

## WEBSERIES REVIEW

### Bhramam



Director: Ravi K. Chandran  
Cast: Prithviraj Sukumaran, Mamta Mohandas, Unni Mukundan, Raashi Khanna

**STORY:** Aspiring musician Ray Mathews gets into trouble when he crosses paths with yesteryear romantic hero Uday Kumar and his sexy, young wife Simi.

**REVIEW:** The film is stylish and fun, thanks to the twists and the unexpected humour; it is not often that we are prompted to burst out laughing when the gun is pointed at the protagonist and he bumbles and begs to be let off. Prithviraj delivers in the tricky role with his usual flair; evoking the right amounts of sympathy or even the opposite for his character. Unni Mukundan seems a bit reticent and diffident in his role, while raising some laughs.

Raashi Khanna and Ananya are passable. Shankar as a yesteryear actor is sure to evoke smiles. But it is Mamta Mohandas who steals the scene, fitting perfectly into the difficult character of Simi. It is tempting to make a comparison with Tabu who did the role in the original version, and Mamta can take a bow for her portrayal, which she makes entertaining and well-rounded with understated drama. It is also good to see female characters, with various shades of grey and even slightly over the top, assimilate without awkwardness into our films. Bhramam keeps the audience interested through its 152-minute run and is definitely a novel experience for the Malayali audience.

**In-depth Analysis**  
Our overall critic's rating is not an average of the sub scores below.  
Direction: 2.5/5  
Dialogues: 2.5/5  
Story: 2.5/5  
Music: 2.5/5  
Visual appeal: 2.5/5

## Health and Lifestyle

Interesting ideas on how to style your corner



without eating into the square footage area. Create an art nook or gallery with an asymmetric display. You can paint the wall in a swoon-worthy backdrop and make it the focal point for your statement pieces.

**Tip:** Cramped corner with no windows? Hang a mirror to create the illusion of space.

**Convert it into a workstation**

Bring in a sleek floating or folding desk to convert an empty corner into a functional zone. If space permits, go for a mid-century or classic desk that evokes a sense of calm and imbues elegance. Complete the look with a table lamp or pendant light for illumination.



**Tip:** Squeeze in a petite chair to accentuate the functionality of your workstation.

**Message corner**

Miss messages or forgetting chores? Set up a small message corner with a chalkboard or regular board for sticky notes. Bring in drawers for necessities like pens, paper, scissors and other accessories.

**Tip:** A vintage telephone lends character to the decor.

**Build a window nook**

A custom window nook not only offers extra seating it also gives more dimension to awkward corners. Window nooks serve as a great spot to dine with friends or cuddle up with a book. The light streaming in also induces a happy mood to brighten the ambience of your home.

**Tip:** Throw in some colourful cushions or curtains for a warm and inviting vibe.

We all have that one corner in our home that looks dull and boring compared to other parts of the house. Compared to the rest of your home, corners get much less attention and decor that can make the entire look quite haphazard. It's not uncommon to forget to design the corner decor but it's never too late to put some pretty decor in the nooks. Rachna Agarwal, Founder and Design Ideator, Studio IAAD, has some pretty interesting ideas on how to transform your mundane corner into a chic, new space.

#### Provide a biophilic touch

A hint of verdant energises a dull nook and makes one feel closer to nature. Add some subtle touches like stone tiling or even water features to create the feel of an outdoor spot. Opt for tall plants with large sprigs of green or multiple smaller ones on the shelves. Arranging plants at varying heights add dimension to the display.

**Tip:** Shun that air purifier and look for indoor plants that help purify the air like Aloe Vera, Peace Lily, etc.

#### Set up storage

Thinking of squeezing storage into a super-small corner seems impossible? A tiny vanity, cabinet, or console punctuates a boring nook with oodles of colour and enhances functionality. Wall-mounted cubby storage can transform a tight corner into a fully functional cabinet for mail, books, and small items.

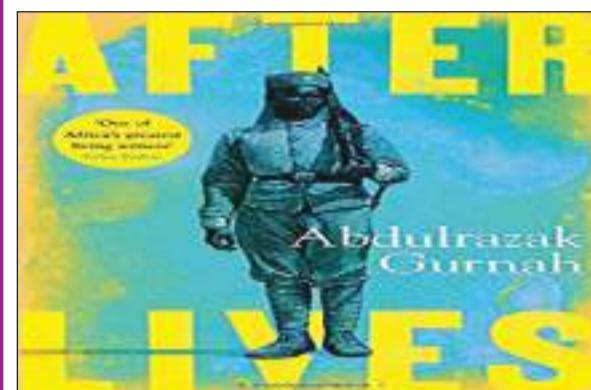
**Tip:** Layer it with some tchotchke or a wall mirror to create a vignette.

#### Bring in a piece de resistance

A unique artwork, painting or even a sculpture can spruce up the aesthetics of a corner and make a stylish statement

## BOOK REVIEW

### Afterlives



**Title:** Afterlives  
**Author:** Abdulrazak Gurnah

**Genre:** Fiction  
**Publisher:** Bloomsbury Publishing

**Pages:** 288  
**Price:** 420 INR

**Review:** After having written nine awe-inspiring books, Nobel Literature laureate Abdulrazak Gurnah's latest novel 'Afterlives' was published in October 2020. And exactly a year later, he has won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature. 'Afterlives' is an addition to the glorious archive of African Literature that was created by Chinua Achebe, Chimamanda Adichie and other notable authors. Post-colonialism, immigration, refugees and racism continue to be the dominant themes in Gurnah's books and 'After Lives' takes after its precedents in every way.

Set amidst the colonial conflict of Africa, where Germans, British, Belgians and the French are struggling for control, 'Afterlives' is the story of Ilyas and Hamza. Ilyas is a young man who was stolen from his parents by German troops. Hamza, on the other hand, was sold and has been brought up under the protection of an officer who now lays full claim over him. After getting done with the war, Hamza returns home to the same place where Ilyas lived and is now in search of a job, security and love- in Ilyas' sister Afya, who was given away by their parents. The book captures one of the most prominent consequences of the imminent First World War and colonization -the life and struggles of African citizens who were stolen or bought to fight for Europe.

The book has been widely acclaimed for its depiction of a prominent but rarely explored theme of the lives of soldiers who fight for the colonizer. Do add this book to your reading list if you wish to pick a novel written by this year's winner of the prestigious Nobel Prize in Literature.

## GADGET REVIEW

### Apple Watch Series 7



**Expected Price:** Rs 10,999.

**Brand:** Apple  
**Model:** MKN03HN/A  
**Model Name:** Watch Series 7 GPS 41mm  
**Weight:** 32 g  
**Material:** Aluminium  
**Shape:** Rectangle  
**Type:** Color OLED  
**Touch:** Yes  
**Resolution:** 430x352 pixels  
**RAM:** 1 GB  
**Inbuilt Memory:** 32 GB  
**Wi-Fi:** Yes  
**Bluetooth:** Yes, 5.0  
**GPS:** Yes  
**USB Port:** No

**Features:**  
Crack Resistant, Always-On Display, OLED Retina Display, Sensors Accelerometer, Gyro, Barometer, Compass, VO2max, Respiratory Rate

#### Pros

- \* Support eSIM.
- \* Light weight smartwatch.
- \* IP6X water resistance.
- \* Wireless charging support.

#### Cons

- \* It may not be compatible with Android OS.
- \* No BP reading.

## VEHICLE REVIEW

### Tata Punch



**Starting Price:** Rs. 5.50 Lakh\*

**Fuel Type:** Petrol  
**Engine Displacement:** 1199  
**No. of cylinder:** 3  
**Max Power:** 84.48bhp@6000rpm  
**Max Torque:** 113nm@3300rpm/+/-100 rpm  
**Seating Capacity:** 5  
**Transmission Type:** Manual  
**Boot Space:** 366 L  
**Fuel Tank Capacity:** 37.0 L  
**Body Type:** SUV  
**Ground Clearance:** 187 mm  
**Boot Space:** 366 L  
**Steering Type:** Power  
**Steering Column:** Tilt & Telescopic  
**Front Brake Type:** Ventilated Disc  
**Rear Brake Type:** Drum

#### Advance Safety Features

AA/ ACP, Reverse Parking Camera, iRA Connected Tech, Infotainment Screen By HarmanTM

#### Pros

- \* Well-designed & practical cabin with enough space for 4 adults.
- \* Smooth gearshifts.
- \* Reliable transmission.

#### Cons

- \* Fuel efficiency is slightly lower compared to other gearboxes.

## ASTROLOGY

### WEEKLY PREDICTIONS 17<sup>TH</sup>—23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2021

#### ARIES



MAR 21 - APR 19

Look out for your fellow humans as the week begins and all will go well. On Monday and Tuesday, you may need to curb your natural competitiveness to get ahead. On Wednesday and Thursday, you're lost in your own thoughts -- and they're not all pleasant, unfortunately. Expect to butt heads if you put those cranky notions into action.

#### LIBRA



SEP 23 - OCT 22

Who can resist your flirtatious smile and easygoing outlook? Nobody, at least not as the week begins -- you'll be charming socks off by the score on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday and Thursday, you might still be generous with your attention, but you'll be stingy with your cash. Put that fiscal fussiness to use by plotting out a smart financial plan.

#### TAURUS



APR 20 - MAY 20

If you're expecting boredom as the week begins, prepare to be (pleasantly) disappointed. Your routine gets some spark on Monday and Tuesday and you should follow up on any chance for fun -- even if it means your work has to wait. On Wednesday and Thursday, your passions will push you into action. Just make sure they don't push you into trouble, too.

#### SCORPIO



OCT 23 - NOV 21

The week could start on a difficult note. Your heart and your head can't seem to agree on Monday and Tuesday and this might be a better time to think than act (especially if you can count on some back-and-forth banter with friends). Your outlook on Wednesday and Thursday should clear up dramatically, finding you exceptionally charismatic and confident.

#### GEMINI



MAY 21 - JUN 20

Every week should begin this way! You're full of energy and enthusiasm on Monday and Tuesday -- and you've got ample charm to inspire others at home, at work or anywhere. Expect to slow down on Wednesday and Thursday, though: You'll be more intent on analysis than action. That unusual intelligence and insight should carry you well, when you can put those ideas to work.

#### SAGITTARIUS



NOV 22 - DEC 21

Who loves you, baby? Everybody, apparently -- or at least it'll seem that way as this week begins. Friends and admirers will rally to your banner on Monday and Tuesday and it's a good time to make your wishes known. You can expect an attentive audience. On Wednesday and Thursday, that outgoing mood could shift to shyness. Maybe it's time for some peace and quiet to recharge?

#### CANCER



JUN 21 - JUL 22

Watch for troubles on the home front as the week begins. Monday and Tuesday could both bring domestic conflicts, but a little empathy on your part could go a long way. By Wednesday and Thursday, emotions are running high. That can lead to excitement in romance and relationships -- but amped-up emotions spell nothing but trouble for any financial or legal issues. Play it safe.

#### CAPRICORN



DEC 22 - JAN 19

Your ambitiousness will pay off as the week begins. Monday is great day to start projects and make things happen. Everyone might not be on the same over-achieving wavelength right now, but they'll at least have the good sense to get out of your way. You should give you time and perspective to step back and re-assess where you're at -- and you can count on friends to help you take accounts.

#### LEO



JUL 23 - AUG 22

Everybody is on your side as the week begins. And how could they not be? You've got all the answers (and you're having all the fun!) on Monday and Tuesday. Enjoy the popularity. On Wednesday and Thursday, you'll quiet down ever so slightly -- now is an excellent time for chin-rubbing introspection and quiet analysis. On Sunday, help yourself out by helping someone else.

#### AQUARIUS



JAN 20 - FEB 18

Expect to make close connections as the week begins. Monday and Tuesday are both perfect days for getting your point across and winning over friends (and maybe even making new ones). Wednesday and Thursday see you slowing back down and turning inward, as thoughts shift to the big picture. Are you making enough progress in your chosen work?

#### VIRGO



AUG 23 - SEP 22

Watch some prudence on financial matters as the week begins. On Wednesday and Thursday, indulge your intellect by striking up conversations and following your curiosity. On Friday and Saturday, resist the urge to rush ahead. Sometimes the most daring -- and worthy -- risk is to kick back and just let things happen. On Sunday, rest on your laurels.

#### PISCES



FEB 19 - MAR 20

Watch out for conflict as the week begins. Others might not be on your side on Monday and Tuesday and even former partners could have ambitions at odds with your plans. Don't be afraid to toss out the old in favor of the new and on Wednesday and Thursday be extra careful of anyone trying to take advantage. Stand up for yourself and don't back down!