

## How Romantic Movies Affect Real Relationships

Name:

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The depiction of romantic relationships in movies has created a relatively distorted picture about the communication between the sexes. In fact, movies are responsible for the portrayal of relationships that to some extent are better and more predictable than in real life. As a result, the delusional imagery of romantic relationships in movies creates a distorted picture of real-life communication, which is usually less predictable and lacks features of perfection and balance.

The regular immersion into various types of media creates a suitable ground for mass content creators to deliver images and narratives that will please human minds and souls. In fact, romances in movies have already become one of the most cliché themes in appealing to a mass audience. Viewers find it exquisitely attractive to follow self-devoted, overwhelming, and miraculous paths that heroes usually pass to end up in happily-ever-after relationships. The element of delusion is present in the majority of screen romances, whether intentionally or not, since going to extremes has become an element of attraction for audiences (Surrey, 2016). The detail that is omitted by the majority of romantic movies is the presence of a daily routine in the alliance of two loving souls. According to Reid Daitzman, a clinical psychologist, real relationships take place when people have to cope with taking out the garbage, paying utility bills, and giving their time to raise children, for instance. Such details are usually not shown on screen, so the viewers are misguided with the absence of content from real-life communication in their favorite films.

The depiction of love and marriage is often misinterpreted by couples who fall under the conviction that their relationships will stay the same after starting a family. In fact, the portrayal of weddings as the culmination of love affairs in movies like *Runaway Bride* also does not tell

the whole story. The vivid imagery of weddings with charming decorations and settings of happiness and joy does not portray that marriage is played out in the same tempo (Surrey, 2016). Further miscommunication happens among fans of romantic sitcoms who regularly fail to communicate with their partners effectively. The problem results in the fact that partners reciprocally think that an amorous alliance presumes their knowing of each other desires and needs without investigation by intimate conversations. However, movies like *500 Days of Summer* completely dispel the artificial charm of reciprocal attraction, as main characters in these films fail to receive the same feelings from their partners.

Modern psychologists have drawn out the conclusion that romantic images in movies affect human relationships. Currently, long-term relationships have become visibly scarce given the fact that more people enter and leave love affairs without much hesitation than before (Stromberg, 2010). It was only 50 years ago when people could meet and continue relationships for the rest of their lives. The majority of separated couples see diminished passion and lack of mutual understanding as reasons for parting. The depicted perfect on-screen relationships do not match real-life experiences, which are based on romantic realism compared to perfectionism in terms of the concept of love. The despair that is met by delusional partners usually leads them to similar extremes, shown by the reckless actions of romantic movie heroes. The results of such behavior ends with cheating on each other regularly.

According to the study of Susan Sprecher and Sandra Metts, the influence of romantic beliefs does not affect the course of relationships—at least in the first four years. This means the core of stable relationships and their fruitful growth mostly depends on the ability to keep the required level of reciprocal interest for each other (Stromberg, 2010). It can be only suggested that there are no couples that move on through their relationships solely being motivated by

romantic clichés and images seen in their favorite movies. Instead, movies can only interfere with relationships on an emotional and subtle level, being overtaken by rational behavioral models. One matter is clear: movies are created for entertainment and the purpose of financial revenue. Due to this, producers will not hesitate to utilize emotional appeal to gather people in theaters.

To sum up, the artificial imagery of romantic affairs found in movies affects real-life relationships to some extent, which are based on spontaneous and impulsive choices that can hardly be shown on screen. In addition, such aspects of relationships as daily routines and the reality of a marriage are usually not favored by the majority of movie makers. The romantic perfectionism seen on screen is usually disconnected with the realism of actual relationships, which are mostly based on rationale and egocentric behavior rather than searching for a sense of romantic idealism.

## References

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