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Jack Lemmon, Shirley MacLaine and Fred MacMurray star in the 1960 movie "The Apartment."

# Shut up and deal for a New Year's Eve tradition – movie-wise

**'The Apartment' is a great way  
to ring in the new year**

**By Cheryl Hoefler**  
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**W**e all have our favorite Christmas movies, but do you have a New Year's Eve one?

"The Apartment" (1960) has been my personal New Year's Eve tradition for as long as I can remember, and well, my favorite movie period. More than that, it's an event unto itself — holiday-wise.

I first fell in love with the movie's theme song, "Jealous Lover," when I heard it on a radio station in the San Francisco area while in college (so, a really long time ago). Once I discovered the movie, there was no looking back.

The story takes place from Nov. 1 to Dec. 31, and is mostly a romance, with a good guy-bad guy twist. The good guy is C.C. "Bud" Baxter (Jack Lemmon), a kind-hearted, mild-mannered (and single) clerk with New York City's Consolidated Life. The bad guy is Baxter's boss, Jeff Sheldrake (Fred MacMurray), a ruthless exec (and married womanizer) at the same insurance company.