

Good: Soundtrack adds to film's allure

SUMMER MOVIES

'There's Something About Mary'

Comedy
Directed by
Bobby and Peter Farrelly

RATED: R

SCORE: ★★★★★

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they challenge each other in different directions," Bobby Farrelly said.

Diaz said she sees the Farrelly brothers as two who are constantly crossing the line, producing work that is outrageous and totally unique. Elliott commented that the brothers have a way of "making people who do idiotic things appear sympathetic."

There's something about the soundtrack that has the audience tapping its feet to the background beat. The score includes The Dandy Warhols, Lemonheads and The Foundations. Jonathan Richman and his drummer, who keep popping up between transitions, cause quite a few laughs themselves, adding to the whimsical humor the film holds.

"Something" is the feel-good, kick-back movie that the silver screen has been needing to lighten up the asteroids and oversized lizards we've been fed all year.

The star-studded cast brings such a large amount of life to the screen, the craving and heart-break that each "stalker" experiences touches the audience a bit too close to home. I actually felt sorry for all her pursuers. "There's Something About Mary" brings affection to the world of lust and makes you think twice about restraining orders.

It's like getting caught in your zipper — it may hurt like hell, but it's damn funny.

Bad: 'Mary' doesn't deliver

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out anyone interesting enough to draw out his reactions.

Diaz does well enough as Mary Jensen. Unfortunately, many people might expect her to carry the movie, which she does not do as an actress. And it's just not possible to make her role the lead as the object of multiple affections.

The film also relies too heavily on Elliott for the outlandish character of Ted's friend, Dom. Elliott winds up being a catalyst for most of the action when he hires Pat Healy (Matt Dillon) to find Mary for Ted. Healy falls for

Stroehmann's high school crush, who missed prom 13 years earlier due to Stroehmann's unfortunate zipper accident. Later, Elliott remains pitifully instrumental and out of his league as a cameo actor.

"There's Something About Mary" can't live up to its critical acclaim as "the funniest movie of the decade," as Tim Reid of MTV Radio characterized it. Luckily, the gags from the previews are the film's highlights. The final lip-synching session gave a glimpse of the playful comedies that we missed.

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Horoscope by Frances Drake

For Thursday, July 23, 1998

ARIES
(March 21 to April 19)
There will be much activity around the house and office. Recuperate from a long day by doing something relaxing with that special someone.

TAURUS
(April 20 to May 20)
Your sensitive and caring attitude will make a huge difference to someone. This evening is the right moment to discuss a touchy issue.

GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
You are feeling particularly expressive. Use this energy to make plans for the future. People will be hearing what you have to say.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
It's an excellent time to rank the priorities in your life. Celebrate what you hold nearest and dearest, and throw out that which is causing you grief.

LEO
(July 23 to Aug. 22)
Take action, but don't let your love of drama get the better of you. A stranger will give you some much-needed guidance on a business matter.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
Close relationships will come into question. Don't be too upset by differences of opinion. You must compromise if you truly want to make peace.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Career will be foremost on your agenda. Just make sure that you're not stepping on a whole lot of toes as you attempt to scale that ladder.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
You will finally be in control of a situation that's been making you feel powerless. It's time to let bygones be bygones and get on with your life.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
You may not be prepared for the obvious solution to what's been tying you up in knots lately. A molehill will become a mountain if you don't act.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Something beckons you to bravely explore the unknown. Take this opportunity to get to know yourself, and the world around you, a little better.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Your world view has recently shifted, so seek out like-minded associates. A business meeting will result in exciting new opportunities.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 to March 20)
You may have become something of an expert in romantic matters, but there's no need to brag. Put your money where your mouth is instead.

YOU BORN TODAY are sensitive, imaginative and prone to swings of emotion. Because you are so charming, people will generally tiptoe around your moodiness. While others perceive you as being vulnerable, deep down you are extremely self-reliant and resourceful.

Birthdate of: Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy; Woody Harrelson, actor; Nomar Garciaparra, baseball player.

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off the mark by Mark Parisi



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