

## Document Citation

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Wednesday, May 9

✧ *Ritwik Ghatak: An Unknown Master*  
**THE RUNAWAY**  
(BARI THEKE PALIYE)

1959, Ritwik Ghatak, India, 130 min.  
5:30 only; also May 13.

Ghatak's lightest work, *THE RUNAWAY* follows Kanchan, a ten-year-old boy from a small village who runs away from the cruelty of his father to Calcutta, the dazzling city of his dreams. Gradually he becomes accustomed to the city's rhythms and special

delights, he is befriended by a street peddler ✧ who used to be a school teacher, a gangster, masquerading as a magician, an aging maid-servant, and a wealthy young girl; eventually he returns home and tells his father—who has reconsidered his tyrannical ways—what the city is really like. Narrating his fable from the boy's point of view, Ghatak creates a warm, moving hymn to the incorruptibility of youth.

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