

Feature

## The Top Ten of 2004

By Ken Tucker



(Photo credit: Courtesy of Fox Searchlight)

1. **Sideways:** A buddy-pic road movie with heartfelt emotion, great wisecracks, and four great performances.
2. **The Incredibles:** What it means to be both exceptional and ordinary in the world; the year's only "family film" that really explored family life.
3. **How to Draw a Bunny:** A mesmerizing documentary about the late Ray Johnson, the founder of "correspondence art," and the mystery surrounding his 1995 death.
4. **Collateral:** Michael Mann pushed Tom Cruise into a new realm of expressiveness in the year's sleekest thriller.
5. **House of Flying Daggers:** A Chinese martial-arts film of great visual beauty with a love story to equal its action scenes.
6. **End of the Century: The Story of the Ramones:** Heartbreaking, exhilarating chronicle of New York's greatest punk band.
7. **Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind:** The apotheosis of the clever date movie, with unexpected bursts of sincerity and surprise.
8. **Kill Bill: Vol. 2:** Quentin Tarantino's conclusion to his revenge film/homage to Uma Thurman's feet, containing, impossibly, more story and just as much action.
9. **A Very Long Engagement:** The extravagantly romantic, comic, tragic saga of one couple separated during World War I.
10. **Fahrenheit 9/11:** Michael Moore's agitprop may have been uneven as moviemaking, but it set the tone for an election year.