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Academy's "Best Picture"—1931/32

Grand Hotel

Monday, November 9 (7:30) and
Tuesday, November 10 (7:30)

Director: Edmund Goulding. Writer: William A. Drake, based on the novel and play *Menschen im Hotel* by Vicki Baum. Photographer: William Daniels. With: Greta Garbo, John Barrymore, Joan Crawford, Wallace Beery, Lionel Barrymore, Lewis Stone, Jean Hersholt. (1932, MGM; 115 min., 35mm; LC print in the Turner Entertainment Co. Collection)

Even though MGM boasted of "more stars than there are in heaven," it was Irving Thalberg's special inspiration to cast so many of them in one blockbuster film. *Grand Hotel*'s success has made the film's title virtually synonymous with its formula: five characters from all walks of life briefly cross paths as guests in a luxury hotel, then leave to go on with their altered lives.

"*Grand Hotel. Always the same. People come. People go. Nothing ever happens.*"

—Dr. Otternschlag (Lewis Stone), disappointed that he

has received no mail and oblivious of the events around him. "*I want to be alone.*"

—Aging ballerina (Greta Garbo) dismisses Baron von Galgern (John Barrymore) from her room.

"*Here it is, the picture in which you may see Garbo, Crawford, both the Barrymores and Wally Beery in a magnificent two hours you'll never forget. With that cast why wouldn't it be good? Wait a minute, Vicki Baum's successful play was not fool-proof, and Eddie Goulding deserves a cheer for making a smooth running story.*" *Photoplay*, May 1932.

"*When . . . Goulding introduced Barrymore to Miss Garbo, Jack kissed her hand in the John Drew tradition, then said with Victorian politeness: 'My wife and I think you the loveliest woman in the world.'* . . . *'I admired him greatly,' Miss Garbo said. 'Barrymore was one of the very few who had that divine madness without which a great artist cannot work or live.'*" Gene Fowler, *Good Night, Sweet Prince* (Viking Press, 1944).

Greta GARBO • *John* BARRYMORE

GRAND HOTEL

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

Wallace BEERY • Lionel BARRYMORE

THE GREATEST ATTRACTION IN STAGE OR SCREEN HISTORY!

BEGINS TODAY 2:30 P.M. FOR ONE WEEK

This picture will not be shown again in Dallas this season.

ALL SEATS RESERVED

MELBA

MATINEE
2:30 P. M.
Doors Open 2:00
Prices:
50c, 75c, \$1.00

NIGHTS
8:30 o'Clock
Doors Open 8:00
Prices:
50c, \$1.00, \$1.50

Notes from A.M.P.A.S.

10/28 - 11/25 1987