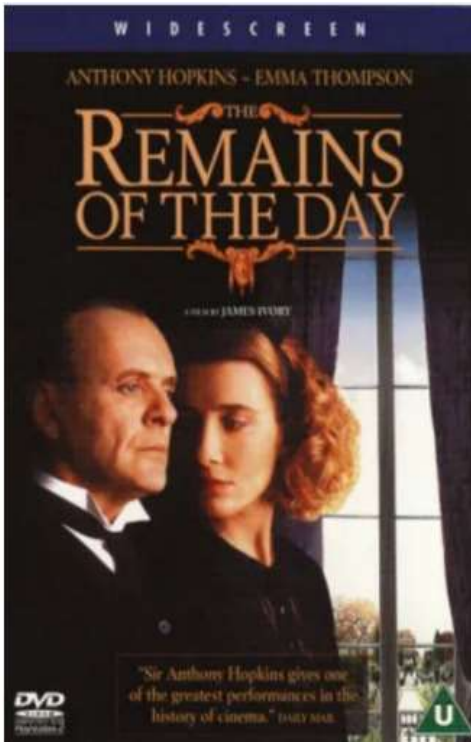


The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **The Remains of the Day**



ISBN: 5035822966536

Information

Release **Title:** The Remains of the Day 12th November 1993
(United Kingdom)

Origin: United Kingdom, United States

From:

AKA:

Release date: United States – 25th October 1993 (Beverly Hills, California, Premiere)

Genres: Drama, Romance

Disc Nos. - 1

Certification: U

Duration: 2h 14m

Region Code:

Region: 2

Product Code:

MPN:

EAN:

UPC:

Languages: English, German, French

Filming locations: Dyrham Park, Dyrham, Gloucestershire, England, UK (Darlington Hall: driveway and exterior of the Mansion)

Sound mix: Mono

Colour: PAL

Aspect Ratio: 2.39:1

Library Image



1 - Title: The Remains of the Day

Storyline

The novel tells, in first-person narration, the story of Stevens, an English butler who has dedicated his life to the loyal service of Lord Darlington (who is recently deceased, and whom Stevens describes in increasing detail in flashbacks). As the work progresses, two central themes are revealed: Lord Darlington was a Nazi sympathizer; and Stevens is in love with Miss Kenton, the housekeeper at Darlington Hall, Lord Darlington's estate.

The novel begins in 1956, with Stevens receiving a letter from a former colleague, the housekeeper Miss Kenton, describing her married life, which Stevens believes hints at an unhappy marriage. Furthermore, Darlington Hall is short-staffed and could greatly use a skilled housekeeper like Miss Kenton. Stevens starts to consider paying Miss Kenton a visit. His new employer, a wealthy American named Mr. Farraday, encourages Stevens to borrow his car to take a well-earned vacation—a "motoring trip". Stevens accepts, and sets out for Clevedon, North Somerset, where Miss Kenton (now Mrs. Benn) lives.

During his journey, Stevens reflects on his unshakable loyalty to Lord Darlington, who had hosted lavish meetings between German sympathizers and English aristocrats in an effort to influence international affairs in the years leading up to the Second World War; on the meaning of the term "dignity" and what constitutes a great butler; and on his relationship with his late father, another "no-nonsense" man who dedicated his life to service. Ultimately, Stevens is forced to ponder Lord Darlington's character and reputation, as well as the true nature of his relationship with Miss Kenton. As the book progresses, evidence mounts of Miss Kenton's and Stevens' past mutual attraction and affection.

While they worked together during the 1930s, Stevens and Miss Kenton failed to admit their true feelings toward each other. Their conversations as recollected by Stevens show a professional friendship which at times came close to blossoming into romance, but this was evidently a line that neither dared cross. Stevens in particular never yielded, even when Miss Kenton tried to draw closer to him.

When they finally meet again, Mrs. Benn, having been married now for more than twenty years, admits to wondering if she made a mistake in marrying, but says she has come to love her husband and is looking forward to the birth of their first grandchild. Stevens later muses over lost opportunities, both with Miss Kenton and regarding his decades of selfless service to Lord Darlington, who may not have been worthy of his unquestioning fealty. Stevens even expresses some of these sentiments in casual conversation with a friendly stranger of a similar age and background whom he happens upon near the end of his travels.

This man suggests that it is better to enjoy the present time in one's life than to dwell on the past, as "the evening" is, after all, the best part of the day. At the end of the novel, Stevens appears to have taken this to heart as he focuses on the titular "remains of the day", referring to his future service with Mr. Farraday and what is left of his own life.

Cast

Mr. Stevens, the narrator, an English butler who serves at Darlington Hall; a devoted man with high standards who is particularly concerned with dignity (exemplified by the fact that the reader never learns his first name)

Miss Kenton, the housekeeper at Darlington Hall, later married as Mrs Benn; an extremely capable and dignified servant who helps Mr Stevens manage Darlington Hall. As time passes, she and Mr Stevens develop a long-lasting bond

Lord Darlington, the owner of Darlington Hall. A conference he holds between high-ranking diplomats is ultimately a failed effort toward appeasement talks between English and German powers; this causes his political and social decline

William Stevens (Mr. Stevens senior), the 72-year-old father of Mr Stevens, serving as under-butler; Stevens senior suffers a severe stroke during the conference at Darlington Hall. His son was divided between serving and helping him Senator Lewis, an American senator who criticises Lord Darlington as being an "amateur" in politics

Young Mr Cardinal, the son of one of Lord Darlington's closest friends and a journalist; he is killed in Belgium during the Second World War

M. Dupont, a high-ranking French politician who attends Lord Darlington's conference

On his motoring trip, Stevens briefly comes into contact with several other characters. They are mirrors to Stevens and show the reader different facets of his character; they are also all kind and try to help him. Two in particular, Dr. Carlisle and Harry Smith, highlight themes in the book.

Parents Guide

Certification

Argentina:Atp Australia:G Brazil:12 (DVD rating) Canada:PG Finland:S France:Tous publics Germany:6 Iceland:L India:U Ireland:G Italy:T Japan:G (2018) Netherlands:AL Netherlands:12 (TV rating) Nigeria:G Norway:A Peru:Apt Poland:b.o. (self-applied) Portugal:M/12 (Qualidade) Russia:12+ Saudi Arabia:G Singapore:PG South Korea:15 Spain:T Sweden:Btl Taiwan:R (self-applied) Thailand:u 15+ (self-applied) Turkey:13+ (self-applied) United Kingdom:U United States:PG (certificate #32525)

Sex & Nudity –None **Violence & Gore** – None **Profanity** – None **Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking** – Mild **Frightening & Intense Scenes** - None

MPAA Rated PG for themes

