

50 FIRST DATES

Review by Gokhra

The Plot: At first glance 50 First Dates is an absurd story. Henry Roth is a Hawaii-based sea-animal caretaker. The movie begins with establishing Henry as a love-em-and-leave-em liar. He shows female tourists a great time and then conveniently leaves with stories like he is gay, married or a secret agent on the run. You excuse his act for reasons explained later on. Of course all this philandering changes when he meets Lucy. Ain't love grand!

Drew Barrymore is Lucy Whitmore, a sweetie pie with a penchant for treating her breakfast waffles like Leggo blocks when Henry meets her in a local diner. They meet, play with their food, flirt and get along great. The next day she has no idea who he is.

Her memory loss is thanks to a car-vs.-cow accident where she suffers from short-term memory loss meaning whatever happens each day she has no recollection the next. When she wakes up each morning, she has forgotten the previous day and thinks it's the same day of her accident. Amazingly, her father Marlin (Blake Clark) and brother Doug (Sean Astin), as well as the workers and

Cast

Henry Roth - Adam Sandler
 Lucy Whitmore - Drew Barrymore
 Ula - Rob Schneider
 Doug Whitmore - Sean Astin
 Alexa - Lusia Strus
 Dr. Keats - Dan Aykroyd

customers of the local diner, play along to help her relive that day over and over. Her father even gives her a copy of that day's newspaper, and he and Doug watch tapes of the same Vikings game and "The Sixth Sense" just to keep her on her routine.

The result is that it's eternally October of last year for the poor girl.

This is the silly part because heck, they can do all kinds of different things. But it does create a good opportunity for Sandler's character to play the good guy by stating the obvious: Gosh, at some point she's going to notice that time has been passing.

Plus, Henry is in love with her, so he's got to

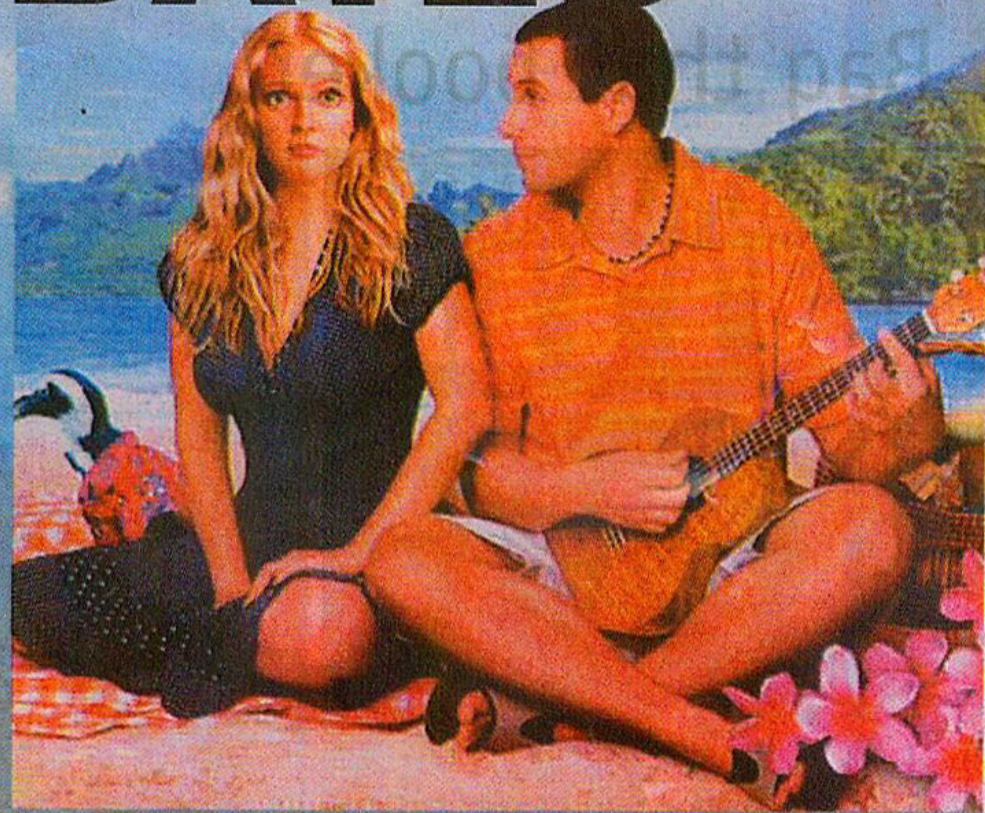


figure out a way to make their life work.

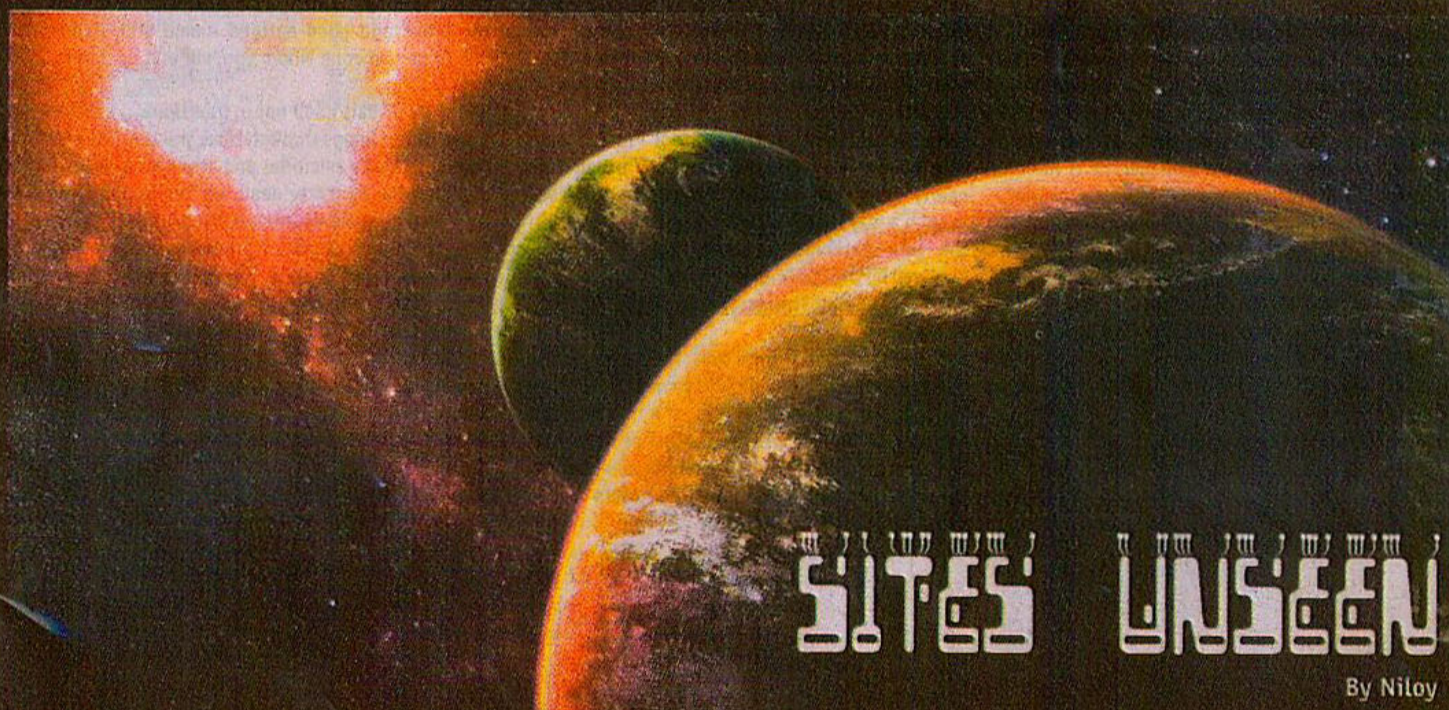
After starting his courtship of Lucy each day from scratch -- the variations are sweet, extremely funny, stupid, and occasionally all three -- he creates an explanatory video with which she can start her morning, get over the necessary trauma, and move on with her life. It's not very believable but very sweet and that is the movie's strong point. There's a real charm to the notion that a couple might share a first kiss every day.

Of course, all good things don't last too long so Lucy decides to break off the relationship because she is worried that taking care of her is keeping Henry from following his dreams. So off goes the guy crying his head off in typical Sandler fashion. But this is not the end.

Aside from the sweetness there are occasional moments of slapstick comedy which

are sometimes a little difficult to swallow, literally. Take for example a walrus gushing out all over Sandler's manly looking female assistant. The reason, she stole Sandler's sandwich. Then there is Rob Schneider doing his comic stunts as weird Hawaiian stoner who thinks sharks are gentle creatures that bite only if you poke their genitals. Yes, he got bitten by one and Sandler the vet patched him up.

The verdict: Sandler's movies always have combined juvenile humor with sentimentality. There's slapstick humor that don't always go well with some viewers. Sandler does not play his usual no brain cell character but rather one that actually comes up with smart ideas. Despite that this movie takes the amnesia plot from a different angle and makes it quite interesting. It's worth the ticket price.



SITES UNSEEN

By Niloy

EVERY once in awhile, I am reminded how amazing and exciting it is to live at a time like this. Think about it, we're disappointed (and I agree, I would like to see higher res photos as well) about the quality of sounds and pictures FROM ANOTHER FREAKING PLANET! (moon, whatever). Seriously, how cool is it we can take that for granted? These images of an alien world, with detail, not some blurry photo from space, are easily available on our computers. I mean, about a hundred years ago, people were amazed by electric lights, and powered aviation had just started. From Kitty Hawk to Titan in a hundred years (+/-)? Un-

freaking-believable! Life is good.

Most of the official pictures are in this NASA site: <http://tinyurl.com/3naaq> Here's this probe from one world, landing on another, and what does it see? <http://tinyurl.com/4qljj> A shoreline! What a wonderful throwback to the age of exploration here on earth. The coolest thing I have seen from the great site gathering these open images is a poster combining and tying together all of the pictures seen so far (2 MB). <http://tinyurl.com/52pm3> Oh, and Maddox has his special exclusive picture from the Titan probe, something "that ESA/NASA doesn't want you to see!" <http://tinyurl.com/6j9vo>

If you feel overwhelmed by all these links to be

typed before you can visit the sites, go to my blog, niloywrites.blogspot.com. The whole Sites Unseen and all these links are over there for your "convenience."

Let's now go on with the regular cool links:

Coolest T-shirts on the planet

<http://www.t-shirthur.com/>

T-Shirt's humour has some of the coolest and funniest t-shirts in the planet. Their t-shirts has cartoons on them and goes like these: "To do list: Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, The blue states, Canada", "Tommy Stick-figure", "not Latte, not Cappuccino, not Espresso, not De-Caf, just regular, FREAKING COFFEE! thank you.", "And an Windows 95 styled

loading box titled "Loading humorous message. Please wait..."

Nothing, and I mean NOTHING, makes a comix less fun than writing the caption down. Maybe reading it aloud is worse. Anyway, the thing is, the t-shirts are especially humorous. Some of them are rude and offensive, but rightfully so.

Outdoor Adventure and Exercise section of a bookstore

<http://tinyurl.com/5849v>

Gaming magazines on the outdoor adventures section? Looks like the bookstores have finally given up.

Bill Gates Poses for a Teen Magazine spread...<http://tinyurl.com/45kvt>

Why, Bill? Why? No, seriously... why?

Bow Man

<http://tinyurl.com/6ohvb>

Fun little game involving two men with bows and arrows, trying to kill each other. Only 34 kb, this game is a must play. There are some difficult features in it, and the game can be played with a friend.

Vegetable Cruelty Militant Movement

<http://www.vegetablecruelty.com/>

"What a terrible sight. This poor fruit is being ripped in half by an evil primate. Very disturbing..." "Caged in and ready to be sent off for torturous cooking. These innocent strawberries don't deserve to die like this! Nobody does." "The world was shocked when it found mass graves in Iraq. How do you feel about finding mass graves in your local supermarket each and every day of the year??" No additional comments.

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<http://www.ringophone.com/TallOrNot.swf>

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