

schmaltz



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Word of the Day - for Toastmasters everywhere  
*Sunday 24th September 2023*



# **schmaltz**

(noun) SHMALTS

Cloying, exaggerated sentimentality.

Looking for a coming-of-age film that doesn't make you gag on cliché and **schmaltz**?

Unattributed, *The Observer*, 16 March 2008. *Observer*

This is a well-plotted, unexpectedly twisting saga which just about manages to avoid mawkishness and **schmaltz**.

Catherine Taylor, *The Guardian*, 5 January 2008. *Guardian* reviewing Kauai Hart Hemmings' *The Descendants*.

This noxious blend of political zeal and sentimental **schmaltz** was epitomised several years ago when Michael Barrymore threw off his wedding ring in a gay club, to the cheers of assembled young men.

Aidan Rankin, *Spectator*, 25 May 2002. *Spectator*

**Schmaltz** “what my piano teacher, with some desperation, used to urge me to put into my playing” is something that Bill Clinton just oozes. But Hillary doesn’t.

Judith Warner, *The New York Times*, 14 March 2007. *New York Times*

Sebold is as unsparing in the grisly details - a discarded elbow, bloodstains and saliva - as she is on the **schmaltz**.

Lisa Allardice, *New Statesman*, 19 August 2002, *New Statesman* reviewing Alice Sebold's *The Lovely Bones*.