

Spring 5-1-2006

## Movies at the Old Glen Theater

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### Recommended Citation

Peretti, Marilyn (2006) "Movies at the Old Glen Theater," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 26 : No. 2 , Article 28.  
Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol26/iss2/28>

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# Movies at the Old Glen Theater

## Marilyn Peretti

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Tiny yellow twinkles  
light the carpet's thin edge  
of a night-black corridor,  
narrow as a poor man's staircase,  
leading an unknown distance  
and around a corner  
to the holy cool dark  
of the movie house,  
split now into four.  
Sink into lumpy, leathery seats  
to lean back into oblivion of fiction,  
pen-concocted tales  
of someone else's calamities,  
lit up in magnified faces  
jerking and bouncing  
with every hand-honed sentence.  
How tempting to lounge  
in the cushion of film,  
flying me up and away. Two hours  
of laughs, doubts, and loving  
swell in my small head  
just long enough to rearrange  
its moldering contents  
and ignite a few sparks,  
then catapult me out  
through the vacuum tunnel  
into eye-squeezing bright  
to where I came from, contented  
after all.