

The film of the week: GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK

by George Clooney

“This might just do nobody any good. At the end of this discourse, a few people may accuse this reporter of fouling his own comfortable nest^[1], and your organization may be accused of having given hospitality to heretical and even dangerous ideas. But the elaborate structure of networks, advertising agencies and sponsors will not be shaken^[2] or altered. It is my desire, if not my duty^[3], to try to talk to you journeymen^[4] with some candor about what is happening to radio and television. And if what I say is responsible, I alone am responsible for^[5] the saying of it. Our history will be what we make of it. And if there are any historians about 50 or 100 years from now, and there should be preserved the kinescopes of one week of all three networks, they will there find, recorded in black and white and in color, evidence of decadence, escapism and insulation^[6] from the realities of the world in which we live. We are currently wealthy, fat, comfortable and complacent^[7]. We have a built-in^[8] allergy to unpleasant or disturbing information. Our mass media reflect this. But unless we get up off^[9] our fat surpluses^[10] and recognize that television, in the main, is being used to distract, delude^[11], amuse and insulate us, then television and those who finance it, those who look at it and those who work at it, may see a totally different picture too late.”
Edward R. Murrow.

That’s the first part of the meeting which Ed R. Murrow shocked us with. His

words hit our minds as bullets. “Good night and good luck” takes place at the beginning of journalism, in North America, during the fifties. It’s a true story based upon a dispute between Senator McCarthy and a famous and respectable anchor man from the CBS, Edward R. Murrow. Directed by George Clooney, the cast includes David Strathairn, Patricia Clarkson, George Clooney, Jeff Daniels, Robert Downey JR. and Frank Langella. We thoroughly^[12] recommend this film. If you like deep down stories, this is one of those. Don’t miss it!

[1] Fouling his own nest: Tirar piedras sobre su propio tejado. (lit) ensuciar su propio nido.

[2] To be shaken: Ser sacudido

[3] If not my duty: si no mi obligación.

[4] Journeyman: Oficial (en un oficio). Buen trabajador.

[5] Responsible for doing sth: Encargado de hacer algo.

[6] Insulation: Aislamiento.

[7] Complacent: Satisfecho de sí mismo.

[8] Built-in: Intrínseco, inherente, innata.

[9] To get up off: Deshacerse de, quitarse algo de encima.

[10] Surplus: Excedente, superávit, sobrante.

[11] Delude: Engañar.

[12] Thoroughly: (adv.) A conciencia, a fondo, enormemente.