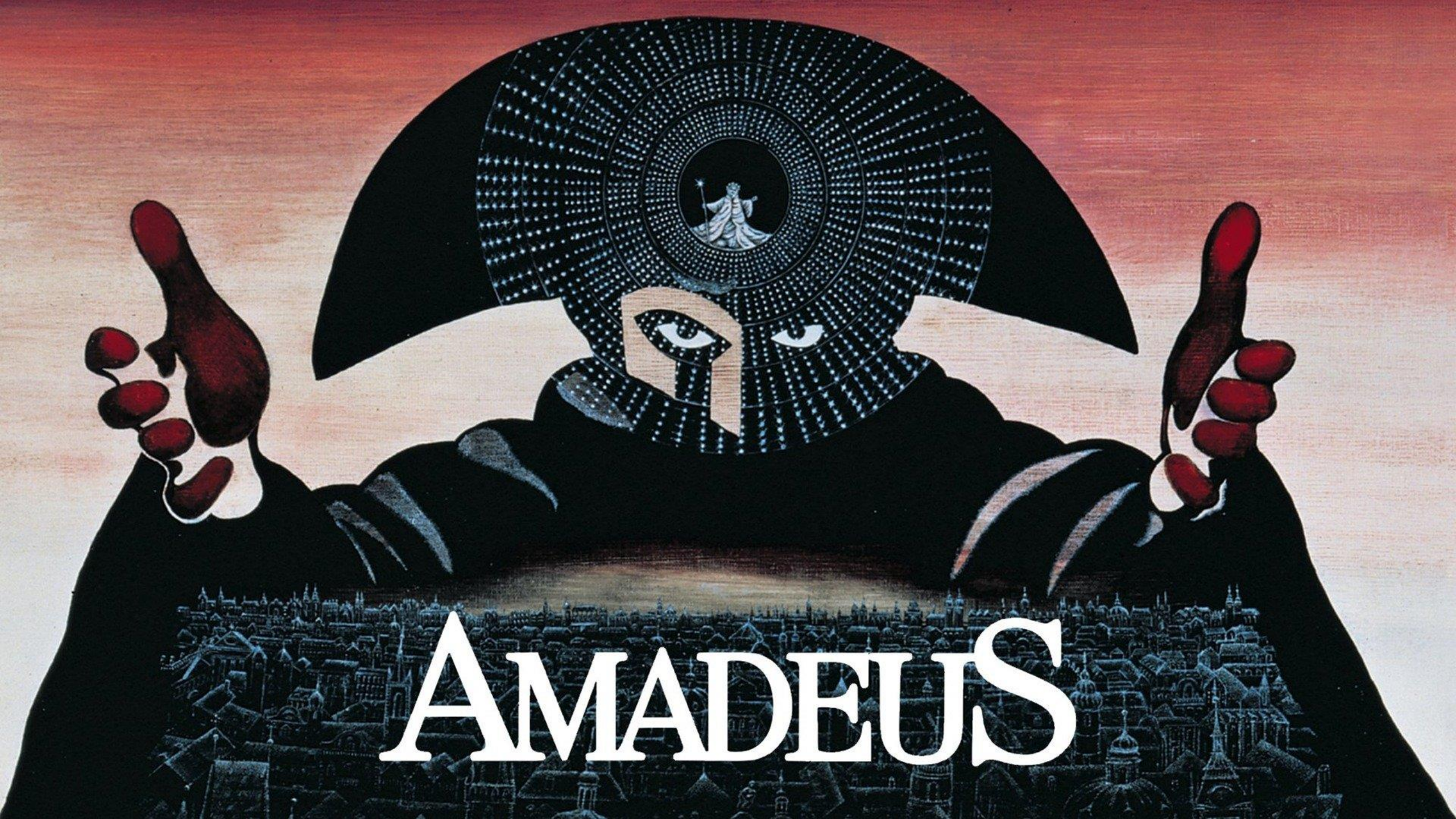


OVERCOMING

ENVY

PSALM 73





AMADEUS



Salieri



Mozart

PSALM 73:1-3 (NIV)

[1] Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. [2] But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. [3] For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.



Pride gets no pleasure out of having something, only out of having more of it than the next man. We say that people are proud of being rich, or clever, or good-looking, but they are not. They are proud of being richer, or cleverer, or better-looking than others. If everyone else became equally rich, or clever, or good-looking there would be nothing to be proud about. It is the comparison that makes you proud: the pleasure of being above the rest. Once the element of competition has gone, pride has gone.

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*



PSALM 73:4-5, 11-12 (NIV)

[4] They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong. [5] They are free from common human burdens; they are not plagued by human ills. ... [11] They say, “How would God know? Does the Most High know anything?” [12] This is what the wicked are like—always free of care, they go on amassing wealth.



PSALM 73:13-14 (NIV)

[13] Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence. [14] All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments.



PSALM 73:16-17A (NIV)

[16] When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply [17] till I entered the **sanctuary** of God...



PSALM 73:17B-20 (NIV)

[17a] ...then I understood their final destiny. [18] Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. [19] How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! [20] They are like a dream when one awakes; when you arise, Lord, you will despise them as fantasies.



Having lived and died as though God were absent, they'll awake from death's short sleep to find their wish eternally fulfilled.

Timothy Kleiser, *The Good Death in Psalm 73*



PSALM 73:21-22 (NLT)

[21] Then I realized that my heart was bitter, and I was all torn up inside. [22] I was so foolish and ignorant—I must have seemed like a senseless animal to you.



pride

greed

Of all the deadly sins, only **envy** is no fun at all.

Joseph Epstein, *Envy*

lust

gluttony

wrath

sloth



PSALM 73:23-24 (NIV)

[23] Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. [24] You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.



PSALM 73:25-26 (NIV)

[25] Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. [26] My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.





re:generation™