

Best Pick

A Journey through Film History

By John Dorney, Jessica Regan, and Tom Salinsky

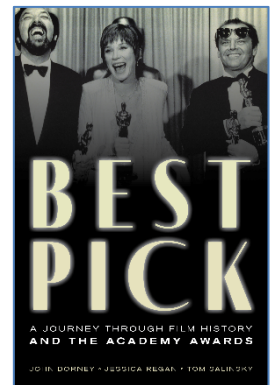
Praise for *Best Pick*:

“*Best Pick* is a casual read that takes the business of Oscar-winning seriously. The three authors successfully harness their podcast chemistry for edifying debate and discussion over the Academy’s top picks.”

— Frederick Gooding Jr., author of *Black Oscars: From Mammy to Minny, What the Academy Awards Tell Us about African Americans*

“*Best Pick* is the book for the awards show obsessive in your life—not only does it provide the cold hard Oscar facts we all need for our next movie trivia night, but it provides essential, incisive cultural and cinematic context to understand the history of the Academy Awards and the films and filmmakers awarded throughout the last century.”

— Kate Hagen, producer, *The Black List*



In *Best Pick: A Journey through Film History and the Academy Awards*, John Dorney, Jessica Regan, and Tom Salinsky provide a captivating decade-by-decade exploration of the Oscars. For each decade, they examine the making of classic films, trends and innovations in cinema, behind-the-scenes scandals at the awards ceremony, and who won and why. Twenty films are reviewed in-depth, alongside ten detailed “making-of” accounts and capsule reviews of every single Best Picture winner in history. In addition, each Best Picture winner is carefully scrutinized to answer the ultimate question: “Did the Academy get it right?”

Full of wonderful stories, cogent analysis, and fascinating insights, *Best Pick* is a witty and enthralling look at the people, politics, movies, and trends that have shaped our cinematic world.

John Dorney is an actor and a writer. He’s acted at the National Theatre, had a script on at the Royal Court Theatre, and won the BBC’s Sketch Factor and Show Me the Funny talent searches. He’s written over a hundred audio dramas for Big Finish Productions, for which he’s won two Scribe Awards, an Audie, and a BBC Audio Drama Award.

Jessica Regan is an award-winning, RADA-trained Irish actor, writer, and podcaster based in London. She has performed on many UK stages, including the National Theatre and on the West End, as well as BAM in New York and the Wallis Annenberg in LA. Regan has appeared in multiple television shows, primarily for the BBC. She is a prolific audio artist, especially in gaming, and likes using her voice to help people find theirs.

Tom Salinsky is a writer, podcaster, communications coach, and improviser. As a founding member of the London-based improvisation company The Spontaneity Shop, he co-wrote *The Improv Handbook*. As well as the *Best Pick* podcast, he is the producer of the award-winning podcast *The Guilty Feminist*. With Robert Khan, he is the author of five plays and several audio dramas for Big Finish.

The authors live in London, England.

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