

STEPHEN KING ON SCREEN



Week Nine

Hearts and Domes

Welcome to *Stephen King On Screen*

Week Nine

As we approach the final two weeks of our course, it's time to return to the novels and stories of the last two decades of Stephen King's career.

There is an extraordinary amount of material that has been published in that period and almost every novel (and a healthy amount of the short stories) has been *in development* as a film or TV series during that time. At least half a dozen or more are in active development as we speak.

Fewer, however, have reached the screen to date. Much of that can be attributed to the multiple volumes of *The Dark Tower* saga released in the late 90s and early 2000s.

(Again, out of all that, they've so far managed one 90 minute film!)

But even taking that into account, there have been a huge number of King books that have been struggled over by writers and filmmakers of all stripes, sometimes for years, without ever having been committed to celluloid. Many more have spent years in development as feature films before pivoting to a new ring of development hell as potential television series.

But that doesn't mean we don't have a fair few films and TV shows to get through. We start with *Hearts in Atlantis*, drawn from the novella collection of the same name, look at several television series, both mini and maxi that tackle some, let's face it, hefty books and also compare and contrast two films that feature the same cast – in John Cusack and Samuel L Jackson – but which had very different critical paths.

In our final week, we'll return to an old character that goes back to our very first week and introduce ourselves to a new character (in two very different incarnations) that has loomed large over the last decade of King's writings.

We're nearing the end, but there's still a lot to see.

FILMS WEEK NINE

Film

Hearts in Atlantis (2001) – Dir. Scott Hicks

Riding the Bullet (2004) – Dir. Mick Garris

1408 (2007) – Dir. Mikael Håfström

Cell (2016) – Dir. Tod Williams

TV

Lisey's Story (2021) – Dir. Pablo Larrain

Under the Dome (2013) – Dir. Niels Arden Oplev

11.22.63 (2016) – Dir. Kevin MacDonald