

Review #73



mujhse dosti karoge!

Yash Chopra is a great entertainer, and even if the scenario is a much revisited one, *Mujhse Dosti Karoge* is a delightful story about friendship and love, understanding the difference between the two, and finally realizing which one requires eternal sacrifice.

SYNOPSIS

Raj (**Hrithik Roshan**), Tina (**Kareena Kapoor**) and Pooja (**Rani Mukherji**) are the three childhood friends. At one point through their childhood, Raj left to London to study. At that point, the loose and carefree Tina explored her talent at acquiring many male friends. Pooja kept in touch with Raj via soulful emails, however under Tina's name. The truth is, Raj was infatuated with Tina, and to satisfy him, Pooja continues to act as Tina in the emails she sends him for fifteen years.

When grown-up dreamboat Raj makes his way back to town, Pooja asks Tina to pretend as if she had been writing to him all this long. Tina agrees, reluctantly at first, but eventually falls in love with the obsessed Raj. While discrete Pooja goes through the sacrifice routine, misty eyes and lovelorn sighs, Tina becomes more and more confident. As the truth slightly begins to unravel, things get muddled, which ultimately leads to the culmination of an understanding of friends, love and sacrifices one must make.



REVIEW

The first half of the film takes some time to unravel, with some lengthy and predictable sequences stretching to such an extent that the viewer starts getting impatient until Raj unexpectedly learns the truth in the Church. From that moment on, the second half has memorable scenes on memorable scenes and carries you away with the same positive stamp that most **Yash Chopra** productions have, which more than makes up for the first half, with an emotional resolution and climax. First-time director **Kohli** is impressive. He keeps a tight grip of the plot and displays a keen attention to screenplay. **Every character in the film is**

well defined and sound. The film moves on at a brisk pace after the intermission and the audience is not left to pinpoint loopholes.

The performances from the two main leads also carry this film to great heights. In combination with their star power, **Rani Mukherji** and **Hrithik Roshan** have given one of their great performances of their career. Rani Mukherji displays great emotions in every frame and while she is mostly asked to look torn and hurt, her expressions are very far from fake. She is **utmost sincere** in a role that fits her like a glove, and definitely touches the audiences, which is very important in these kind of films. Her mature role is easily comparable to **Kajol**'s beloved performance in *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai*.

Hrithik Roshan expresses anger with great talent and is as successful in his romantic portions. He actually does what he has been doing since his first film : flash the *by now famous* smile, look smashing in designer outfits, sing and dance exceptionally well. He couldn't be better !



Kareena Kapoor is more average and inconsistent in the role of the annoying Tina. She's far too excessive at times but her performance improves in the second half. This is most probable because the initial portions seem like an extension of Poo from *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham*. Her introduction sequence is somewhat stupid and tries hard to repeat : 'It's raining men'. While the Poo skit was highly entertaining in *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham*, it doesn't work here. The emotional portions in the second half fit her and her role much better.



The cinematography and camera-work is eye catching. The scenes shot in Lake District and Northern India especially are riveting.



In tandem with this vibrant nature, the music by **Rahul Sharma** is incredible, the best being the theme song : *Jaane Dil Mein Kabse*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0MuztEwL2Q>

The **songs** somehow lose their impact in the first half, because they appear too frequently. **Choreography**, mostly non-existing, is pretty lame in the ridiculous ‘*Oh My Darling*’ but is redeemed with the great *medley*, a key part of the film, each song being essential in describing the progressiveness of Raj and Pooja’s relationship. The picturizations here are **beautiful and highly enjoyable**, although they become somehow draining and redundant in the end. The only beneficial thing is that the film moves at a fast pace afterwards.

The previous overly boring *Aap Mujhe Achche Lagne Lage* may constantly (and somehow rightly) have been bashed by the media when it came out, but this one is different. It has a lot more emotion and many more things to enjoy. Hrithik and Rani share evident chemistry and make *Mujhse Dosti Karoge* a definite decent watch ! I loved it ! +++