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Subject: Hotel Rwanda

Posted by [lon](#) on Mon, 13 Jun 2005 03:40:24 GMT

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We don't know. We just don't know what goes on there. But this film has a new currency with the rising problems in Darfur. Don Cheadle plays a hotel manager during the Rwandan genocide. It's an important film to see. And just about everyone can see it. You see it has a PG13 rating. Don't get me wrong. I think this is a positive thing. Remember: Fahrenheit 911 had a restricted rating above this so that young people would not see the aftermath of war. I think that in a picture like this, the actors take a lot of chances for their art. The bad guys in this show are really bad. But there's also Jean Reno ("The Professional", "The Visitors") as the hotel owner who lives in Paris. The thing that struck me about Hotel Rwanda was the use of radio by the ... Hutus... I think... the ones that were bringing the violence. The message of "don't trust your neighbors" "watch the people next door" that sort of thing was particularly effective. I wondered how far we are from that in USA. The picture also reveals that the difference between the factions was microscopic: physical features were measured to define which was which. top bottom, left-right, persecutor or persecuted. And it goes on today. But Hotel Rwanda is the first telling of that time... the only telling in a dramatic form in these 10 and more years. It's important to make it a part of our collective memory. After all, you won't hear about such things on the news; not in any meaningful way.

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