

## **German movies to watch for FLEX Week:**

All these movies are in German, but you may watch them with English subtitles

They are movies Frau Bauer has seen and approves of. If you ever want to discuss them, feel free.

They are actual movies made in Germany, not documentaries

Most have won awards, and I want you to see life in Germany through them

Sorry, most of them are rated R for violence, nudity, and language. Be warned. The only terrible one is the Baader Meinhof Complex, the others aren't much worse than what you normally watch or see on TV.

7 Dwarves (7 Zwerge) NR, language, sexual innuendo

on instant Netflix

Frau Bauer has the 2<sup>nd</sup> one.

A hilarious movie that depicts the 7 dwarves and Snow White. It is a lot different than the original and it has stupid humor.

The Baader Meinhof Complex – violence!! rated R

on instant Netflix

School library has 3 copies

Racine Main library has a copy

A great film, but quite brutal and bloody. Be ready! It is a true story (really!, not based on a true story) based in the 1960's in West Germany. It is about this group called The Baader Meinhof gang. They don't trust democracy; they fear another Hitler type person is going to come to power, so they take violent steps to assure that won't happen.

Die Fetten Jahre sind vorbei: The Edukators rated R

on instant Netflix

Our library has a copy

An interesting film. Two boys don't trust the democratic government. After WW2 many people who fought as Nazis were placed into the democratic government. (There was no one else to rule the country). The next generation spoke against this and had rallies and all that jazz against it. This movie shows a group of kids from the third generation. The second generation is now in political office and is acting like the people they rallied against. The kids in the movie (3<sup>rd</sup> generation) take it upon themselves to break into the houses of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation and remind them that they are no better. The kids end up getting caught and things go haywire.

Go for Zucker (Alles auf Zucker) not rated

on instant Netflix

our library has a copy

A comedy about a guy whose mother passes away and he is about to get a fortune from her. There is a stipulation to the will however. He is from the East and he must get along with his brother from the West (now one Germany) who is a devout Jew for a week. Oh yea, Zucker, the main character is a gambler and pool shark.

Good Bye Lenin! – one nude scene -- rated R

On Netflix

Can get from Twin Lakes library, Racine Main Library  
our library has a copy

A funny film about a mother from East German who has just woken from a coma. She fought for Communism and completely believed in it. She woke up after the wall came down and there is one democratic Germany. Her son doesn't want to tell mom what happened, so he tries to make her home a little communist area by finding old communist tv programs and food products.

In July (Im Juli) -- language, drugs -- Rated R

on Netflix

our library has a copy

a romance about a girl who likes a guy who likes a different girl. The first girl and guy end up going to Turkey together and an adventure ensues.

Kebab Connection – smoking, not rated

on Netflix

Our library has a copy

This is a hilarious movie about teenage boy, who wants to make Kung Fu commercials and ends up getting his girlfriend pregnant. He has to decide what to do with his future. The movie also explores the relationship between the German Turks and native Germans.

The lives of others (Das Leben der Anderen) rated R sexuality/nudity

on Netflix

our library has a copy

Genoa City Public Library, Racine Main Library

This is a powerful political thriller. I couldn't turn away. The movie takes place in East Berlin (GDR) while the wall was up. The movie shows what influence the Stasi and what the Stasi did to people. Sadly, what the movie depicts really happened. The movie's main characters are a director and his girlfriend. The head of the Stasi has a crush on the girlfriend, so he has the director watched for anti-GDR activity. The Stasi official who watches him firmly believed that the Stasi was great and wonderful, but as the story develops he questions the Stasi's unfair treatment.

Marx & Coca cola NR – very clean

our library has a copy

A romance that takes place in East Germany just after the wall came down. The guy is from West Germany and he believes that the West is superior and the East needs the West to survive. The girl is from the East and was in the Socialist Party and firmly believed everything that the East stood for. She continues to do things the 'Eastern' way and resents the guy for forcing her to become westernized when things have worked just fine in the East for many years. Will they overcome their differences and hook up??

Nowhere in Africa (Nirgendwo in Afrika) rated R – (really not that bad, I think R for the 2 sex scenes)

Can watch instantly on Netflix

Can get from Southwest library, Racine Main Library, Barrett Memorial Library (Williams Bay)

During WW2 some Jewish families were lucky enough to escape before life became too unsafe for them. Many Jewish Germans escaped to Africa. This movie is a touching story about a well to do Jewish family who escapes to Kenya, and about how they survive away from their homeland and family during a terrible war. The most difficult part about understanding this movie is that there are three languages spoken, German, the Kenyan dialect and English. It is important to understand that the family does not understand Kenyan or English at the beginning of the film. The three languages are often intertwined.

Run Lola Run (Lola rennt) – language – rated R

On Netflix

Can get from Salem Library, Twin Lakes Library

Frau Bauer has a classroom copy (tape)

Can get from Southwest library, Lake Geneva Public Library, Racine Main Library,

A great film about the “what if’s” of living. What if one could go back and do something differently?

The Welle (the wave)

on Netflix

In the German Gymnasium towards the end of the year many schools have something called project week. It is a week devoted to one topic of a student’s choice. One of the topics the students could pick in this movie is autocracy and what it means. The students quickly learn all the characteristics of a dictatorship and the teacher takes it one step further and involves the students in a simulation of a dictatorship to show them what it means and how it feels. The students and teacher unknowingly get wrapped up in the simulation and the simulation becomes part of their lives and has disastrous results. It is an amazing film that I highly recommend and it is based on a real story that happened in California in 1969.

German Movie Review Sheet

Watch any of the German movies from the recommended sheet and write a review. You may watch the movie with friends; however you may not fill out this sheet together. You each must come up with your own opinions.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Summarize the movie in approximately 5 sentences. Include something about the ending, so I know you watched the entire movie.

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How many stars does the movie get out of 5? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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