

Ralphie, George, Kevin, and the Grinch make for Must See Holiday TV

BY THE ROCKET STAFF

Christmas break is the perfect time to turn off all of the lights, curl up on the couch next to the tree, and watch some of the best (according to the staff) holiday movies and specials around.

Ahh, presents!

A Christmas Story: This fun, loving story about young Ralphie and his quest for a Red Rider BB gun is the perfect family movie. Those of us who have yearned for that one perfect gift can connect with Ralph.

Thwarted at every turn by cries of "You'll shoot your eye out!" Ralphie finally wins the battle. Victory is Ralphie's at last.

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas": He's as cuddly as a cactus, he's as charming as an eel, but he's so great to watch every year! Of course, I am talking about the Grinch in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

This holiday favorite is shown over and over every year, and it gets better every time. In this story, everyone in Whoville (a tiny world inside a snowflake) loved Christmas a lot, except for the Grinch, who lived just north of Whoville. He did not.

The Grinch hates Christmas so much that he makes a Santa suit, ties an antler to his dog Max's head, hitches him to a sleigh and goes through the town stealing all the things that are Christmas.

Eventually, when Christmas comes without the food, presents, and decorations, the Grinch learns a valuable lesson. Christmas isn't in the store, it's in the heart.

Dr. Seuss created a masterpiece when he wrote this one. I highly recommend "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," and maybe your heart will grow two sizes, too.

Home Alone: A Christmas Classic

Christmas has always been a great subject for movies. Films such as *A Christmas Carol*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and *Miracle on 34th Street* have become classics. But, within recent years, a new movie has been added to that list: the wonderfully funny *Home Alone*.

Who could pass up the cuteness and wise tactics of Macaulay Culkin in this film? From the moment he appears on screen, the movie takes you through a

rollercoaster ride full of laughs and maybe even a few tears. You find yourself rooting for the smart Kevin and even feeling a little sorry for the robbers he outsmarts.

Home Alone is just a great movie and one anybody who needs to get into the Christmas spirit should watch. Sequels have been made that try to live up to the popularity of the first, but they just can't.

Home Alone has become a Christmas classic, and rightly so. I recommend it to all, even Christmas scrooges.

That warm and fuzzy feeling

For many people, Christmas is a time of cheer, hope, and love. For others like *George Bailey*, it's a sad reality of financial difficulty and harsh mistakes.

It's a *Wonderful Life* is a timeless classic that melts our hearts out of those holiday blues. When *George Bailey* felt that he did nothing but wrong to the people who loved him, he attempted to end his life. After being saved by an angel trying to get his wings, *George* takes a glimpse into a world where he was never born.



George travels from depression and suicide to the moment when he scoops his children into his arms and thanks God for his family. It's moments like these in a movie that we hold priceless. The moments where the glitter of money and presents melt away into a neverending ray of love and Christmas cheer.

When we watch this movie, it touches our hearts into believing

that we all have made a positive impact on another's life, no matter how worthless we feel inside. Christmas is not a time to remember past wrongs or what we don't have; it's a time to be grateful for what we do have--each other.

So the next time you hear a bell ring, don't forget that an angel is getting its wings.

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