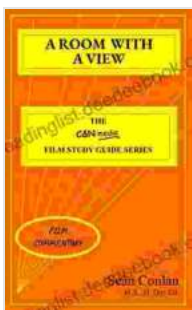


Room With a View Film Commentary: A Masterpiece of Romance and Social Commentary

James Ivory's 1985 film, "Room With a View," based on the novel by E.M. Forster, is a critically acclaimed classic that explores themes of love, class, and societal expectations. In this commentary, we will delve into the film's rich narrative, stunning visuals, and memorable characters, while analyzing its social commentary and enduring appeal.



A Room With a View - Film Commentary: Deepen your knowledge and understanding of this film (C&N media Film Study Guide Series) by Matt Forrest Esenwine

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 442 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 44 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported

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A Tale of Contrasting Worlds

The film follows the story of Lucy Honeychurch (Helena Bonham Carter), a young, upper-class Englishwoman traveling to Florence, Italy, with her cousin, Charlotte Bartlett (Maggie Smith). While there, she encounters two men: George Emerson (Julian Sands), a charming and free-spirited young

man from a lower social class, and Cecil Vyse (Daniel Day-Lewis), a wealthy and conservative suitor approved by her family.

Through the contrasting experiences of these characters, Ivory explores the clash between traditional Victorian values and the emerging modern ideals of the Edwardian era. Lucy's initial attraction to George and her subsequent realization of her own desires challenge the rigid social norms of her time.

The Stunning Italian Setting

The film is visually stunning, with breathtaking cinematography that captures the beauty of Italy. The picturesque landscapes and historical architecture provide a backdrop for Lucy's emotional journey and the societal tensions she faces.



One of the many stunning landscapes captured in the film.

Memorable Performances

The film boasts a stellar cast that delivers memorable performances. Helena Bonham Carter shines as Lucy, capturing her transformation from a timid young woman to a self-assured individual. Julian Sands brings a charming and passionate intensity to the role of George, while Daniel Day-Lewis is suitably arrogant and manipulative as Cecil.

Maggie Smith's performance as Charlotte is particularly noteworthy.

Her wry wit and dry humor provide comic relief while also emphasizing the

film's social criticisms.

"If there is any God in heaven, she'll strike you dead for that." - Charlotte Bartlett

Social Commentary and Themes

Beyond its romantic narrative, "Room With a View" offers a sharp critique of Victorian society and its rigid class structure. The film exposes the hypocrisy and shallowness of certain social conventions, particularly in its portrayal of the wealthy and privileged upper class.

The film also explores the theme of female independence. Lucy's journey of self-discovery and her ultimate decision to choose love over social expectations challenge the traditional roles assigned to women in Victorian society.

Enduring Appeal and Legacy

"Room With a View" has stood the test of time, remaining a beloved classic for decades. Its timeless themes, beautiful setting, and memorable characters continue to resonate with audiences.

The film's success has largely been attributed to Ivory's skillful direction, Ruth Praver Jhabvala's adapted screenplay, E.M. Forster's original novel, and the exceptional performances of its cast.

"Room With a View" is a masterpiece of cinema that combines romance, social commentary, and stunning visuals. Through its exploration of class, societal expectations, and female independence, the film has left a lasting impact on cinema and continues to captivate audiences worldwide.



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