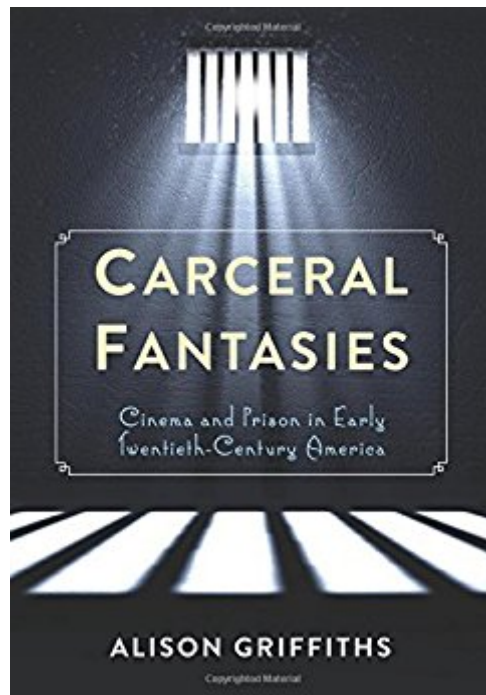


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# Carceral Fantasies: Cinema And Prison In Early Twentieth-Century America (Film And Culture Series)



## Synopsis

A groundbreaking contribution to the study of non-theatrical film exhibition, *Carceral Fantasies* tells the little-known story of how cinema found a home in the U.S. penitentiary system and how the prison emerged as a setting and narrative trope in modern cinema. Focusing on films shown in prisons before 1935, the book explores the unique experience of viewing cinema while incarcerated and the complex cultural roots of cinematic renderings of prison life. Considering a diverse mix of cinematic genres, from early actualities and reenactments of notorious executions to reformist exposés of the 1920s, *Carceral Fantasies* illuminates how filmic representations of the penal system enacted ideas about modernity, gender, and the public, providing a surprising account of how incarceration shaped the social experience of cinema.

## Book Information

File Size: 4778 KB

Print Length: 472 pages

Publisher: Columbia University Press (July 26, 2016)

Publication Date: July 26, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01F1G6FHO

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #842,996 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #54

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Photography > Cinematography #55

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