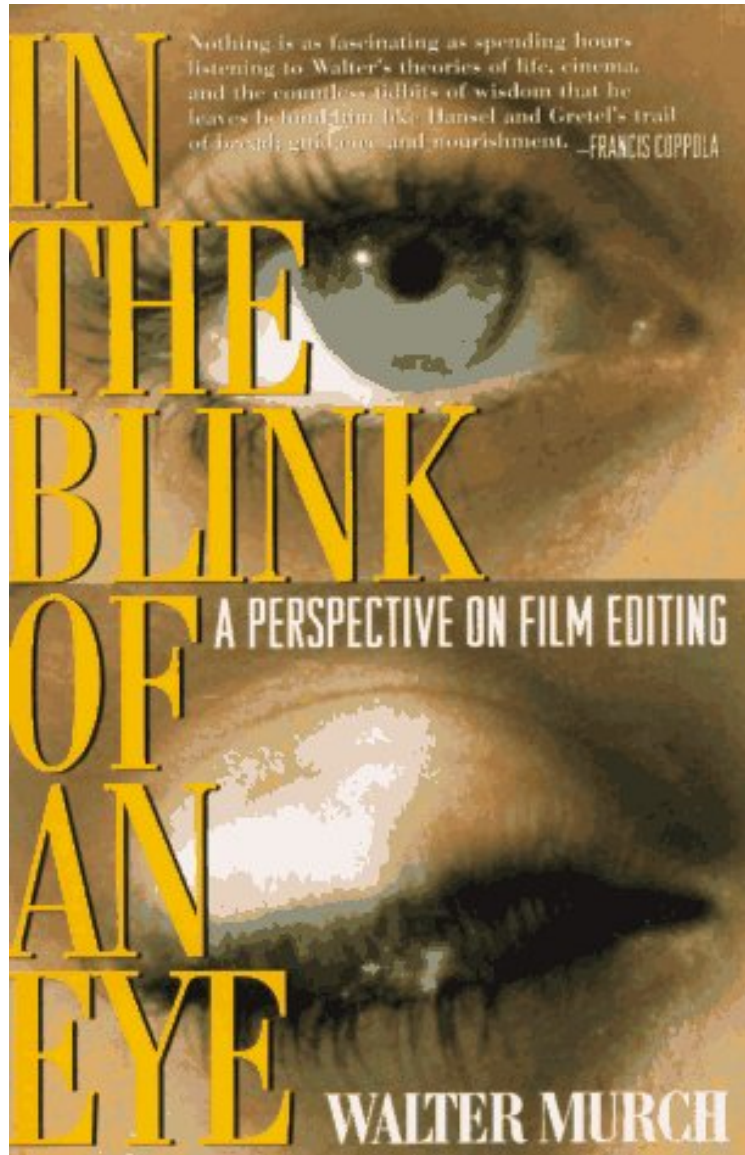


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In the Blink of an Eye: A Perspective on Film Editing

Walter Murch, Francis Ford Coppola

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Walter Murch, Francis Ford Coppola : In the Blink of an Eye: A Perspective on Film Editing before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In the Blink of an Eye: A Perspective on Film Editing:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I definitely recommend for any film editor.By Stephen SchlagerThis is a fantastic book! I am somewhere between a novice and intermediate film editor. The author writes simultaneously

with great clarity and eloquence. His thoughts and tips for editing are insightful and great reminders for anybody who wishes to learn or understand editing better. I am sure expert editors would also enjoy this book written by someone who has had years in the industry and whose career has spanned various emerging technologies. He talks about the movement to digital, and points out that although better in many ways, he gives good advice about the things digital editors give up that the analog systems provided. It's a very interesting read and I just love the way the author thinks, writes, and shares his ideas. As a final thought, I didn't find the last section on digital editing very useful since it was written when digital was just coming onto the scene and much of it is projections the author makes for what is in store for film due to digital editing. The problem with this section is it is now 16 years old and many of the projections have come to pass or are obsolete thoughts. But the first part of the book is worth buying the book as it is laden with conceptual editing practices and ideas.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The classic book By Scott A. Jones What can I say about Walter Murch that others haven't? He is the god of editing. The book doesn't cover how you make cuts. It's not going to cover the mechanics of making J or L cuts. It's not going to talk about simple things. It instead teaches you when to make cut. It contains thoughts and concepts that open up the world editing to you. I recommend it to just editors, but to directors and dops as well. It's money well spent!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Don't blink now! By Anthroposaurus At the start, let me point out that this is not BY Francis Ford Coppola, it is BY Walter Murch. Sponsored initially as a lecture by the Australian Film Commission in 1988, there are many reasons to engage a love-hate relationship with this book. One is the continuous references to film. If you were ever a 35mm film editor (I spent much time with 35mm sound stock beetling along at 30"per second, a threat to all!) then his nostalgic recall of how things used to happen will have you settling comfortably. If you are a newby with a digicam, most of this may pass you by. The fundamental premise is that eye-blinks are key to audience involvement. An editor who cuts without reference to these will leave his audience unmoved. Get the blinks right and the cuts make themselves and subliminally draw the audience in. I am now on a fascinating hunt for the truth. I may never make an equal of "The English Patient", Murch's double-oscar triumph, but I certainly am trying hard not to blink as I attempt to use his insights into the business of editing. Recommended by many film courses, this is a great read, full of anecdotes about films and directors. Every editor should know its thesis, every digicam owner can learn much about the infinitely painstaking effort of good editing.

In *The Blink of an Eye* is celebrated editor Murch's vivid, multifaceted thought-provoking essay on film editing. Starting with the most basic question -- "Why do cuts work?" -- Murch treats the reader to a marvelous "ride" through the esthetics and practical concerns of cutting film. He offers his insights on continuity and discontinuity in editing, dreaming and waking reality; the blink of the eye as both an analog to and an emotional cue for the cut; nonlinear digital editing; and much more.