

45 Years

Director: Andrew Haigh
2014 (90')



Kate is planning a party to celebrate her and Geoff's 45th wedding anniversary but one week before the celebration a letter arrives which may change everything. The letter to Geoff says that the body of his first love has been found in the Alps, perfectly preserved in the ice from 1962.

This story is about whether secrets can be survived, whether the knowing or not knowing is more injurious. Haigh's very fine, classically modulated film keeps these questions alive until literally its last shot, and lets them jangle their way through you for days afterwards. The Telegraph

A movie so simple, so elegant, and yet so devouringly empathetic that you might not notice its full magic until a few hours later. The Playlist

The script is full of majestic, despairing notes; the look of the film is muted and wintry. The aural landscape is remarkable: from the opening noise of a slide projector working in the darkness (a pre-echo of Rampling in the attic looking at images of the woman her husband really wanted to marry) to the hummed tune of Smoke Gets in Your Eyes as she takes the fateful letter from the postman, all the sounds make for subtle emotional influence, beautifully thought out and arranged. Sight & Sound

Vocabulary and expressions:

At the crack of dawn: Very early in the morning.

To be over the moon: To be very happy or pleased about something.

I'm really over the moon for both of you

Naff: Unstylish or clichéd

It's a bit naff to have the same song we had at our wedding.

Next of kin: The nearest family member or members.

Cross: Angry or annoyed.

I can hardly be cross with something that happened before we existed, can I?

To give someone a shout: To tell or inform someone about something.

Give us a shout when you're ready.

To nod off: To fall asleep unexpectedly.

I nodded off.

To prance around/about: To behave or do something in a silly way.

I'm not prancing around in the living room at this time of night.

To back out of something: To not do something you agreed or promised to do.

So you can't just back out of things simply because you don't feel like it.

Heedless: Without thought

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