

MOVIES

All We Imagine as Light carves out tenderness in the harshest of spaces

ABIR HOSSAIN

All We Imagine as Light follows the story of Prabha and Anu, roommates who also work at the same hospital. While the two quite literally share the same space, both at a personal and professional capacity, the plights plaguing each character are vastly different.

Nurse Prabha is thrown into a daze after receiving an unexpected present (a rice cooker), presumably from her husband, whom she has not spoken to in over a year. In contrast, Anu wishes nothing more than to seek a safe space, away from the prying eyes of the city, to spend some time with her partner, Shiaz.

Despite the obvious contrasts between Prabha and Anu, they are both in a state of delirium. It is through their differences, however, that Payal Kapadia, the director and writer of the film, underscores the impact of the city on its inhabitants. In dense places with compact spaces, we may be ripped apart and left all alone, or fortunate enough to find someone in the nooks and crannies that we've been pushed to. This sentiment is echoed through Parvati, who also works at the same hospital as Anu and Prabha. She is forced out of the house she has lived in for decades as the



plot has been occupied by a real estate developer.

The first hour of the movie is set in Mumbai, with each character's delirious state of mind portrayed through a hazy, soft, and almost dreamlike look. Most of the movie looks luminous, giving the visuals a visceral feel. This quality also extends to the sound design and soundtrack. The two work together in harmony to capture the essence of the film's settings.

Such prowess is not only merely limited to the technicalities. In fact, I thought that

the writing was the film's strongest quality. Payal Kapadia has crafted scenes that unite the characters in small moments of respite, only to then snatch it away. At no point does she rush the pacing.

All We Imagine As Light is a refined film, complete with technical mastery, controlled storytelling, and a lot of heart. It perfectly encapsulates the essence of a city like Mumbai, where even amidst cramped spaces, we manage to steal glances, long for familiarity, and curse the selfish desires of its inhabitants.



OPPORTUNITIES

WellDev

WellDev - Trainee Software Engineer

ELIGIBILITY

Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills.

Strong exposures on Algorithm, Data Structure, OOP, and Basic programming concepts.

Solid understanding of concepts like Web Services, SOA, REST APIs.

A firm grasp of object-oriented analysis and design.

Visit welldev.io/careers to learn more.

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 22, 2025

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



Western Sydney International Scholarships for undergraduate students

ELIGIBILITY

New international students, who are not Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens, or permanent residents of Australia.

All applicants are automatically considered, no separate application is required. Successful recipients are notified of their award in the Offer of Admission letter. Scholarships are granted on a first-come-first-served basis until filled.

Applicants must submit:

A completed application to Western Sydney University.

Visit thedailystar.net/campus/opportunities to learn more.

DEADLINE: MAY 15, 2025 (FOR SPRING INTAKE).

Editor & Publisher
Mahfuz Anam

Features Editor and
Head of Content
Marketing
Ehsanur Raza Ronny

Campus In-Charge
Faisal Bin Iqbal

Campus Team
Syeda Afrin Tarannum
Abir Hossain
Adrita Zaima Islam

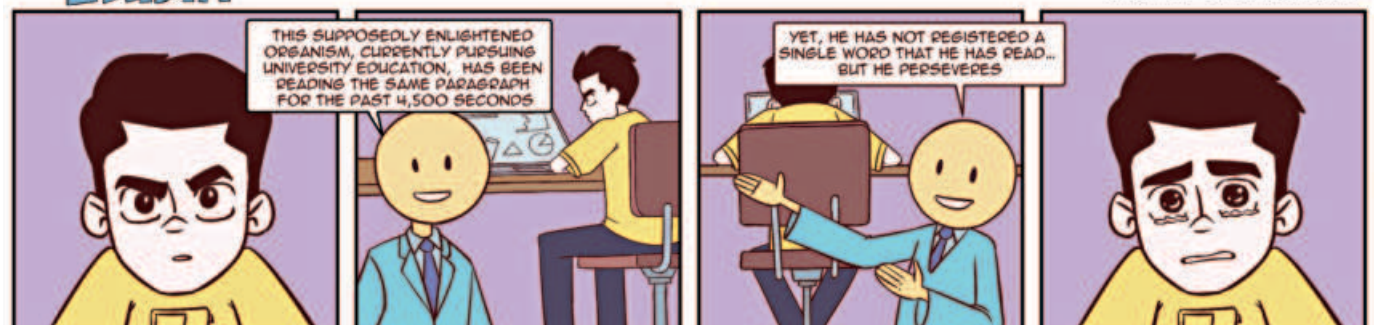
Photographer
Orchid Chakma

Graphics & Layout
TDS Creative Graphics

Production
Shamim Chowdhury

Send your articles,
feedback, and
opinion to campus@thedailystar.net
Find our content online
at thedailystar.net/campus

The Student



ART BY JUNAID IQBAL ISHAMAM
SCRIPT BY ABIR HOSSAIN