

MOVIE REVIEW



RAGING BULL'S ADORABLE ROLE AS

THE INTERN

MASHIAT LAMISA

"The Intern" is like a berry flavored Fox's candy – the sweet aftertaste of it.

Although under first impressions I thought this movie would be a lot like The Devil Wears Prada and that Anne Hathaway would play the role of a bossed-around intern but boy was I wrong. Mr. Raging Bull Robert De Niro is the intern in this movie, making the screens sparkle with his adorableness and inborn charms.

Hathaway plays the founder of an online clothing store - a heavily burdened workaholic who rides a bicycle inside the office and has a house husband who doesn't mind looking after their only daughter or doing the laundry while she's at the office (which is one of the reasons why I would call this movie a subtly humorous fantasy). Whereas, Ben (De Niro) is the new intern joining the office and winning everyone's hearts with his clean handkerchiefs, pressed pocket squares and a very grandpa-ish smile.

Director Nancy Meyers has worked her magic in making the film turn into a kind of a feel-good fantasy. With a quarter of the movie working on the adorable on-screen relationship between Hathaway and De Niro, a quarter emphasising on gender roles and the balance between work and love and another quarter turning into a melodramatic episode, this movie is a little bit of a cliché but

obviously one that you might want to love and laugh to. It's De Niro on a Meyers comedy - what more do you expect?

Meyers drops subtle bombs of her sense of feminism and gender stereotypes here and there. Like the time Hathaway leaves her half eaten breakfast bowl for her husband to clean up or the time she delivers a wince-worthy sermon to her male colleagues at the bar. At one point in the movie, it feels like Meyers is crying out for the old fashioned gentlemen's comeback and expressing her almost negative feelings for the boys of the 21st century who would rather like spending their time on Minecraft and Clash of Clans than ironing their handkerchiefs.

Other than the extremely chic wardrobe of the whole cast, I think the best thing about The Intern is the genuine friendship between old man Ben (De Niro) and younger woman Jules (Hathaway) which is unusual but adorable.

With a few "aww" and a few more grunts, you might want to watch this movie on this week's date night or Friday's good old family night. Just try keeping some Cola nearby in case your date or your parents become too inspired at the idea of doing tai-chi and getting relaxed.

Mashiat Lamisa is often seen frowning at the sight of people who dislike poetry and tomatoes. She can be reached at mashiatlamisa@outlook.com

BOOK REVIEW

LEARNING TO LIVE AND LAUGH

SARAH ANJUM BARI

When people we love meet their ends through chronic illnesses or sudden accidents, we find a way amid the misery to accept the circumstances – circumstances that were out of our hands. But what do we do when it is in our hands? When we get to choose between our sufferance and someone else's?

Taken in by the colourful cover and the sweet-sounding title, I'd started on Jojo Moyes' Me Before You expecting a fun, light read. It was both; but it was so much more.

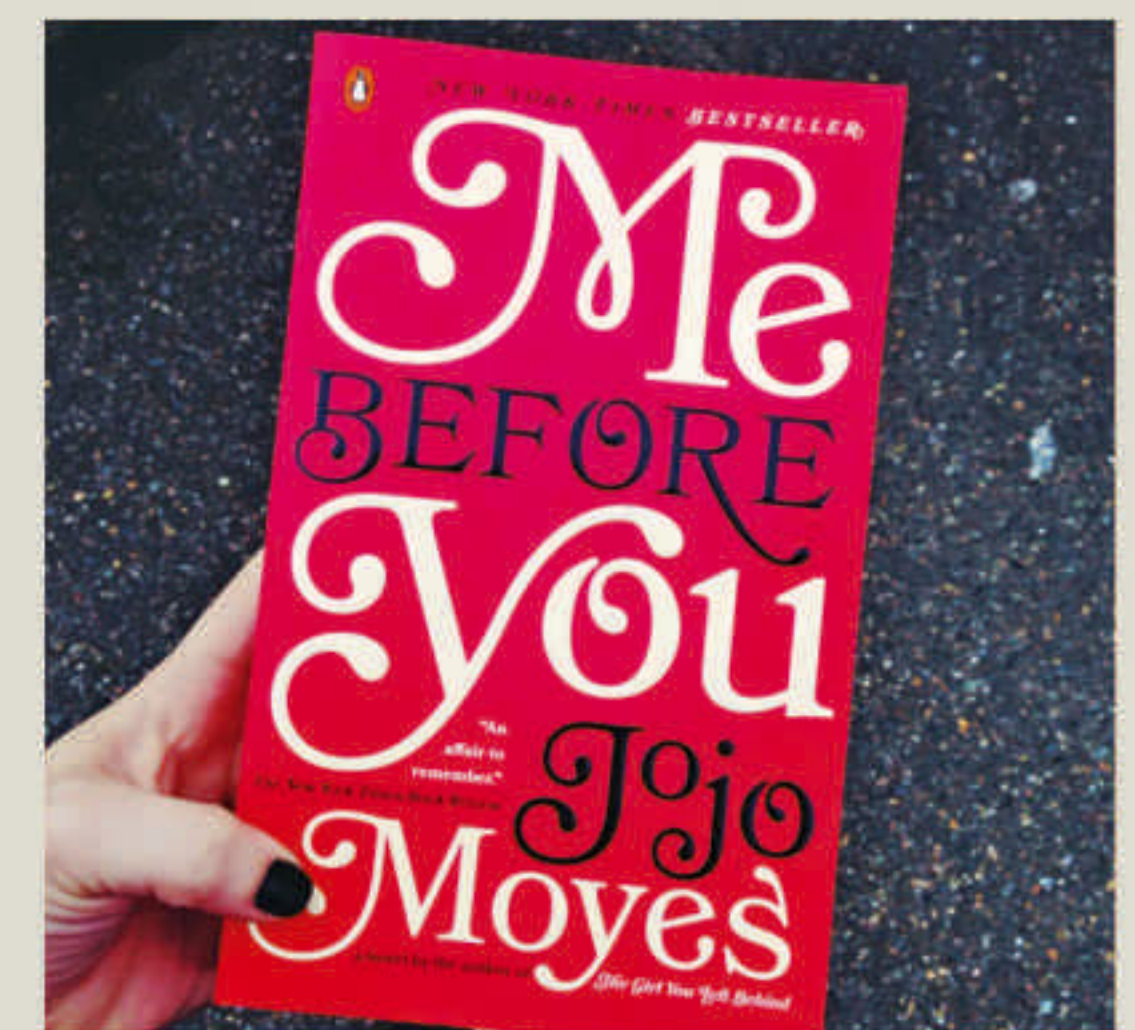
Louisa Clark had loved her job making tea at the Buttered Bun. She'd loved the intimacy of it – the way it let her serve not customers but people, each with their own stories. When the teashop closes, she is left realising how unqualified she is for most kinds of work and how much her family needs her to earn a living.

Traumatising odd-jobs and a hilariously stressful interview later, Lou finds herself as the caregiver of quadriplegic Will Traynor. Young, independent and successful Will (imagine Tom Cruise for best results, I did) had loved living his life at break-neck speed until the bike accident that damaged his spinal cord left him dependant on, and resentful towards, everyone around him. What follows is a string of amusing events through which Lou tries her hardest to bring back some of the colour lost from Will's life. In a way reminiscent of Jane and Rochester or Belle and her Beast, Me Before You is yet another portrayal of how compassion manages to crack through the hardest of shells.

But Jojo Moyes didn't shy away from showing us the not-so-pretty sides of such a love story. There is nothing romantic about cleaning up someone's sick and sweat, nothing

heroic about not being able to touch the woman you love. As the story progresses, we're made to witness how excruciating life can get for accident victims and their close ones. Eventually, Lou and Will find out how the closest bonds are formed from sharing laughter and misery, and taking care of each other. Towards the end, however, the book pushes both its characters and its readers to answer some painfully difficult questions – how much we can ask of our close ones in the name of love and how far we can go to absolve them of pain.

Despite the sheer amount of pain it



brings to life, this isn't a book about tragic accidents. It's a story of how two people who shouldn't have met learn of new ways to live life from each other's experiences, despite all odds; a story of the "adventures they had, the places they had gone" and of "electric skies and iridescent seas and evenings full of laughter and silly jokes". As much as it made my heart ache, reading Me Before You made me want to live, and live well.

Sarah Anjum Bari is a ravisher of caffeine and prose, with a heart that lives in Parisian cafes. Reality checks to be sent in at s.anjumbari@gmail.com

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1. 46th best in the UK (Sunday Times Ranking).
2. Voted as the university offering the best student experience in London – students like the high quality, convenient facilities at one of London's few campus universities.
3. Diverse – 17 percent of the student body is international.
4. All new undergraduates and postgraduates are eligible for on campus housing.
5. Does world class research – almost 43 percent is judged internationally excellent.
6. Best Subjects: Art and Design, Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Environmental Management.
7. Fees for international students around GBP 14,500 to GBP 16,000.
8. Most undergraduates complete their degree on time (around 86 percent).





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