

STAGES OF ENDURING A BAD MOVIE

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Given how productive Holly, Bolly and Dhali-wood are, it's inevitable that there will be some below-par movies among the Oscar-worthy ones. Of course, below-par movies have nothing on *bad* movies. For almost-literal piles of hot garbage, these films sure are proficient at wasting our time.

In homage to the hours spent trying to derive enjoyment from bad films, today we're going to look at the sequence of emotions we feel en route to withstanding a bad film. Try not to get PTSD, ladies and gentlemen.

A NEW HOPE

You stride confidently into the movie hall with a heart full of hope. You've seen a promising trailer, and a good friend has assured you of the movie's merits. There's no way this could go wrong, you think to yourself as you settle into your seat. Then, of course, you witness the first few scenes. As you try digesting the horribly bland plot, you begin to question your friend's judgment. Maybe it gets better?

DOUBLETHINK

The body and the mind are at war with one another. Your mouth breaks into a half-smile at the forced humour, even as you cringe internally. The attempts at drama are about as interesting as Bangladeshi celebrity scandals, but you still *ooh* and *aah* along with the rest of the audience. Desperately searching for a redeeming quality in the dung-heap, you vow to re-evaluate your friendships.

KEEPING YOURSELF HOSTAGE

The movie stopped making sense about twenty minutes ago. It might as well be in Finnish for all the good it does, because right now you just want it to finish. You force yourself to stay, however. There's no way in hell you'll let the hefty ticket price go to waste, so you continue watching.

The scenes keep ploughing on, but your mind is elsewhere. You start thinking about some of the deeper mysteries of life, like the purpose of human existence. *Why are we here, just to suffer?* Next you recall the embarrassing things you did and said in 3rd grade. God, were your decision-making skills bad. Of course, not as bad as they are now. While we're alluding to the movie, does it even know what it's trying to do anymore?

ACCEPTANCE

Once you've made peace with the fact that you're never getting those two-and-a-half hours of your life back, you cheer up. As the depressingly predictable plot twist hits and the movie chugs to its uneventful climax, you realise this is a learning experience.

Even if the experience hasn't led to you gaining Paolo Coelho-esque wisdom quips, one thing is for certain -- your friend is horrible at recommending movies. Time to take out your frustrations on them, and send multiple passive-aggressive smileys.



DIY

Wear your imagination

AATEEYA SAABEEN

Growing up, instead of choosing to wear uncomfortable and oddly coloured abominations that some t-shirts can be, I decided to make my own. Ordering customised t-shirts on the internet might seem easier but can be pricey. Through Google and websites like Pinterest, I found some pretty cool ways to create designs that I wanted; fabric painting seemed to be the easiest method to try out.

There are certain techniques to master in fabric painting. Among them, stencil painting is the easiest for a beginner. You can just place any readymade stencil over the t-shirt and use brush and colour to fill the gaps. To avoid painting on certain areas, you can place masking tape and remove it after you're done. In dot painting, all you have to do is to dip the end of a pencil or cotton bud in colour and create the design. Block painting means painting the fabric with stamps, which is very easy and can be done using vegetables at home and is considered a fun DIY project too. Tie-dye and freehand painting are for advanced crafters and can be perfected if you're experienced enough.

Fabric painting requires few ingredients and the time for a piece to dry depends on the method and the fabric used. The basic requirement for stencil painting is white glue, acrylic paint,

foamy shaving cream, different sized brushes, mixing utensils, and an iron for heating the colour and fixing it on the fabric. These items are available in any stationary shop, but to get them at a cheaper price, the stationary wing of the New Market is always a better option.

Mix one-part glue with two-parts shaving cream, then add the paint to it. Add this mixture to stencil and place the stencil on the fabric. Give the fabric 24 hours to dry out. After the paint has dried out completely, heat the fabric with an iron to permanently set the colour to the fabric.

Most crafters suggest fabric painting be done on tightly woven cotton because it doesn't let any paint seep through the threads. This is why cotton is easier to draw on compared to silk, rayon, or any other loosely woven fabrics. Use a newspaper or a board of some sort inside to avoid paints seeping into the back of the t-shirt.

If you're into DIY projects that don't consume a lot of time and don't cost a lot, fabric painting just might be what you're looking for.

Aateeya Saabeen, who scarily resembles a koala in looks and in sleeping patterns, likes to take day-long walks with her lobster. She believes her Hogwarts letter got lost in the mail because they misspelled her name. Leave her a message at www.facebook.com/aateeya.saabeen