# Audience feedback: Night of the Hunter

31 people voted. The breakdown and comments are listed below.

### ‘Excellent’: 17 votes

* What a delight – brilliant
* Brings a whole new realm of possibility to The Waltons. Methinks Mr Laughton was no fan of Disney or Norman Rockwell.
* Superb musical score which depicted the mood of every screen. Black and white is needed for similar films to show the [*?*] story. Children and Lillian Gish were first class.
* Loved it! Really had all the “safe menace” of a fairy story.
* Very good.
* Genuinely gripping for 1955! Mitchum was excellent & definitely a real fairy tale!
* Excellent [for its time]. A pleasure to see a film with a happy ending!
* Scary and engrossing. Loved the wildlife and the music.
* Very enjoyable, very well-acted and filmed. Being black and white added to the atmosphere of the film.
* Wonderful. Interesting to see the visual effects from 1955 – the scene from the barn, the underwater corpse, the bullfrog & owl. And the music – all great. Amazing performances from all, including the kids. Ironic humour, too!
* Great suspense and menace, despite the slightly ridiculously extreme (by modern standards) secondary characters, and indeed the preacher himself.
* Don’t make them like that anymore!
Lillian Gish acts everyone off the screen & only Robert Mitchum could utter those lines. Bible belt America is something else. Fantastic camera work & the life of children is different today? Don’t think so.
* Thought-provoking cheesiness. Just how many hunters and hunted were there?
* Exquisitely evil Mitchum. Utterly terrifying & a great soundtrack added to the horror.
* A really great film.
* Lost art of storytelling.

### ‘Very Good’: 7 votes

* The mix of fairy tale and religious imagery was inspiring (sometimes, with classic films, it is difficult to appreciate how ground-breaking they were and how much they have influenced what came after). Not convinced with the sermonising at the end, though.
* Very well done, but frightening.
* Wonderful atmospheric shots and full of suspense. Rather unsubtle characterisation.
* Beautifully filmed – pantomime quality story, but very tense. So culturally different from present era, it seems more than 50 years old.
* Part fairy tale, part horror! Excellent filming & wonderful performances – especially the children.
* Something wicked this way comes. Don’t make ‘em like that anymore?

### ‘Good’: 5 votes

* A tale of 2/3 good, last 1/3 rather overblown & over directed. Mitcham great!
* What a bastard!! … oops, wrong film.
* Some chilling images

### ‘Satisfactory’: 1 vote

* Badly directed, badly acted and patronisingly scripted (except Mitchum and Gish). Stilted, clichéd and, even for the mid-50s, hopelessly old-fashioned. Some arresting visuals & a good score.

### ‘Poor’: 0 votes

### 1 comment submitted without a vote:

* Not like any other film I’ve ever seen, so unrateable – though obviously the prequel to “Psycho”

Based on the above, the film had an overall score of 4.33.