FlickFilter: A Personal Movie & TV Journaling Platform

Summary:
FlickFilter is a personalized journaling platform that helps users log, reflect on, and organize the movies and TV shows they watch. Unlike traditional rating sites like IMDB or Letterboxd, FlickFilter prioritizes self-reflection, multi-tagging, and custom filtering over generic star scoring.

Users can apply their own multi-select custom tags to describe how a film made them feel (e.g., “nostalgic,” “too real,” “made me laugh”), write meaningful private reviews, and organize their experiences into personalized playlists like “Late Night Comfort” or “Best of 2025.” The app supports filtering by multiple tags, enabling users to rediscover the exact kind of experience they’re in the mood for.

Description:
FlickFilter aims to solve a common problem: once people finish watching a movie or show, overtime, they tend to forget what they thought of it or struggle to find content they've liked in the past that fits a specific vibe (e.g., “watch with family,” “late night rewatch,” etc.). Other platforms offer ratings and watchlists, but FlickFilter will actually let users personalize the way they record and filter their experience.

What the App Does:

- Users can log movies and shows they've watched (using data pulled from TMDb)
- They can add personal numerical ratings and a brief text review
- Most importantly, users can create and apply custom tags (e.g, “based on true story,” “rewatchable,” “visually strong”)
- All tags are fully searchable and filterable with multi select (e.g., entries that are tagged with both “comedy” and “sci-fi”)
- Users can group content into custom playlists(e.g.,“Watched in January,” “Top Picks for Road Trips”)
  A word cloud is shown for each movie or show to give a quick visual idea of what themes or traits are most often associated with it.

Creative component:
FlickFilter’s creative component is the combination of a line graph and a word cloud that help users better understand and reflect on what they’ve watched. The line graph displays ratings for each episode of a TV show, making it easy to see how the quality of a series changes over time. This helps users decide whether a show is worth continuing or which episodes stand out. The word cloud shows the most frequently used tags and keywords from reviews, offering a quick visual summary of the themes or tones they associated with a movie or show. Together, these features make the app more insightful and personalized, helping users make better viewing choices based on their own experience.

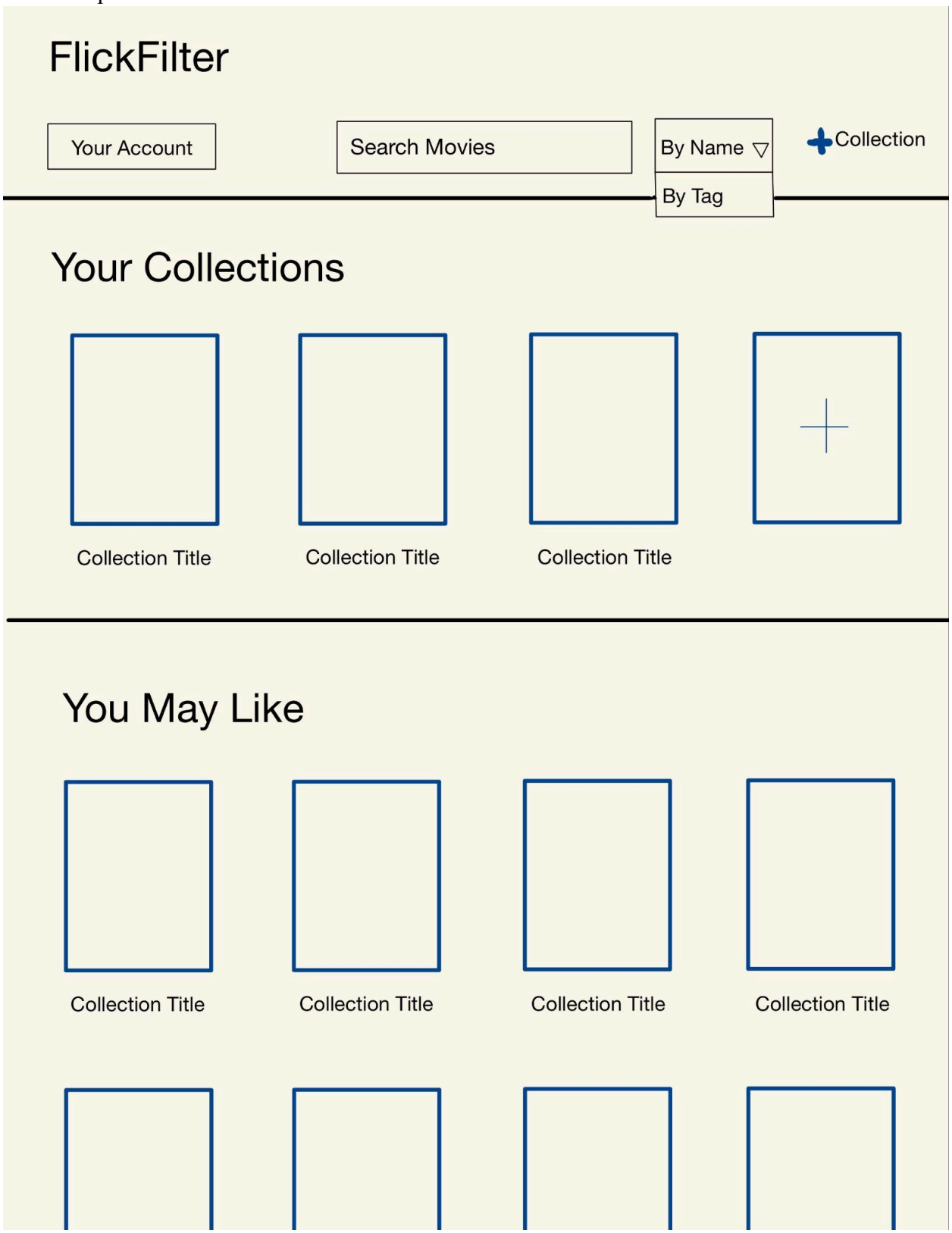
Usefulness:
Our movie journal web application is a platform that allows users to record, reflect on, and organize the movies and TV shows they watch. Users can write journals and reviews for each

movie, create custom playlists, and apply both global tags, which are similar to IMDb's genre and subgenre classifications, and user-defined tags to organize their collections. More complex features include generating word clouds from user comments on hover, displaying line charts to visualize rating trends for TV shows and movies, and a "You May Also Like" section that recommends movies based on the user's most frequently viewed tags, with filters for metrics such as popularity and rating. On the movie detail page, users can view comprehensive movie information including the outline, cast, ratings, reviews, and a recommendation section that suggests other high-rated movies based on shared global tags. While sites like IMDb and TMDb offer reviews and metadata, our application differentiates itself by emphasizing journaling, customizable tagging, and data visualizations that enhance both exploration and reflection.

Realness:
To power our application, we are primarily using real data from TMDb, which offers a comprehensive and developer-friendly API. TMDb provides data in JSON format, including titles, release dates, genres, cast and crew details, poster images, descriptions, reviews, ratings, and many other metrics. These basic metrics fulfill our core requirements, and TMDb also offers additional metrics such as popularity and trending scores, which could support potential advanced features in the future.

Functionality:
Users will be able to sign in and search for movies or TV shows by name. They can create and delete personal playlists, and within each playlist, they can add or remove specific movie or TV show entries. Users can create, apply, and delete their own tags for each media entry, as well as write and update personal ratings and reviews. The platform will include a line graph to display a user's episode ratings for TV shows and a word cloud to summarize commonly used tags and keywords for each media item. Users will also be recommended playlists based on their tag activity or interests, and on each movie or show's detail page, they will receive suggestions for similar content based on shared tags or patterns in their viewing history.

UI mockup:


FlickFilter
Your Account
Search Movies
By Name
By Tag
Collection
Your Collections
Collection Title
Collection Title
Collection Title
You May Like
Collection Title
Collection Title
Collection Title
Collection Title

FlickFilter

Your Account

Search Movies

By Name ▽

By Tag

+ Collection

Collection Title

Collection Description

Search Movie to add

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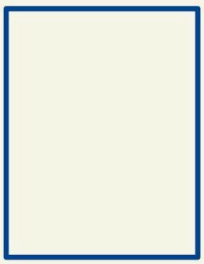
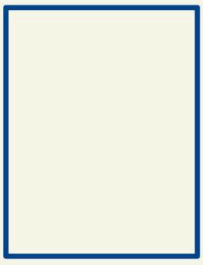


Title

☆ 0.0

add a tag

add a note



Title

☆ 0.0

add a tag

add a note

FlickFilter

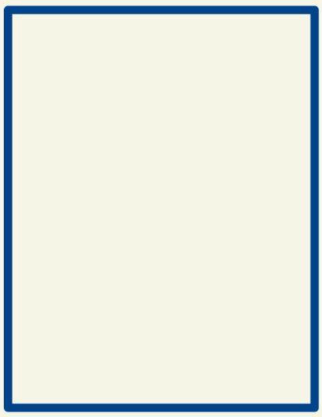
Your Account

Search Movies

By Name ▽

By Tag

Collection



Movie Title

☆ 0.0 Write a Review

Overview

Word cloud Based on Reviews

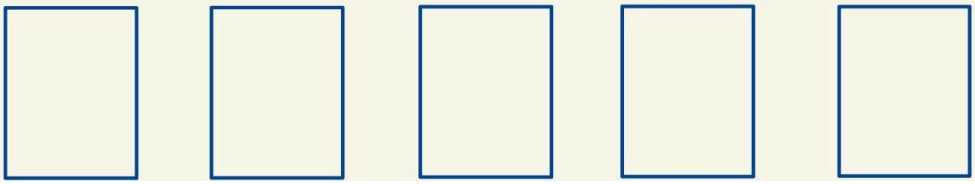
Reviews

Username

☆ 0.0

Review

Others You May Like



FlickFilter

Your Account

Search Movies

By Name ▽

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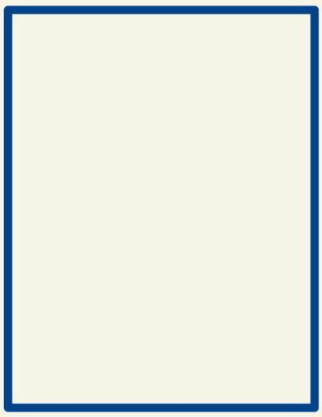


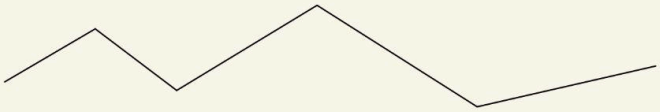
TV Show Title

☆ 0.0 Write a Review

Overview

Word cloud Based on Reviews

Episodes



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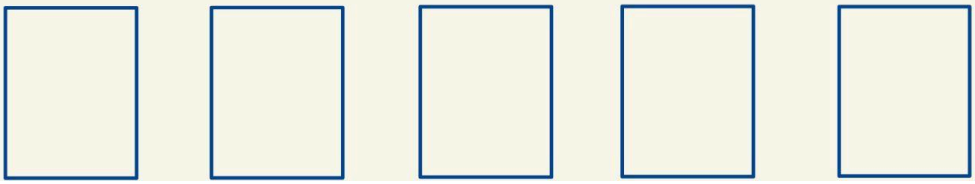
Reviews

Others You May Like



Project work distribution:

1. Handling of user's journal, rating - Aaditya
    - Journal entry system that allow users to write, update, and delete their reviews
    - Rating management system that allows users to submit or update a rating

2. Playlist filtering and movie/TV show tagging - Fiona
    - Adding personalized tags to each movie/TV show, the database will store tags as global / private
    - Filtering by tags inside each playlist will be able to sort by both private and public tags
    - Searching by tags will only search global tags

3. Data visualization and Movie/TV show Recommendation on main page and detail page - Xuhang (Aaron)
    - Data Visualization generates a word cloud and a line chart showing the rating trend for each movie or TV show.
    - The Recommendation Section on the main page suggests movies and TV shows based on the user's most frequently viewed global tags, ordered by metrics of the user's choice.
    - The Recommendation Section on the detail page suggests movies and TV shows based on the tags associated with the specific movie or show being viewed.

4. UI polish and TMDb integration Steven Piotrowski
    - Create a functioning and well put together frontend
    - Setting up API for accessing the database