

### **THREE KLEENEX MOVIES (For Girls)**

There are many kinds of movies - horror movies, comedies, adventure films, romances. But the kind of movie I like best doesn't have any particular category. I like a movie that makes me cry. There are degrees of sadness in these movies. Some only make me misty-eyed. In a Misty Movie, I can blink several times and the moisture evaporates or I can pretend to scratch my ear while I wipe away any trace of tears. That way, the person I'm with doesn't suspect that I'm misty-eyed. Misty Movies are usually good but not the kind you want to see more than once or urge all your friends to see.

One step up on the sad-movie success ladder are the Tricklers. In a Trickler Movie, I go just a bit further. The tears will well up and then gradually overflow from one eye and trickle down my cheek. It isn't a steady stream of tears, merely a single trickle, and I can adjust my glasses or brush my hair back or use some other excuse to bring my hand to my face and get rid of the tear before anyone notices it.

When I attend a Trickler Movie with my friends, we watch each other out of the corners of our eyes. Everyone wants to see if the other people are crying or not. Probably the Trickler Movies would affect me more profoundly if my attention wasn't partially diverted by watching my friends and knowing they are watching me. Despite our attempts to appear unmoved in a Trickler Movie, we all agree that the very best movies of all are the Three-Kleenex Movies, where all pretense at controlling our tears is abandoned. In a Three-Kleenex Movie, you have no choice but to wipe your eyes - several times - and blow your nose and let the whole world know you're crying. These are the movies where I watch all the credits at the end, not because I care who did the make-up or ran the camera, but because I need those extra minutes to compose myself so I'm not sobbing as I leave the theatre.

Many of the classic animal films, like Dumbo and Bambi, are Three-Kleenex Movies, but I've been known to weep and blow over people stories too.

Three-Kleenex Movies are best seen in a theatre. If you watch them on television or a VCR at home, it just isn't the same. A theatre is an impersonal place, a place where I can cry anonymously. I can lose myself in the story and weep for the people on the screen. It's a form of catharsis because I always feel better afterwards.

Tears are good for the movie business. Any time I see a movie that makes me cry, I'm sure to tell all my friends to go to it. They do the same for me.

Perhaps Hollywood needs a new rating system. Forget the PG and R and X categories. If they really want people to line up at the ticket window, rate the movie Three-Kleenex. I guarantee it'll be a success.