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Letters From My Windmill

(LETTERES DE MON MOULIN)

Written and directed by Marcel Pagnol. Based on stories by Alphonse Daudet. With Henri Vilbert, Daxley, Robert Vattier, and Pierette Bruno. 1954, 116 m., B&W.

In this delightful adaptation of three stories by the noted Provencal writer Alphonse Daudet, a writer goes to an abandoned windmill in Provence and produces three unusual stories. The first segment, "The Three Low Masses," concerns a clergyman who has a mass stolen from him by the devil. In the second, "The Elixir of Father Gauchet," a group of monks manufacture and sell a home-made liquor in order to do the Lord's work, and in "The Secret of Master Cornille," an impoverished miller keeps his windmill sails turning for 18 years under the pretense of grinding flour for a fictional client.