

Guide to Book, Film, Television & Theater Reviews

The following reference sources provide information relevant to reviews. Reviews are published in both popular periodicals (magazines & newspapers) and in scholarly journals. This is not a comprehensive list.

[Electronic Databases](#)

[Film/Movie Reviews](#)

[General Book Review Indexes](#)

[Printed Indexes](#)

[Selected Review Resources on the Web](#)

[Subject Book Reviews](#)

[Theater Reviews](#)

Electronic Databases

How to find a review in the electronic databases:

- Enter the title of the work, the author or creator and the type of review needed.
- Examples: *Da Vinci Code* and book
Fahrenheit 9/11 and motion picture
Hairspray and theater
Survivor and television

[Academic Search Premier](#)

The world's largest academic multi-disciplinary database, *Academic Search Premier* provides full-text for nearly 4,600 scholarly publications, including full-text for more than 3,500 peer-reviewed journals. Coverage spans virtually every area of academic study and offers information dating as far back as 1975. This database is updated daily.

[LexisNexis Academic](#)

Provides full-text access and/or indexing and abstracting to information in a wide range of subject areas including reviews about books, movies, music, plays, and videos.

Click on the LexisNexis link then follow this sequence:

- Select the **News** from the **Search** tab found on the homepage
- Complete the **Enter Search Terms** box with relevant title, author, etc.
- From the **Select Sources** drop down menu choose: **Books, Movie, Music, Play and Video Reviews**
- From the **Specify Date** drop down menu, select the appropriate time period
- Click the **Search** button

[MasterFILE Premier](#)

This multi-disciplinary database provides full-text for more than 2,050 general reference publications. It covers virtually every subject area of general interest. This source is updated daily.

[McClatchy-Tribune Collection](#)

The *McClatchy-Tribune Collection* includes a 90-day archive of approximately 300 newspapers from the McClatchy-Tribune Information Services. The data is updated daily.

[NewsBank NewsFile Collection](#)

Contains full-text news articles covering social, economic, environmental, government, sports, the arts, people, health and science issues and events from more than 500 U.S. regional and national newspapers, wire services, and broadcasts.

[Newspaper Source](#)

Provides selected full-text from national and regional United States and international newspapers. This collection includes full-text of *USA Today*, *Christian Science Monitor*, and *The Times (London)*, *The Chicago Tribune* in addition to television and radio news transcripts from *CBS News*, *FOX News*, and National Public Radio, etc.

***The New York Times* ([ProQuest Historical Newspapers](#))**

The New York Times (1851-2001) offers full page and article images with searchable full text back to the first issue. The collection includes digital reproductions providing access to every page from every available issue.

Printed Indexes

***New York Times Index* 1851- Index AI 21 .N44**

To find reviews published in the *New York Times*, look in the index under “Books and Literature,” “Motion Pictures,” “Theatre,” and “Television”. The reviews follow the general articles under each heading and are listed by title.

***Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature* 1900/1904-2002 Index AI 3 .R4**

Cites reviews from general magazines. Since the 1976-1977 issue, book reviews have been listed alphabetically by author in a section at the end of each volume. For movie reviews published from 1978 to 2002 search by title under “Motion Picture Reviews – single works.” Movie reviews published from 1963-1977 are listed under “Moving Picture Plays – Criticism, Plots, etc.” Reviews of plays, dramas and musicals published from 1983 to 2002 are listed under “Theatre Reviews-single works.” Theatre reviews from 1978-1982 are found under “Drama Reviews – single works.” Reviews of television programs can be found under “Television Programs Reviews.”

***The Wall Street Journal Index* 1958- Index HG 1 .W258**

Since 1958, reviews have been listed in the “General News” section of each volume. Reviews of books, films, television programs, theater productions are indexed under the name of the media: “Books,” “Motion Pictures,” “Theater,” etc.

***The Washington Post Index* (title varies also *Official Washington Post Index*)**

1972-1978 Index AI 21 .W29 1979-1988 Index AI 21 .W33 O54

1989-2003 Index AI 21 .W33 W372

From 1972-1988, reviews were listed in the main body of the index under “Book Reviews.” Beginning in 1989, book reviews are listed alphabetically by author under “Books – Authors” and alphabetically by title under “Book – Titles.” Other reviews are indexed under the name of the media: “Motion Pictures,” “Theater,” and “Television Program.” The reviews follow the general articles under each heading and are listed by title.

General Book Review Indexes

Book Review Digest 1905-2002/03 Index Z 1219 .C96

This is a selective listing which includes excerpts from reviews of many types of books. Entries are listed alphabetically by author and there is a subject/title index.

Book Review Index 1985-1992 (cumulative index), 1993- Index Z 1035 .A1 B6

A comprehensive listing of book reviews. Citations are given for popular, scholarly and technical books. Reviews are listed alphabetically by the author and there is a title index. There is a cumulative index which covers the years 1965-1984.

New York Times Book Review Index 1896-1970 Bound Periodicals Z 1219 .N52

Lists reviews of all types of books published in the *New York Times* during the years indicated. Access is by author, title, byline, subject and category.

Subject Book Reviews

Children's Book Review Index: Master Cumulation 1965-1984

Ref Z 1037 .A1 C475 1985

Children's Book Review Index: Master Cumulation 1985-1994

Ref Z 1037 .A1 C475 1996

This index lists reviews for over 55,000 children's books. It is arranged alphabetically by author and also contains a parallel title index if the author is not known.

Children's Literature Review Ref Z 1037 .A1 C55

This index includes excerpts from reviews, criticism and commentary on books for children and young people. It includes cumulative author, nationality and title indexes.

Humanities Index 1974/75-2001/02 Index Z 1007 .H8

This title indexes English-language journals focusing on history, literature, philosophy and related subjects. This index includes film and theater reviews. Citations to book reviews are listed in a separate section following the main body of the Index. Refer to the "Explanatory Notes" pages at the front of the Index to determine how to find articles on dramas, motion picture reviews, musicals, etc.

Index to Book Reviews in the Humanities 1960-1990

Bound Periodicals Z 1007 .A1 I63

Lists reviews from over 400 humanities periodicals, arranged alphabetically by the author. Reviews of children's books are excluded.

Social Sciences Index 1974-2002 Index AI 3 .S62

This title indexes English-language journals pertaining to anthropology, economics, political science, women's studies, psychology, social work, sociology and related subjects. Since 1975 Book Reviews are found in a special section at the end of each volume.

In IUCAT select the *Advanced Keyword Search* screen. Use the search terms "book reviews" and select "Subject" from the drop down menu to retrieve more references related to this topic. Other subject indexes may include book reviews.

Film/Movie Reviews

Film Review Index Ref Z 5784 .M9 F513 1986 v.1 1882-1949, v. 2 1950-1985

This index includes films from the United States and other countries. The films are indexed by title. All articles listed under each film deal with that film either as a review, history or critical commentary.

New York Times Film Reviews 1913-1982 Bound Periodicals PN 1995 .N4

Contains full-text film reviews published in *The New York Times*. Reviews are listed in chronological order under the date they were first printed in *The New York Times*. Indexes to titles, personal and corporate names are included at the end of each volume. For reviews published after 1982 consult *The New York Times Index*.

Roger Ebert's Video Companion Stacks PN 1995 .E24 1998

This book is a collection of full-length reviews on more than 1,500 films reviewed by Roger Ebert.

In IUCAT select the *Advanced Keyword Search* screen. Use the search terms "motion pictures reviews" and select "Subject" from the drop down menu to retrieve more references related to this topic. More reviews can be found in the book stacks in Call Number PN 1995.

Theater Reviews

A Guide to Critical Reviews Ref Z 5781 .S16 1984

Part 1: American Drama 1909-1982 provides a bibliography of critical reviews of American plays from 1909-1982. It includes 2,500 productions from Broadway, Off-Broadway and 1984 Off-Off Broadway. *Part 2: The Musical 1909-1989* provides a bibliography of critical reviews of 2,149 musicals on the New York stage from 1909-1989.

New York Theatre Critics' Reviews 1966-1987 Bound Periodicals PN 1601 .N4

This publication has complete reviews from the following New York publications and stations whenever covered by the critic: *New York Daily News*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Time*, *New York Post*, *Women's Wear Daily*, *WABC-TV*, *USA Today*, *New York Times*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Newsweek* and *New York Newsday*.

New York Times Theater Reviews 1920-1982 Bound Periodicals PN 1581 .N4

Contains full-text theater reviews published in *The New York Times*. Reviews are listed in chronological order under the date they were first printed in *The New York Times*. Indexes to titles, personal and corporate names are included at the end of each volume. For reviews published after 1982 consult *The New York Times Index*.

In IUCAT select the *Advanced Keyword Search* screen. Use the search terms "theater reviews" and select "Subject" from the drop down menu to retrieve more references related to this topic.

Selected Review Resources on the Web

Go to the [Useful Reference Links](#) on the Indiana University Library Kokomo Web page. Look under the *Book Reviews* category.