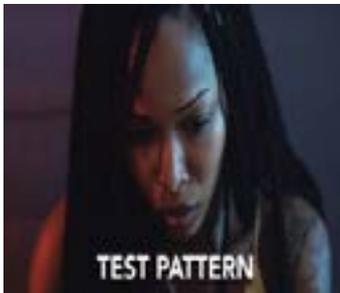


Welcome to our Entertainment Picks newsletter where we will share with you Films on Kanopy.

## Test Pattern

Kino Lorber

Part psychological horror, part realist drama, this exhilarating debut feature from Shatara Michelle Ford is set against the backdrop of national discussions around inequitable health care and policing, the #metoo movement, and race in America. TEST PATTERN follows an interracial couple whose relationship is put to the test after a Black woman is sexually assaulted and her white boyfriend drives her from hospital to hospital in search of a rape kit. Their story reveals the systemic injustices and social conditioning women face when navigating sex and consent within the American patriarchy. Winner of top prizes at the BlackStar and New Orleans Film Festivals, this gripping social thriller offers a unique exploration of institutional racism and sexism from a Black woman's point of view. Content warning: This film includes a depiction of sexual assault.



## She Paradise

Samuel Goldwyn Films

17 year old Sparkle discovers a free spirited group of Soca dancers at a car show in the bustling streets of downtown Trinidad. Enamored by the glimpse of sisterhood, she uses her wit to convince them to take her under their wing. The women bring Sparkle into a dizzying nightlife of partying, glamour, and money, but as things spiral out of control, Sparkle is forced to make some tough decisions.

## Rising Free

Bridgestone Multimedia Group

In 1887, a young woman, Nakomay, is on the run for her life throughout the vast terrain of the Oregon territory. Relentless persecution and devastating adversity drove her to a life of seclusion, having everyone she ever loved stripped from her grasp. A harrowing journey leads her into the arms of a gracious family that takes her in as one of their own. Over time, she begins to process through the pain she's buried deep within, learning what it truly means to have hope, forgiveness, and overwhelming mercy. Fate strikes on the heels of her own salvation, and once more she finds herself amid increasing danger of being sold and further stripped of the new life she has come to know. With the weight of the world on her shoulders and her faith tested to the limits, she is faced with the decision to wholly embrace and stand on the truth she's come to know or surrender to the shadows of darkness that loom over her.

## Olympic Dreams

Madman Entertainment

Set against the splendour of the Winter Olympic Games, an intimate and unexpected love story develops between two lonely hearts, each at their own crossroads in life. Penelope (Alexi Pappas) is a first time Olympian and introverted cross-country skier, who, after finishing her event early on in the games, finds herself spending time in Athletes Village with the gregarious and outgoing volunteer dentist, Ezra (Nick Kroll). While both are eager to form connections at the Olympic Games, they are held back by the very thing that has propelled them to this point; what do you do once your lifelong dream has come true, and you're faced with taking the next step? As Penelope and Ezra navigate the vulnerable slopes, they push one another to embrace qualities they lost sight of in pursuit of their dreams. Will they be able to help each other take a leap of faith into the unknown? The first movie ever filmed on location during the Olympics in Athletes Village, OLYMPIC DREAMS offers audiences a never-before-seen side of the Games and the people whose entire lives are shaped by them.



## Amazon Adventure

Principal Media

Amazon Adventure tells the exciting story of Henry Bates' fascinating 11-year journey through the perilous Amazon rainforest as a young man who risks his life for science.

## Paper Champions

Umbrella Entertainment

Rey is a regular guy, working a regular job, living a regular life. After spending 10 years in a job he doesn't like, he realises all of his skills can be summed up in a pamphlet. A surge of inspiration causes Rey to quit, forcing him further outside his comfort zone than he's ever ventured before. Slowly, Rey's life begins to take shape, but not without the help of his old work colleague and best mate Wade: a big man, with an even bigger heart. After a backyard rugby incident involving Wade's cousins, Rey is rushed to the local clinic where he meets Holly. There is immediate chemistry between the two but Rey is unable to muster up the courage to ask Holly on a date. Wade and his cousins explain to Rey that he needs to find his Mana. To have Mana implies influence, authority, and efficacy--the ability to perform in a given situation. Rey sets out in search of his Mana with some help from his mum's new lover Terry. Being an ex-wrestler himself, Terry thinks he has the key to bringing Rey out of his shell. In the ropes of Terry's wrestling ring, Rey begins to find his Mana. After putting an old man in a coma, Rey crosses paths with Holly once again. Using his newfound confidence, Rey asks Holly out on a date. But just as their relationship begins to blossom, his old anxieties get the best of him. In a quirky and loveable story, Rey must rely on a Polynesian family, a Spanish dance teacher, an ex-wrestler, and all of his friends to help him become the Paper Champion.

## The Seventh Day

Madman Entertainment

A renowned exorcist teams up with a rookie priest for his first day of training. As they plunge deeper into hell on earth, the lines between good and evil blur, and their own demons emerge.



## Anesthesia

Vendetta Films

While on his way home one evening, Walter Zarrow (Sam Waterston), a popular Columbia University philosophy professor, is violently attacked on the street. Flash back one week, as actor-director Tim Blake Nelson traces the domino effect of events that led up to this seemingly senseless assault. Along the way, hidden connections between a seemingly disparate group of people including a self-destructive student (Kristen Stewart), a hard-drinking suburban housewife (Gretchen Mol), and a desperate junkie (K. Todd Freeman) - emerge, forming a complex, engrossing mosaic of lost souls united by tragedy. The stellar ensemble cast also includes Glenn Close and Michael K. Williams.

## The Girl in the Book

Vendetta Films

Set in the cut-throat world of New York publishing, 'THE GIRL IN THE BOOK' follows Alice Harvey (Emily VanCamp, 'CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR'), the daughter of a powerful book agent, who finds herself trapped in a job as a junior book editor while trying to overcome her own writer's block. When Alice is unexpectedly asked to manage the re-release of a bestselling novel based on incidents in her own life, the book's author (Michael Nyqvist, 'THE MILLENIUM TRILOGY') reenters her life and opens a door to painful memories from her past. Alternating between past and present, Alice must find the strength to face the troubling events she has kept hidden all these years and to make decisions that will ultimately dispel her demons. Helped by her best friend, Alice starts to find her own voice, trust herself once again and re-engage in life, love and becoming the writer she always longed to be.

## Lucy Shimmers and the Prince of Peace

Bridgestone Multimedia Group

Second chances start when a hardened criminal crosses paths with a precocious little girl who, with the help of an angel, is on a mission to change hearts and mend relationships during the holiday season. When little Lucy unexpectedly becomes critically ill and ends up in the hospital just before Christmas, she's determined to spread her infectious love to everyone she meets - including, a stubborn prisoner suffering from kidney failure and the pain of a broken relationship with his family. The two of them form an unexpected friendship that transcends stereotypes and transforms his life. Lucy's child-like faith teaches everyone around her that Christmas miracles really can happen.

## Shit & Champagne

Utopia

When the drug-lords of the underworld kill your fiancée and your sister, and the cops stand idly by and do nothing, there's only one thing left to do...dance! D'Arcy Drollinger's tribute to female empowerment, television heroines and the low-budget exploitation films of the 1970's, delivers high-kicking, ass-whooping comedy. After her fiancée, Rod, and her half-sister, Brandy (the world renowned calf model) are both brutally murdered, Champagne Horowitz Jones Dickerson White (a divorcee and exotic dancer from the wrong side of the tracks) uses "all the right moves" to single-handedly take on the largest sex, drug and back-to-school clothing ring in the country, Mall-Wart. But when her best friend becomes addicted to booty bumps and is forced to work as a Mall-Wart brand discount prostitute, Champagne has no other choice than to go undercover and infiltrate the corrupt organization. Using an arsenal of disguises, a plethora of kung-fu moves and a cornucopia of one-liners, Champagne dances her way down the fast and furious road to revenge.



## Rent-A-Pal

Umbrella Entertainment

Set in 1990, a lonely bachelor named David (Brian Landis Folkins) searches for an escape from the day-to-day drudgery of caring for his aging mother (Kathleen Brady). While seeking a partner through a video dating service, he discovers a strange VHS tape called RENT-A-PAL. Hosted by the charming and charismatic Andy (Wil Wheaton), the tape offers him much-needed company, compassion, and friendship. But, Andy's friendship comes at a cost, and David desperately struggles to afford the price of admission.

## Passenger Side

h264

On the morning of his thirty seventh birthday Michael Brown receives a telephone call from this estranged brother Tobey, which sends the two off on a day-long odyssey across a wild and weird Los Angeles in search of Tobey's "reason for living." Behind the wheel of a beat up old BMW, fuelled by hilarious banter and a killer soundtrack, the brothers' search leads them through a bizarre, beautiful land filled with surprising, comical characters to a very unexpected and magical destination.

## Above Suspicion

Madman Entertainment

Based on the chilling true story of a newly married FBI poster boy assigned to an Appalachian mountain town in Kentucky. There, he is drawn into an illicit affair with an impoverished local woman who becomes his star informant. She sees in him her means of escape; instead, it is a ticket to disaster for both of them. This scandal shook the foundations of the nation's top law enforcement agency, ending in the first-ever conviction of an FBI agent for murder.

## God's Fool

Bridgestone Multimedia Group

GOD'S FOOL is a new story about an old saint. Our story begins as St. Francis of Assisi's life is coming to an end. His life and legacy send a ripple through time to present day New York City sending the son of a business tycoon on a quest to follow in Francis's footsteps. As he begins a mystical journey he follows St. Francis right into the heart of Jesus, where he falls head over heels in love with God after discovering God is head over heels in love with him.



## Limelight

Mk2 Films

Calvero, once a famous Music Hall star, now a washedup old man, saves a neighbor from suicide. He nurtures the young ballerina with paralyzed legs back to health, and helps her regain her self-esteem, so that she may return to the stage. In this film Chaplin intimately and poignantly explores the twilight years of glory: what it means to be forgotten, to despair, and how to gather the strength to overcome. Chaplin also offers Buster Keaton a highly memorable appearance in their musical duet.

## Quicksand

NYX Channel

After taking 20 dollars from his employer to go on a date with plans to repay it the next day, an auto mechanic falls into increasingly disastrous circumstances for more and more money which rapidly spirals out of his control.

## The Intruder

NYX Channel

A man in a gleaming white suit comes to a small Southern town on the eve of integration. He calls himself a social reformer. But what he does is stir up trouble--trouble he soon finds he can't control.