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Movie

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Bar and Grill. The two will be handing out fliers and talking to students about the film. Toon said students

should not be afraid to approach him with questions.

Toon said an appearance in "Spring Break" could have a lasting impact for the chosen students — whether it simply provides a fantastic vacation or a springboard

for a movie career.

"This experience could change their lives," he said. "We want it to be a memory they'll always have."

Contact the Pulse editor at jacquelynlewis@dailyemerald.com.

Adaptation

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into a kind of writer's block. The more the Kaufman character becomes obsessed with the project, the more it becomes a reflection of his personal life. Eventually, there is the realization, from both the audience and Kaufman, that the situation playing itself out is the film that got written, and the one that is supposedly being watched.

Cage works double time, also playing Donald, the fictional identical twin-brother of Charlie (who, in further blurring the line between fiction and reality, receives screenwriter credit).

While at times "Adaptation" is sickeningly self-referential, its comedic overtones are mirrored by

a dark underbelly, filled with moments of sudden and sheer intensity. Two car accidents occur; the one involving an explication of a character from the "The Orchid Thief" novel (another plot strand woven throughout the film) is intense in both its surprise and understated realism. The scene itself only lasts about a minute, but it's one of the most intense ones in recent cinematic memory. Also, one of the film's closing scenes, a conversation between Charlie and his brother — probably their first serious conversation throughout the film — is quite revelatory and sincere.

"Adaptation" is probably the most honest of studio films released in 2002. Critics have been keen on the double meaning contained within the film's title — both a literal and evolutionary adaptation. However,

the same folks who have artificially tried to conclude their reviews of the film by calling it any one thing have missed the point. There are so many themes — inspiration, love, alienation, passion, to name a few — working here that what you come out of the theater with depends on what you brought in.

An early scene, taking place on the set of "Malkovich," involves Charlie Kaufman observing the filming while being blatantly ignored by the crew — actors, directors, lighting personnel — around him. But whereas he was invisible in "Malkovich," in "Adaptation," there's a real Kaufman somewhere behind it all, smiling.

Check out "Adaptation" at Cinemark 17 theaters in Springfield.

Contact the Pulse reporter at aaronshakra@dailyemerald.com.

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