

VIDEOS for PREPARING for YOUR OWN DEATH

MY FAVORITE * MOVIES ABOUT DEATH

- ** (1) **DEPARTURES** (Japanese: A lovely film about a young musician who finds work ritually preparing bodies after death. 2009 Academy Award for best foreign film. Shows Japanese cremation ceremony.)
- ** (2) **TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE** (a young man visits and learns from his dying former professor)
- * (3) **CHERRY BLOSSOMS** by German director Doris Dorrie (who directed Enlightenment Guaranteed) (a sweet and moving film about remembering someone who has died, shows Japanese cremation ceremony.)
- * (4) **AWAY FROM HER** with Julie Christie (shows intermittent mind gaps and twists of Alzheimer's well and the dilemmas of the one left behind)
- * (5) **WIT** with Emma Thompson (Very potent, asks how would we like to die if we have a choice?)
- * (6) **ON OUR OWN TERMS: Bill Moyers on Dying** (part on choices near the time of death)
- * (7) **PONETTE** (French with subtitles. A moving film about a young child's coming to terms with her mother's death. Child too young to read the script won best actress at Venice film festival)
- * (8) **Why Bodhidharma Came to the West** (a Korean film about a Buddhist priest's death, extremely beautiful throughout, a visual poem – it shows a powerful cremation scene. A bit long for some people.)
- * (9) **What Dreams May Come** (Robin Williams; one of the most stunning depictions of hell and of depression I've ever seen, relevant to reincarnation questions)
- * (10) **Defending Your Life** (Meryl Streep: also relevant to reincarnation and what "counts" in this life)

TO WATCH BEFORE THE 3rd CLASS

*** **How to Die in Oregon** - an intimate and moving documentary about people in the process of utilizing the Oregon Death with Dignity Law

TO WATCH BEFORE THE LAST (FOURTH) CLASS

*** **LIFE AFTER LIFE** with Raymond Moody (an older somewhat fuzzy movie with very interesting and credible people recounting near death experiences. Find on Amazon Prime or free at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z56u4wMxNlg> OR <https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/life-after-life/>)

Other movies you might like

- (11) **The Diving Bell and the Butterfly** (a man imprisoned in a paralyzed body)
- (12) **Bang the Drum Slowly** with Robert DeNiro
- (16) **Ikiru** (directed by Kurasawa. B&W about a man who has been a mindless functionary and, after learning he has a short time to live, decides to do one meaningful thing in his life.)
- (18) **Sweet November** (actress Charlize Theron)
- (19) **Illusions** (Kirk Douglas's last film - all life is a brief flicker in the dark, an illusion)

FUNNY MOVIES ABOUT DEATH

- ** (1) **HAROLD and MAUDE** (a sweet and funny classic that everyone should see.)
- (2) **My Boyfriend's Back from the Dead** (comedy --a personal and somewhat zany favorite of mine)