

The Drug-Addiction Movie

Generic Conventions and Film Style

Who is the addict?

- Demographics: age, race, gender, sexuality, social class, place of residence?
 - Occupation: artist/musician, slacker/dropout, businessman, criminal, sex worker?
 - Personality type: immature, irresponsible, charming, gentle, demanding, impatient, restless
 - Reasons for using drugs?
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Type of drug

- Marijuana
 - Heroin
 - Cocaine
 - Pills: uppers, downers
 - Methamphetamine
 - Crack
 - [alcohol]
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Key style moments

- circumstances under which the drug is taken
 - the “money shot”: how graphic is the administration of the drug?
 - how are the effects of the drug represented?
 - the OD
 - kicking the habit
 - restarting the habit
 - quitting for good
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Life-style moments

- scoring
 - dealing
 - stealing from family, friends, and strangers
 - other betrayals of trust
 - getting busted / going to jail
 - planning escape to somewhere cleaner
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Selected filmography

- *The Man with the Golden Arm* (1955)
 - *Monkey on My Back* (1957)
 - *A Hatful of Rain* (1957)
 - *Valley of the Dolls* (1967)
 - *Easy Rider* (1969)
 - *Alice 's Restaurant* (1969)
 - *The Panic in Needle Park* (1971)
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Selected filmography

- *Born to Win* (1971)
 - *Scarface* (1983)
 - *Sid and Nancy* (1986)
 - *Less Than Zero* (1987)
 - *Bright Lights, Big City* (1988)
 - *Dead Ringers* (1988)
 - *Drugstore Cowboy* (1989)
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Selected filmography

- *New Jack City* (1991)
 - *Jungle Fever* (1991)
 - *Naked Lunch* (1991)
 - *Rush* (1991)
 - *Trainspotting* (1996)
 - *Requiem for a Dream* (2000)
 - *Traffic* (2000)
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Selected filmography

- *Blow* (2001)
 - *Cidade de Deus* (2002)
 - *Half Nelson* (2006)
 - *A Star Is Born* (2018)
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