*What makes a “Great Film?” How much money it made? How many people saw it? If lots of critics happen to like it? Why are some films, like Citizen Kane and The Godfather always on these lists of the best of all time? Why is Reign of Fire never on those lists? Here are a few qualities of a Great Film:*

* **Aesthetics:**Some films are aesthetically unique.  This means they have a different style or vision, they were really well made, or they influenced the look and style of later films.  This would apply to Citizen Kane, 2001: A Space Odyssey, and Raging Bull. Those films don't look or feel like anything else.
* **Technology:** Other films are technologically innovative. King Kong was one of the first to combine animation with live action.  The Wizard of Oz impressed audiences with its transition from black and white to breathtaking Technicolor. Toy Story marked the transition from cel animation to computer generated images. A lot of these developments have a big impact on the way films are made afterwards.
* **Sociology:** Some deal with important social or political issues.  Do the Right Thing deals with race relations in New York and America.  The Grapes of Wrath examines the challenges of poverty, corruption, and class. Films like these try to change the way audiences think about politics and people.
* **History:** Others are historically important and portray events that we need to remember. Schindler's List and Saving Private Ryan show the difficulties of World War II. Apocalypse Now shows the difficulties of the Vietnam War. Basically I should change this category to War Movies.
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