 years ago they showed a remastered version at The NuArt theater in LA that had a couple added scenes, including the memorable (but silly) “Tuco talking to a chicken” scene. Steve and myself and Bronco went to see it, and I think it's the only time I've seen it on the big screen...although I may be wrong.

3. **The Big Sleep** – Okay, so it's a little disjointed and hard to follow, who cares? Noirs are about scenes, and scene by scene nothing beats it. Slim's scene in the “casino” where she sings Sad Tomato is Ted Martinez's favorite from any film (even though nothing happens in it), and that's just the tip of the Chandler-esque iceberg. “I could make it my business.” “I could make your business mine.” “You wouldn't like it, the pay's too small.”

7/29/16 – Took the opportunity to catch a viewing of this outdoors at a Friday night showing at The SB Courthouse, the theme for their movie series this year is “Bogie and Bacall”. I've seen The Big Sleep more times than I can remember. It never gets old and it's always confusing. Perhaps those two are related. Pure genius.

4. **The Right Stuff** – I'll let former Shop employee Kelly O'Mara answer this one. An artsy, sarcastic, chain-smoking, self-deprecating Isla Vista resident is that last person you'd think would go for this flag-waving piece of Americana. The only reason she even considered watching it was because I had it on when she came to work. When I

returned later in the day she was beaming, "That's how *men* are supposed to behave". "Is that a man?" "You're damn right it is."

6/17/16 – In the '80s Tower Records had a magazine they put out and in every issue there was a feature called DIDs or Desert Island Discs, where they would ask people if they were stranded on a desert island (with a killer stereo), what are the ten records they'd pick to be with them. The Right Stuff unquestionably is on my movie list of DIDs. Always entertaining and utterly watchable no matter how many times I've seen it. "The question is, who'll be the first *free man* into space?!"

5. **The Moderns** – If I could go anywhere in time it would probably be Paris, during the 1920's, so I could sit in café's with Papa, Miller, Stein, Nin, Maugham, et al. Just once I'd like to be able to say, "I ran into Maurice Ravel in the men's room. He didn't recognize me." Alan Rudolph's over-the-top homage follows an ex-pat painter. "I'd rather be broke in Paris. To be broke in America is downright immoral."

8/20/16 - I haven't seen this movie in almost 20 years when Manny first introduced me to Alan Rudolph's stuff and we watched all of them over a few days. I was sidelined on the couch with my bum ankle after a climbing fall and Steve would bring home a few movies from the Shop every night to entertain me through the next 24 hours. *The Moderns* was probably my favorite of Rudolph's, although *Love at Large* would be a close second. Still thoroughly enjoyable.

6. **Miller's Crossing** – Arguably the Cohen's best work, it's sort of slipped through the cracks. Except that ever film person I've ever mentioned tends to say the same thing. An almost perfect film, there isn't a single scene that doesn't work or leave an impression. "If I knew we were going to cast our feelings into words, I would have memorized the 'Song of Solomon'."

9/1/16 - Like Manny said, an almost perfect movie. Maybe even perfect. Snappy dialogue, stellar performances, and a script that would've made both Raymond Chandler and Dashiell Hammet proud. "Intimidating helpless women is part of my job." "Then find one and intimidate her."

7. **Le Grand Bleu** – Certainly Luc Besson's piece de resistance, this may not be one of the greatest films of all time. But this list is for my friends, and you'll be a lot more comfortable around the gang (especially me, Bob, and Normal Guy) if you know who Jacques and Enzo are. "It's better down there," for sure. There are many versions of this film. The best is the director's cut, but any that are over 2 hours are worth seeing. Avoid the American release. It doesn't make sense. "How long can you hold your breath?"

7/12/16 – This was one of the films that was a favorite of mine before I met Manny, and while a bunch of the films on this list fall into that category, it's not like *The Big Blue* is a mainstream film that tons of people love. If you find someone who really likes this

movie, it's likely you've got something in common. Always watchable, and when the 'real' film was released almost a decade after the bastardized American version, well... everything was just better in spades.

8. **The Professionals** – Don't mix this up with Besson's film starring Enzo (Jean Reno). This is a Western starring Lee Marvin (Rico Fardan) and Burt Lancaster (Bill Dolworth) about a group of men who've outlived their time. Also, essential in understanding the Bob and Steve relationship. "Well, I'll be damned." "Most of us are."

11/22/16 – Two of my favorite actors, Burt Lancaster and Lee Marvin, my all time favorite movie girl, Claudia Cardinale, and Jack Palance playing a Mexican, makes for one of my all-time favorite movies. Pure genius and a movie that Manny and myself were particularly fond of. We were stoked to be able to see it on the big screen at a revival showing in LA a few years ago.

9. **The Big Lebowski** – The Cohen's other definitive work. Like Star Trek, this didn't catch-on during its initial release but has become a cult classic. I mean, after he'd seen the premiere, some guy (in the Industry) told me it was "about nothing." What? It's about everything. "Does the Pope shit in the woods?"

11/16/16 – Always a pleasure to watch. Jeff Bridges lives in Santa Barbara and one time my boss saw him at a movie theater (before *Lebowski* came out), and the boss said to his wife, "Wow, he's really let himself go downhill." Of course, when the movie came out Bridges' unkempt appearance that evening was explained.

10. **Straight To Hell** – No one should be allowed to know me without seeing this. Okay, it may not be the quintessential screen classic. To paraphrase Bill Murray in *Stripes*, "Alex Cox is going to be huge someday, and you're going to say, 'I've been watching his films for years, and I think they're fabulous.'" Did I mention this was a film about blood, money, coffee, and sexual tension? "Come on down to the hacienda, boys. It's nearly happy hour. And there's plenty of coffee!"

7/4/16 – This movie is pure genius. To me, the Alex Cox trio of *Repo Man*, *Straight To Hell* and *Walker* (my favorite of the 3, although it didn't make Manny's list here) are three of the finest films ever made. Most people, unfortunately, would disagree with me though. What little plot line that there is, is only loosely followed. Like Manny said, this film is about blood, money, coffee and sexual tension. "This is really boring for me!"

11. **Barfly** – Charles Bukowski's alter ego, Henry Chinowski, is hits the big screen in all his glory. A sort of drunk's fantasy, director Barbet Schoeder seems to have been able to mind meld with Bukowski to re-create a world that's never quite existed. Except to me, and my weird friends. "Whattaya do?" "I drink." "Here's to all my frriiiiiiiiiennnds!"

6/25/16 - Truth be told, *Barfly* was never a favorite of mine. Bukowski is my favorite author without question, and it was hard to accept Mickey Rourke's over-the-top portrayal of him. It made it all a bit too schtick-ish for me. I mean, it's not a *bad* film, but I don't really enjoy watching it. As I understand it, Bukowski wasn't a great fan of the finished product either.

12. **Repo Man** – This is the film that made Cox a household word in Hollywood before *Straight to Hell* and Walker got him blacklisted. “Look at those poor assholes over there. Ordinary fuckin’ people. I hate ‘em.”

7/17/16 – I've seen this movie more times than I can remember, usually because I tend to drink a lot of beer when it's playing. A favorite movie since high school, it still remains one of my all-times. “Otto, what about our relationship?” “Relationship? Fuck that.”

13. **Office Space** – If you've ever worked in an office this is not to be missed. Funniest sex scene in screen history. “So everyday becomes the worst day of my life. “ “Ummm, yeah.”

8/27/16 – I hadn't seen this in a long time, but I was pleasantly surprised at how well it holds up. I mean, it's fricking fantastic, and since I basically lived this movie when I was working in the financial industry sitting behind a desk literally doing nothing for 8 hours a day, makes it even better.

14. **Joe vs. The Volcano** – This metaphor for living bombed because it was disguised as a Tom Hanks/Meg Ryan vapidfest and, well, it's not. “Have you thought much about luggage? It is the central preoccupation of my life.”

10/9/16 – I was seriously not looking forward to this one. To me, Tom Hanks is the physical depiction of nails on a chalkboard. I can't stand his voice, his facial expressions, his acting, his delivery or the movies he is in. I loathe Tom Hanks. I can't stand Meg Ryan either. And I hate this movie. Always have. Didn't change this time around either.

15. **Big Trouble in Little China** – “What?” Without a doubt John Carpenter's definitive work. Perhaps Kurt Russell's as well. “China is here. What does that mean? I don't even know what that means.”

11/13/16 - Pure fun and one of the few movies that I watch at least once a year.

16. **Used Cars** – I love movies where the good guys aren't good guys. If this bombed, it's because people couldn't identify with a hero. I mean, they're all used car salesmen. Robert “Forrest Gump” Zemekis called this his favorite all-time project. “50 grand buys me the nomination and I'm a shoo-in. Then I go fifty-fifty on all the graft I take in. Politics, Lou, it's a chance to make something out of myself.”

8/28/16 – Another one I haven't seen since my 3 weeks on the couch with the ankle injury. Deserves more repeat viewing though, because it's still friggin hilarious, and correlating used car salesmen as a stepping stone towards a career in politics rings truer now than it ever has before.

17. **North By Northwest** – An intentional comedy that was mistaken for an unintentional one. That's Hitch's genius, always able to keep people guessin'. And Cary Grant is still the quintessential leading man. "I have two ex-wives, a mother, and several bartenders depending on me."

9/24/16 - Most people point towards Psycho as Hitch's ultimate triumph, but I'll vote for this one every time. This frequently comes onto the old movie channels and if I turn the television on and it happens to be playing, I always sit down to watch.

18. **Strictly Ballroom** –Baz Luhrman's first pic is a blast, from Ken's Spa-O-Rama, to Federation President Barry Fife, to "Show me your paso double," it's a dizzying ride along the 'don't live in fear' railroad and even the corniest of endings gets to me every single time. "There will be no new steps!"

10/19/16 – This would be an easy movie for me to hate: it's a love story with lots of dancing. But I really, really like it.

19. **Never Cry Wolf** – No one shoots better scenery than Carol Ballard and this tops his list. A funny and poetic tale of a man finding his spirit and oneness with the earth, and some wolves. You know you've made something special when the best scene in the film is absolutely silent. See it with a big screen in a quiet room. "You know what beats boredom, Tyler? Adventure!"

8/23/16 - I hadn't seen *Never Cry Wolf* since I saw it in the theater in 1987 and I don't know what else to say about it except: what a fabulous film. Just stunning.

20. **The Milagro Beanfield War** – A piece of magic on celluloid. Overlooked, misunderstood, and way underrated. I've always wondered what Redford thinks of this, because I'll bet he agrees with me. His best work, maybe by far. "No one would do anything, if they knew what they were 'in for.'"

7/28/16 - I like this one a lot, but it doesn't resonate with me as intensely as Steve. Mostly, I like watching Ruben Blades, who is always fun to watch. This was another one that I watched originally (at Steve's urging) when I was 'on the couch' with my ankle mishap. I remember after watching it we realized what an immense talent that Blades is and started listening to tons of his music after that. Fun days, those were.

21. **Touch Of Evil** – What's a "best of" list without Orson Welles. The classic low-budge noir, even with Chuck Heston playing a Mexican. "It's either the candy or the hooch."

8/29/16 – While *Citizen Kane* usually tops most “best-of” lists, unquestionably my favorite Welles flick is *Touch of Evil*. Welles’s performance as the corrupt drunkard cop is just perfectly dead-on. High on the creepy scale and what makes it even better is the stellar Henry Mancini soundtrack that Manny and Todd poached for *Icarus Descending*.

22. **Iron Monkey** – What list would be complete without at least one Chinese movie? But do we go epic, like *Swordsman II*? Modern, like *God of Cookery*? Or popular, like Jackie’s *Police Story* or Woo’s *Hardboiled*? So I submit one right in between; a historical film that was very popular and moves with lightning speed. I guess if I could only see one Hong Kong film, this would be my choice. Make sure you get the right translation. How will you know? “It’s pist the same!”

11/10/16 – Sandbagged! The new release of this movie, which I rented, has a new translation. Phil and myself were aghast that “It’s pist the same” wasn’t delivered. Awesome to watch this again though, ranks very high on my Chinese movie list.

23. **American in Paris** – Arguably the greatest musical ever made, though most would give the nod to *Singin’ in the Rain*. For me, it’s a toss-up as they almost feel like a continuous movie, even though the plots are totally different. My brother and I were watching this recently and Brian couldn’t stop laughing. Because of the film? No, because “according to Todd, this isn’t how life is supposed to be, but it’s how life actually is.” “In America, they said I didn’t have any talent. They may be saying the same thing over here but it sounds better in French.”

6/12/16 – When I first made up the “56<sup>th</sup> Challenge” list, I turned on the television with the intent of starting the “Manny’s 43 movie list” at #1 (*Casablanca*), but when the TV came on, and this is totally not a joke or an exaggeration, the title screen of *American in Paris* was literally on the screen, the tv having been left on Turner Classic Movies. So I guess that settled what I was going to watch for a first movie. That said, I don’t like watching people sing, I don’t like watching people dance, and I can’t friggin stand people trying to tell a story doing both. Never could. Still can’t. I don’t believe in any ghostly type shit, but if there was such a thing, then Manny did this just to fuck with me. I hate musicals.

24. **The Forbidden Zone** – Oh, sure, Danny Elfman’s all famous now. But what about his brother Richard, where’s his love? After all, he directed Danny in this. One of the oddest films ever made, it’s really hard to explain. All I can say is that when Binky went to rent it at a store in Seattle, they made him leave a \$300 cash deposit. Now there’s some love. “Bim, bam, boom. Bim, bam, boom...”

8/25/16 – Not the easiest movie in the world to watch, but this one has some serious sentimental value for me since this is what was playing on the TV on the day I first walked into The Castle in 1996. A crowning achievement of weirdness on film and perhaps a harbinger of things to come for the new guy in town.

25. **Double Indemnity** – Ever see a movie that’s better than the book (besides Blade Runner)? James M. Cain’s slightly boring novel is brought to the screen with Chandler writing the dialog. The result is some of the snappiest of all-time. “We keep the liquor cabinet locked up.” “That’s okay, I carry my own keys.”

6/30/16 – *Double Indemnity* is a movie so perfect it’s hard to add any commentary to it. Some of the best dialogue in any movie, maybe ever. A perfectly cast Fred MacMurray and Barbara Stanwyck and director Billy Wilder was known to have thought of it as his finest work. It’s commonly thought of as the first, and best of what sparked an entire genre, *film noir*.

26. **Henry V** – Perhaps we’re moving towards a higher state of communicating by telepathy, but all I know is that in a few hundred years we’ve managed to distill an eloquent and beautiful language down to communicating mainly by use of the words fuck, dude, actually, and like. Still the best of the Bard’s screen adaptations, and the best thing Branagh’s done, I can’t watch this film without it evoking tears of passion. “Pray thee wish not one man more...”

10/9/16 – This is likely the best rendition of any Shakespeare work captured on celluloid, certainly my favorite. I don’t like speeches in general, but The St. Crispins speech in this movie is beyond epic. Branagh nailed this one.

27. **Porco Rosso** – There should probably be more than one Miyazaki film on this list, so I went with the more obscure over the obvious *Mononoke Hime* or *Spirited Away*. There’s a lot more to animation than Disney would have you believe. This is basically a period film on aeronautical pirates in the Adriatic that just happens to be drawn. “A pig who doesn’t fly is just a pig.”

8/27/16 – First saw this at Manny’s place in Culver City when Brian was staying with him and was way in to Miyazaki’s stuff. I’m not a fan of animation, never have been, but I’ve seen worse. Still, not the easiest thing to capture my attention.

28. **Local Hero** – Subtle beauty from Bill Forsyth, about a corporate guy from Texas who reluctantly becomes enchanted by a small town in Scotland. If you’re not paying close attention, the magic of this film will most likely slip right by. “You think Gordon and Stella do it every day?” “Of course not.”

8/20/16 – This is one of two movies on this list that I had never seen before and I can’t believe I never had. What a great movie, pure joy.

29. **All The President’s Men** – Perhaps top of the political thriller genre, and based on the true story surrounding Watergate. Just one of a stack of great 70’s thrillers that include, *The Parallax View*, *The China Syndrome*, and *Three Days of the Condor*. “Remember when you were young and hungry?”

10/6/16 – Another one I hadn't seen in many, many years. Still riveting.

30. **Mr. Deed's Goes To Town** – The best of Capra. I never cared for Gary Cooper but he's perfectly cast here as a simple small town guy who inherits millions and instantly becomes a celebrity. "I don't know why he left me all that money. I don't need it."

8/22/16 – Like Manny, I never cared for Gary Cooper. But also, I never liked Frank Capra either, so this one has a couple strikes against it. But Mr. Deed's is probably the best of the Capra 'feel good' flicks, Cooper is perfectly cast, and well, I can see why Manny has it on this list. It really is a good story.

31. **Evil Dead II** – There had to be something here from the horror genre. Instead of going with the scariest movie of all time, Alien, I'll go with the funniest. Sam Rami's send-up of the kids-on-an-ill-fated-trip theme. "Groovy," indeed. But "who's laughing now?"

8/28/16 – The first time I saw *Evil Dead II* was at a theater in London in 1987. It was the first movie of this 'genre' that I ever saw and I thought it was freaking hilarious. "Chainsaw!" (with the chainsaw chalk outline). Bruce Campbell at his zany best.

32. **Man Who Would Be King** –A couple bumbles with big dreams who go AWOL and sneak into Afghanistan to seek riches. Connery's likeness to the only other white men they've seen, Alexander, convinces the natives he's a God. All is just dandy 'til the loftiness of the position starts to wear away on a man with humanly desires. Absolutely classic acting by Sean Connery and Michael Cain. "But how many men have been the places we've been, and seen the things we've seen?" "Bloody few."

10/8/16 – Connery and Caine are a brilliant pair. I recently read that Huston pitched this to Robert Redford and Paul Newman, which would have been an interesting twist no doubt Apparently Redford told Huston it should be played by English actors and suggested Connery and Caine. The rest is history as they say. A wonderful and grand adventure by Kipling.

33. **Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai** – Another under-the-radar classic, in the Edwardian sense. Don't know why I've always liked this so much, but John Lithgow once said it was the most fun he'd ever had with a character. Don't miss the Secretary of Defense, a dead-ringer for Don Rumsfeld, whom I'm pretty certain has based his real-life persona on this character. "Hey, hey, don't be mean. Because, no matter where you go, there you are."

8/21/16 – I don't care for this one as much as Manny did. It's campy fun, and the cast is great, but it's not the easiest to watch, particularly 25 years later.

34. **Eiger Sanction** – Before there were Action/Comedies there were unintentional action/comedies that, of course, were far funnier. This film, like many of Eastwood's



over-the-top works (*Bronco Billy*, etc), is a scream. Not only that, it features some nice climbing and is still able to pull-off some good tension. Don't miss characters include Jonathon "just happens to be an assassin" Hemlock, George Kennedy's character's daughter George, Miles "I'll have a daiquiri" Mellow, Dragon ("My blood has to be completely replaced every year" "With what?"), Karl "The Leader" Freitag, Ben "Boy are we gonna drink a lot of beer" Beauman, and the brilliant Pope, "My superior wants to see you." "Your superior. Well that doesn't narrow the field too much, does it?"

11/20/16 – "Any of you friggin vampires touch this thing and you're going to need surgery to remove it from your ass!"

35. **Big Wednesday** – Way underrated outside of the surfer crowd; something I could never understand. I did find a review, from *Time Out* in England, that called it the definitive film about America from the 70's, which is pretty much how I see it. A lot more than surfing, which is only a backdrop for life during the 60's and 70's. "A swell so big it will wipe out everything that came before it."

8/22/16 – Hadn't seen this in a very long time and what a treat. I agree with Manny on how under-rated this is and it holds up incredibly well, perhaps because it captures an era so perfectly. Fantastic.

36. **High and Low** – No film list is complete without something from Kurosawa. Here's one you may not have seen. He didn't just make historical films. This modern day thriller (from the 60's) was a decade ahead of its time. "Mushi, mushi."

7/21/16 – The second movie on this list that I had never seen, which is odd because I love Kurosawa. And I loved every second of this movie. Genius.

37. **Chinatown** – Roman Polanski's brilliant version of early LA and its water issues. The classiest of the noirs, though it doesn't really count since it's in color and was made in 1974. Even if you've never been to LA, this will make you nostalgic for the way it once was. "LA's a small town. People talk."

6/16/16 - Everything required in a respectable film noir, Polanski and screenwriter Robert Towne nailed. Snappy dialogue, memorable characters from the Hall of Records kid to the ultra-creepy John Huston, to a story that's so complicated and multi-layered it requires multiple viewings just to ingest it all Brilliant.

"What happened to your nose?", "I cut myself shaving.", "That must really smart." "Only when I breathe."

38. **Slacker** – A modern version of Renoir's *Rules of the Game*, (some will undeniably balk at this analogy), done for no money around the streets of Austin, Texas. Richard

Linkletter's first film is a classic look at college/slacker life from the early 90's. "Sure, I may live bad, but at least I don't have to work to do it."

8/29/16 – I never liked *Slacker*, never knew what Manny (or anyone else) saw in it. I mean, I get the whole "independent filmmaker on a shoestring budget makes a movie" thing, but this movie is unwatchable. There's a couple memorable lines to quote, but other than that, it's like listening to really stupid people talk constantly about nothing for two hours. I'll never watch this again.

39. **Elmer Gantry** – Probably Burt Lancaster's greatest role as the most larger-than-life character this side of Cpt Kirk. Like its main character, this film both embraces The Bible and lambastes commercial religion. "When I was a child, I spake as a child, understood as a child. When I became a man, I put away childish things. "

11/4/16 – Hadn't seen this in a while, but still shines. Burt Lancaster has always been one of my favorite actors and this one is, like Manny says, likely his finest role. When Steve told me that his cancer had come back he requested that I not tell anyone, the primary reason being that he didn't want to endure another round of folks praying for him. He told me, "The last thing I need right now is fuckin salvation." I replied to this request with a line from *Elmer Gantry*, "Sin, sin, sin! You're all doomed to perdition!" He replied with the Corinthians verse quoted above, always one of his favorites.

40. **Anatomy of a Murder** – Otto Preminger made too many great films to be left off this list. This one's my favorite, though *Man With the Golden Arm* is close. Jimmy Stewart—one of my all-time favs that's perfectly cast—and George C. Scott go head to head in court, with Ben Gazzara as well. "Now, Your Honor, I know I'm not as worldly as my esteemed colleague from Lansing...."

9/23/16 – Courtroom dramas aren't my thing, neither is Jimmy Stewart for that matter. This one is watchable, but really, not something I'd recommend. Funny, because if I was going to put Preminger on my list, I'd have gone with *The Man with The Golden Arm*.

41. **This is Spinal Tap** – Almost overlooked here because I thought it was too obvious, until I kept running into people who hadn't seen it. What the?! This is the best comedy ever made, bar none, and was so effective that it bombed during its initial release because crowds thought it was about a real band they just hadn't heard of—amazing. "...the looser the waistband, the deeper the quicksand, or so I have read."

10/5/16 – Hadn't seen this in a while and I made the mistake of starting to watch it during a half-hour set (for those who don't know, basically a 30 minute circuit workout). Not a good idea. I basically lost it at The Stonehenge scene. Try doing pullups when you're very tired and laughing uncontrollably.

42. **Monty Python's Meaning of Life** – Probably not as good as either *Life of Brian* or *Holy Grail*, but less people have seen it and, for chrissakes, it's about the meaning of life. Nothing Python did should be missed. "Every sperm is sacred, every sperm is good. Every sperm is needed, in your neigh-bor-hood...."

10/7/16 – Like just about everything Python did, pure genius and still (and will always be) hilariously funny.

43. **The Endless Summer** – How Bruce Brown does what he does it is a complete mystery. All I know is that he's made three films about sports that I don't care much about that are the three best sports docs I've seen. I first caught this as a kid. I didn't surf, nor did I care about surfing, yet I remembered almost every line of the last half hour of the movie (all I saw) for more than a decade until I found out what it was. Maybe it's his ability to come up with lines like, "he's so calm up there he could eat a ham sandwich..." "Thank you for watching. I hope you enjoyed my film."

8/8/16 – I actually started surfing a few months before I started climbing, and it was entirely because I had seen *The Endless Summer 2*. The original *Endless Summer* was desperately hard to find a copy of in Seattle at the time, so it was at least a year later before I finally saw it. It's still my most watched surf movie.