

The Crying Game

Practicing safe-film criticism

by Eric Kesselring
Collegian Staff

There are a lot of things I will not tell you about *The Crying Game*. Despite its excellent acting, I will not tell you about the acting. I will not tell you the end. I will not even do more than warn you about one of the most shocking images you might ever see. Please do not misunderstand me. When reviewing movies, I usually love to reveal everything. It is

member. Jody (Forrest Whitaker), the soldier, is going to die. By displaying his humanity, Jody endears himself to one of his captors, Fergus (Stephen Rea). This friendship ends when Fergus is slated to shoot Jody. In the chaos of Jody's escape and death the IRA group splits apart. Fergus flees to find and take care of Jody's girlfriend, Dil (Oscar Nominee Jaye Davison). Then things get interesting.

The attraction at Fergus and Dil's meeting is electric. Dil's

spoiling *The Crying Game* for me.

Though I did not fully enjoy *The Crying Game*, I have come to appreciate it. The fluttering emotions of the movie reach powerful levels of intensity. Better yet, you get to see a goldfish bowl being pitched out the window. *The Crying Game* even tosses in a bizarre bar pickup performed via the bartender: Dil (loud enough for all to hear): "Tell him I'm drinking Margaritas." Bartender: "She says she's drinking

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difficult to explain the failures and merits of a film without stating what happens in the movie. For *The Crying Game*, I make an exception.

I will tell you that *The Crying Game* cannot be compared to any other movie. It is thoroughly and refreshingly different.

The movie is set in England where the Irish Republican Army seduces a black English soldier so that they may kidnap him. The soldier's life depends on the release of some IRA

intense sexuality captivates Fergus. The resulting relationship turns *The Crying Game* into an open examination of love as has ever assaulted any moviegoer.

You will have to see the details of this romance for yourself. *The Crying Game* is like a good joke. You will not appreciate it if you know the punchline. For some reason I figured out the punchline mid-joke. Instead of feeling perceptive, I thank my caffeine-enhanced senses for effectively

Margaritas."

The Crying Game presents a warped view of sudden love. This love is a kind that could never exist unless the conditions are spontaneous and odd enough. Such a twisted version of one of love's realities can appeal to both men and women alike.

The Crying Game is much like love itself. The small talk is anything but small. *The Crying Game* is emotional and strange. You may or may not enjoy it. Like love, you should try it.

Falling Down

L.A. blows up real good

by Sarah Melchiorre
Collegian Staff

Falling Down is a fast paced, intensely emotional, powerhouse movie. It blends humor with extreme violence. You feel odd laughing at a crazy man with a gun, while at the same time you're on the edge of your seat with anticipation.

Falling Down is about a man named Bill (Michael Douglas) who loses his mental grip while sitting in a L.A. traffic jam. He is a man without a job, without a family, and without hope.

This movie is about decisions. It's about being pushed to the breaking point by society's corrupt systems and violence in the big cities.

Bill walks into a Korean grocery store to get some change for the telephone. The

construction crews, gangs, and stores with outrageous prices. If he didn't turn psycho you'd almost like him.

His ex-wife asks him what the heck he's doing. He responds, "I've past the point of no return. Do you know when that is? It's the point in the journey when it's easier to go all the way then to turn back."

A road construction worker sits next to a hole in the street. Bill asks what's wrong with the street - he doesn't believe there is anything that needs fixing. His theory is that the city government just wants to use up funds so they can use the allotted budget. So, with the help of a stolen missile launcher and a 10 year-old boy who knows how to operate it from watching T.V., Bill kindly gives the city something to fix.

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owner so graciously informs him he must buy something to receive the change. Bill feels like having a nice cold soda on a hot day. The soda costs eight-five cents, which doesn't allow him enough change for the phone. After exchanging a few words with the owner about all the outrageous prices, Bill exclaims, "I'm standing up for my rights as a consumer!" He then trashes the store. Even though it is wrong, you want to cheer Bill on.

Through the whole movie Bill is trying to get home. It's a long journey since he left his car on the freeway during the traffic jam. He's trying to get to his wife's house (ex-wife's house). But she's already seen his somewhat BAD temper, which he displayed earlier at the store. She doesn't want him and, what's more, she's deathly afraid of him.

Bill takes on a lot of the things that get on everyone's nerves. He takes on a Nazi, a fast food establishment, road

As Bill continues his day on the offensive, police officer Pendergast (Robert Duval) traces his moves. Pendergast, who is celebrating his last day on the force, really doesn't need the aggravation because he is already in a fight of his own at the office.

Falling Down lets the audience look into the mind of a man who has tumbled past the point of no return. Michael Douglas is amazing in this role. His character is as intense as many of the other roles he has created. Yet, it is a totally different side of Douglas. You want to watch him, you have to watch him, you will watch him!

The camera shots and effects draw the audience into Bill's world. The screen is constantly filled with movement. *Falling Down* is very unique and very well put together.

This movie is worth the money to go and see on the 'Big Screen.' You leave with a strange feeling of understanding and disparity.

Most boring films

In 1992 Hollywood turned out the cure for thousands of insomniacs, according to Alan Caruba of The Boring Institute.

Most boring film of the year
Batman Returns

Most boring comedy
Shakes the Clown

Most boring action film
Far and Away

Should have stayed home alone (tied)

Christopher Columbus-
The Discovery

1492: Conquest
of Paradise

SOURCE: The Boring
Institute; Research by
CORDELIA GAFFNEY



Improvisational jazz quartet *Third Stream* will be performing Saturday, March 20, at Bruno's.

Since the ensemble began performing in 1972, they have shared bills with Herbie Hancock, Stanley Turrentine, Chick Corea, Spyro Gyro and Jeff Beck among others.

The performance is free and starts at 9 p.m.

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