If 2020 has taught us anything, it's that making plans about your life only goes so far. As students, in our myopic vision about our future, we convince ourselves that a particular educational route, be it a certain major or institution or the very act of studying abroad, is our only ticket to success.

Perhaps you had your heart set on something since childhood, perhaps your family hammered a plan into your brain or perhaps your friends flying off to some faraway land one after the other made you want to follow suit.

Younger me would probably declare one setback or change of life plan as officially the end of my world but, if my time since graduating school has taught me anything, it's that life always goes on.

No matter where you end up studying, at home or abroad, it's only a miniscule part of all that you are, and all that you can do.

-- Mrittika Anan Rahman, Sub-editor, SHOUT









**MOVIES** 

# HOLIDAY ROM-COMS, MADE BETTER WITH *FOOD*



# **SHOUT DESK**

Winter rolling around makes us want to snuggle up in a blanket and binge our favourite holiday rom-coms. Because every movie marathon needs snacks to complete the experience, here are our expert pairings so you know exactly what to stack up on before you hit play.

# LOVE ACTUALLY

Counting down to Christmas with the OG holiday romance special is practically a tradition at this point. Some hot chocolate bombs should serve well as company for this one.

## A CHRISTMAS PRINCE

A box of decadent shahi tukra will keep you well-fed for the entirety of this light rom-com featuring the atypical story of royalty meets ordinary. After all, there's never enough movies to make about falling in love with a mysterious prince. And what says royalty better than shahi tukra?

#### THE HOLIDAY

What's in a name? Just two classic cases of "boy-meets-girl" taking place over the course of a Christmas vacation. Since Cameron Diaz's impulsive grocery shopping sequence is sure to make you crave some cheese and carbs, we recommend munching on cheese crackers while enjoying this film.

### LAST CHRISTMAS

You'll probably want to pick up a pack of Oreos while watching this romantic comedy of opposites unfold. As you

bite into each biscuit, note how the soft vanilla complements the relatively bitter chocolate, much like the pairing of our protagonists, Kate and Tom.

# LET IT SNOW

Tis the season to discover first loves and grow through first heartbreaks. Settle in with a scoop or two of chocolate chip cookie dough ice-cream on your waffles, as a tribute to the fictional "Waffle Town" of course.

#### VALENTINE'S DAY

Settle in with a box of chocolates because in this movie of assorted stories, you never know what you're going to get next!

You'll laugh, you'll cry, but you won't be disappointed with these stories of love and loss. Watch with a cold pasta salad by your side or else you'll be salivating at Chef Laura's creations throughout the film.

#### **HOLIDATE**

If you're going to experience Sloane's story of the rut she's in, you have to do it her way. So get on the couch with a big bag of potato chips and refuse to move as you watch Sloane and Luke span a calendar year trying to find love.

# **BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY**

This one's an emotional roller-coaster ride. Nothing satiates the soul better than chewy chocolate chip cookies. and what better option than to choose cookie dough, with bits of chocolate chip surprises inside?