

## Document Citation

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Thursday, April 4 (7:30)  
[Washington Film Reviewers]

Paul Attanasio introduces:

- *In a Lonely Place* (1950, Santana) ●  
Director: Nicholas Ray. Writers: Andrew Solt & Edmund H. North. Photographer: Burnett Guffey. With: Humphrey Bogart, Gloria Grahame, Frank Lovejoy. (93 min., 35mm; LC print in the AFI/Columbia Collection)

*In a Lonely Place* is part murder mystery, part romance, part Hollywood satire, but overriding all is its relentless character study. It's among Nicholas Ray's most personal work, typically focusing on an outsider distrustful to the point of psychosis. The film now seems inconceivable without Humphrey Bogart who, playing a screenwriter whose history of violence makes him a murder suspect, gives his most haunted performance. Revealing the new depth that characterized his last few years of work, Bogart is a post-Marlowe L.A. outcast, noble and gruff, an intellectual and fistfighter, an idealist and cynic, sick of penning Hollywood fluff. As well as inaugurating guest appearances in the Pickford Theater by Washington film critics, *In a Lonely Place* incidentally serves as a backhanded introduction to our series on American screenwriters. And an alienated lot they look to be, shunned even by autograph hounds: "Don't bother, he's nobody."

Tonight's film was selected and will be introduced by Paul Attanasio, film critic for The Washington Post.