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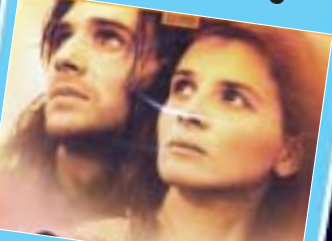
Today's daily pace may feel like it runs at over 100mph and everyone is feeling the impact. Whether it comes out as anxiety or even pain, stress can engulf the average humans life quickly and without much warning.

Young spikes 2010 winners gear up for Singapore



Metal Factor and the International Advertising Association's (IAA) Sri Lanka Chapter have teamed up to host the Young Spikes contest for young advertising professionals.

Wuthering Heights



A father arrives home from a long journey with him a gypsy boy. From the moment the lad enters the house he is disregarded and unloved by all—except the father and the sweet young mistress, Cathy.

BY DEVRAJ SINGH KALSI IN KOLKATA
The Statesman/ ANN

A mistress' fault lies in loving a married man. But has Bollywood tried to understand the other woman or justify her position or does it still believe that she is nothing but evil?

How can a sensible woman ever think of falling in love with a married man? Doesn't she know that he is married? Isn't she aware that such a relationship has no future? Why can't she realise that she is playing with fire, that such a liaison can only worsen her pain? Try posing these questions to the paramour and she will apply her own logic to justify her presence in his life.

She thinks she can give him what no other woman can give him and he can give her what no other man can ever give.

Once this state of mind is reached, nothing else matters. The woman madly in love has little regard for convention. Having left everything far behind, she listens only to her heart. Least bothered about what the world thinks of her. Least concerned about society and its established norms.

Dubbed as a home-breaker, a sinister woman who tries to wreck his marriage to find fulfillment for herself, she can never become a role model.

Despised as a malevolent character whose sin is cardinal and unpardonable because she has desired a married man, she is held responsible for the collapse of his marriage. Her family does not extend support to her. She is looked down upon and even considered immoral. Her fault lies in loving a married man. If this is her fault, the married man has also erred. But since he is a man, undeservedly entitled to occasional transgressions of the mind and body, he is pardoned easily whereas the other woman gets squarely blamed because she should have stayed miles away from him and discouraged his moves.

The common perception

The wife may curse her and wish the same fate for her, but she ignores these since she believes they were not compatible. It was a relationship that would have cracked even if she had not come. An easy way to lessen her guilt.

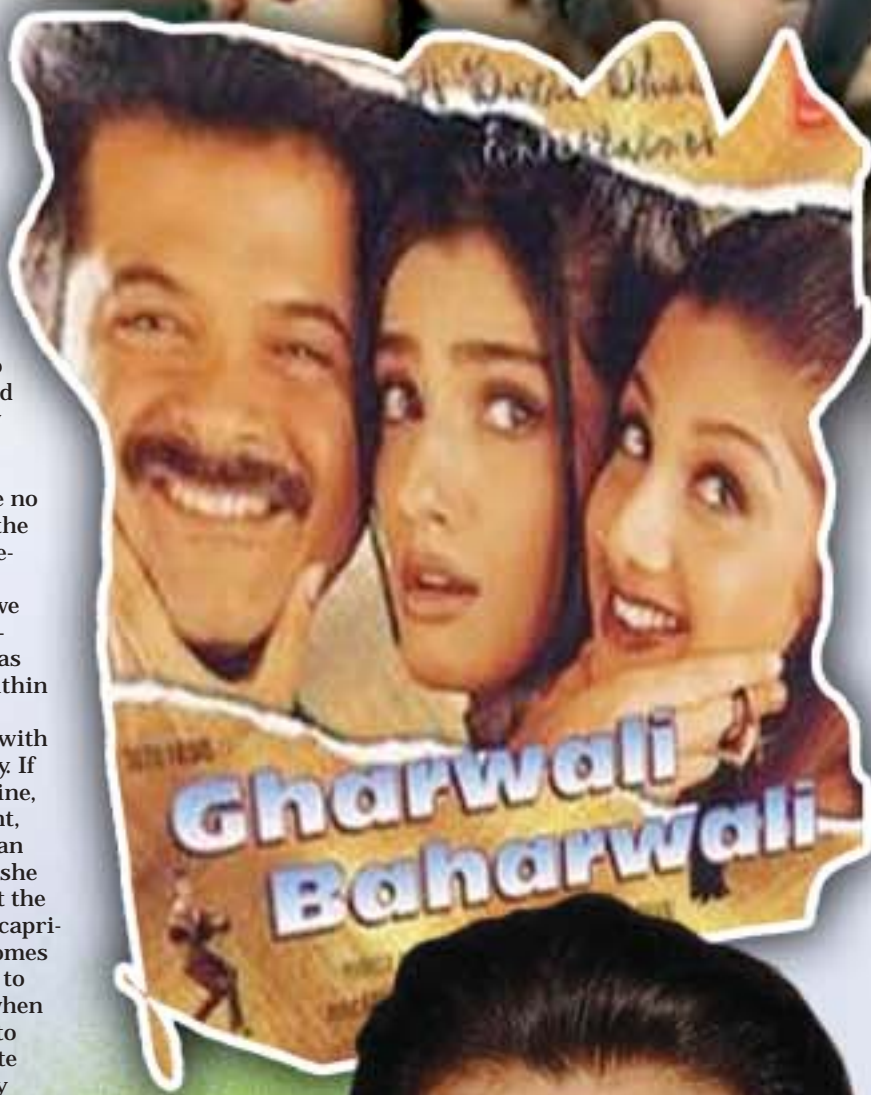
Has Bollywood tried to understand the other woman or justify her position or does it still believe that she is nothing but evil? The other woman, in existence for long, has remained a mystery. To paint her as evil, so many reasons are attached. The other woman loves—claims to be in love—a married guy because she wants his wealth. The other woman wants to use a married man to advance her career. The other woman wants to feel a high by making a married guy go astray. The other woman does so because she wants to destroy a man for personal reasons like revenge. Tired of this list.

Have Indian scriptwriters tried to delve in her mind and get her point of view across? If not, what holds them back?

Well, there can be no legitimate space for the other woman in society—no matter how advanced or liberal we become. While everything is permissible as long as it remains within the heart, the other woman cannot exist with approval from society. If the affair is clandestine, it is fine. After a point, when the other woman has enjoyed enough, she begins to desire what the wife gets. Blame the capricious heart. She becomes demanding, wanting to have him fully. But when the woman is all set to accept ruin as her fate because she has truly

GENDER INEQUALITY:

A scene from 'Life in a Metro', which tackles a woman's infidelity after her husband cheated on her



Fatal Attraction

is that a man looks for thrills outside marriage to rev up his love life as it is mostly a case of seven-year itch or the man is simply a compulsive womaniser.

Whatever be the reason, there appears to be concession for the infidel man who can repair his relationship but the other woman's life gets messy because she can never return to the conventional fold as her past continues to haunt her.

The other woman takes advantage of the fact that she entered late. The wife got him as he had not met her then. If she had met him first, he would have chosen her instead. She basks in the strength of her attraction to break the marriage or the power to decide the fate of his marriage.

loved him (such cases are rare), she does not pine for anything worldly. Is it possible to believe he loves her not because of a failed marital relationship, rather for her qualities, both mental and physical? Such an affair makes sense to explore as he can see and judge the love of two women, what they do for him, what he does to them.

Such layered issues require understanding and writers cannot simplify the tales or seek asylum in clichés. Indian audiences would not love to see glorification of the other woman and her character cannot be given ethical support. Is this fear holding them back from sketching characters with a bold pen?

Films like Arth explored the character of the other

woman with honesty. Sadly, the attempt was restrained to analyse the sexual side more. As if this is the chief reason why men drift or seek solace in the arms of his illicit lover. The victim sets forth on a journey to find her own identity without a man by her side. Sawan Kumar's Souten showed a suspicious, nagging wife who never liked her spouse's interaction with a low caste employee's daughter, Padmini Kolhapure. The other woman is blamed for everything that goes wrong in her life.

The poor girl tries to end her life to prove her innocence. Padmini's character would not like to be blamed for ruining something sacrosanct like marriage but that did not mean she did not have a soft corner for the married man.

LADIES MAN: Anil Kapoor plays a cheating husband after he found out that his wife could not conceive in 'Gharwali Baharwali'

Hindi films have often tried to make fun of polygamous ties by showing the hero with his wife and with another woman kept for romance outside the home. When the existence of the other woman becomes known, the wife threatens to swallow poison, or chases the outsider with a broomstick and they end up fighting like cats.

Gharwali Baharwali and Biwi No 1 are films of this type. Imagine a man with kids straying and his wife trying to become ultra-modern and sexy to revive his interest in her.

These are not examples exploring the health of relationships, they are just replete with melodrama and bitter-sweet moments.

Can the modern times, when relationships have become complex and prone to breaks, offer a better understanding of the other woman's mind? Who has the time to stop and ponder? If it is a case of fatal attraction, after the hubby strays, the wife also strays to stay at par with him.

Life in a Metro showed gender equality in such a manner. Why should she stay loyal when her hubby is not, when he is not attaching importance to loyalty? In a world where she is independent, why should she tolerate a disloyal hubby? Just walk out and teach him a lesson. She can't be a doormat or the silent suffering home-maker who has to tolerate an unfaithful partner because she is the wife and hence more responsible. If she breaks her marriage to search for a loyal man, will she be lucky?

Earlier, the wife pardoned an erring hubby for the sake of children and family because she had no identity of her own, and that is why it was thought he took undue advantage of her. But how do writers explain why in modern days husbands fool their wives when they know they are independent-minded and self-reliant? Can we expect Bollywood to offer us insights and thought-provoking work on extra marital affairs? Can we learn how to grow sympathetic to the other woman? Can we listen to her heart for once? Can we begin to tolerate her?

Can we expect the wife not to grow suspicious or insecure, feel threatened because of the other woman?

Can we expect the wife to feel proud that she is married to a desirable man? Can we expect the wife to understand that there is hardly a man who is not unfaithful as some are physically infidel while some are mentally disloyal?

Can infidelity stop being the cornerstone of any relationship? Should the presence of another woman necessarily reflect that there was something lacking in the wife that drove him away from her? Can we expect a mature handling of this sensitive subject?

Man survives after 400ft jump by landing on car

A man who jumped more than 400ft after leaping off a New York apartment block survived after crashing feet first into a parked car.

Thomas Magill, 22, is said to be in a stable condition after the jump, suffering only two broken legs and a bruised lung.

He only suffered two broken legs and a bruised lung from the fall.

Eye witnesses said he was still conscious screaming "my leg, my leg" as he lay slumped on the back seat of the car.

Mr Magill, an aspiring actor and singer, had leapt from the 39th floor of the building on New York's Upper West side in the US.

He fell more than 400ft and reached speeds of up to 126mph before crashing into a red Dodge Charger sports car parked alongside the building.

Residents of the building told police they saw a body

whizz past their window before others on the ground heard a thud as he slammed into the car.

"He came down feetfirst at like 100 mph," said witness Andrew Petrocelli, who added that the landing was "like a stunt man".

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Thomas Magill in the Dodge Charger that saved his life after falling 40 storeys from a New York building