

## Document Citation

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JOHN FORD *HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY* 1941

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## HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY

SUNDAY MARCH 21 AT 7PM

It would be no exaggeration to call Ford's multiple-Oscar winning saga of a struggling Welsh mining family one of the most emotionally resonant and genuinely moving films of the studio era. Like *The Grapes of Wrath* the year before, *How Green Was My Valley* is a triumph of expressive realism that gives emotional depth and dignity to those suffering social injustice, rendering vivid and authentic the difficult lives and plain pleasures of the coal miners

and their families. In his first starring role, child actor Roddy MacDowell poignantly captures the awkward, fragile innocence of youth in his portrayal of a wide-eyed, precocious romantic pulled abruptly into adulthood. Originally assigned to William Wyler, Ford was – incredibly – only appointed at the very last minute to what would become one of his best-known works.

Directed by John Ford. With Walter Pidgeon, Maureen O'Hara, Donald Crisp  
US 1941, 35mm, b/w, 118 min.