

Fall 2002

Relationship Film Festival

By David A. Kenny

I think I have a really phat idea. At our next meeting, we have a "Relationship Film Festival." The synergies would be humongous. Here are my suggestions for films that we might want to include. For the first festival, I think we should limit ourselves to titles that include two people's names. (Isn't that such a kwel idea, dudes and dudettes?) I attach here a brief summary of possible films. (I want to thank Chris Farley who taught me everything I know about movie reviews.)

Jules and Jim: This movie was a real disappointment. Here you have a French movie about two guys in love with the same woman. How come there is no menage a trois? Francois Truffe (the director dude who has a cameo in Close Encounters of the Third Kind) should be sued for false advertising.

Romeo and Juliet: This 1997 movie with Leonardo DiCaprio sucks big time. It is a silly adaptation of the plot of West Side Story. What a lame idea! The screenplay is atrocious and pretentious (too many wherefores and thous for me), and they rip off a trite balcony scene that is used in so many other movies. But hey, what other movie steals its name after an effect

studied by us relationship researchers?

Thelma and Louise: I think this is the best dude-flick movie ever made. It carefully documents the unconscionable way that women treat men. These two chicks have seriously avoidant attachment styles and they are unable to connect with the men in their lives. No wonder in the end they go over the edge.

Harold and Maude: A great flick on causes of attraction. It conclusively shows that attraction is based more on interest similarity (they both love funerals and death) than demographic similarity (he's 19 and she's 79; thank God, Ruth Gordon used a stunt double!). It has a great Cat Stevens soundtrack before he became a Moslem called Yusuf Islam (or is it too soon for me to point this out?).

Hillary and Jackie: A great movie about sibling rivalry and caretaker stress. The soundtrack could benefit with a change of pace, like a lick from Eminem, JaRule, or the Spice Girls. Will there be a sequel in the future of Hillary and Bill?

Chuck and Buck: I was initially disappointed because I thought this was a prequel to John Candy's classic Uncle Buck, but it's not. (When is John Candy going to come out of retirement and make us laugh again?) Rather it tells the old tale of two people in love who just cannot connect because of attachment issues and societal taboos. This video made me think and that is not easy to do.

Oscar and Lucinda: All I can say about this is that people who live in glass churches should not throw dice.