

MOVIE REVIEW

Ponniyin Selvan

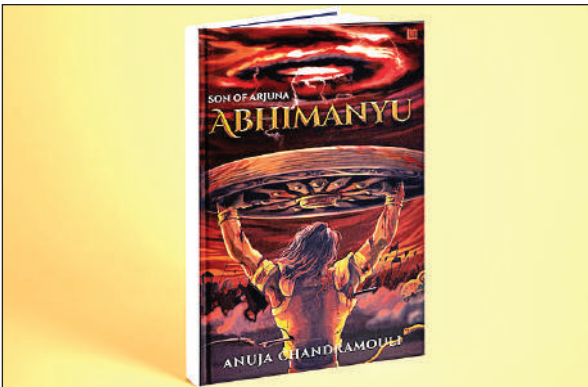


Director: Mani Ratnam
Cast: Aishwarya Rai, Jayam Ravi, Sobhita Dhulipala, Karthi, Trisha Krishnan, Prakash Raj, Vikram Prabhu
STORY: The Chola kingdom is under threat from forces both internal and external, and with crown prince Aaditha Karikalan, his younger brother Arunmozhi Varman and the emperor, Sundara Cholar separated by situations, it is up to a messenger to ensure the safety of the kingdom. Can he succeed in his mission, especially with Karikalan's former girlfriend, Nandhini, plotting to bring down the entire Chola empire?
REVIEW: The casting is more or less spot on. Karthi is terrific as the playful Vandhiyathevan, and along with Jayaram, who plays the spy Alvarkadiyan, infuses humour into the largely serious proceedings. Aishwarya captures the spirit of Nandhini with her beguiling looks, while Vikram, Jayam Ravi and Trisha are effective as the royalty. The frames have grandeur, but unlike in the Baahubali films, here, it is more understated. Shooting largely on real locations, cinematographer Ravi Varman gives us spectacle in the visuals of grand fort walls, the spacious halls with multiple pillars and high ceilings, a solitary boat on a wide expanse of the ocean and innumerable bodies lined up on the beach. While AR Rahman's chopped-up songs are mainly used to further the narrative, his score helps in lending a rousing quality to the proceedings in the second half.

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

BOOK REVIEW

Abhimanyu



Title: Abhimanyu
Author: Anuja Chandramouli
Genre: Mytho-fiction
Publisher: One Point Six Technologies Pvt Ltd
Pages: 369
Price: 399 INR
Review: Popular Indian mytho-fiction writer, Anuja Chandramouli's new novel 'Abhimanyu' released in August 2022. As the title suggests, this is the story of Arjuna's son--Abhimanyu.
After writing about Arjuna- the Pandava warrior prince- in her novel 'Arjuna', Chandramouli revisits the 'Mahabharata' and tells the story of Abhimanyu-- the unfortunate prince who died young on the battle ground of Kurukshetra. While much is known about how Abhimanyu valiantly fought against the Kauravas and died young on the thirteenth day of the war; his life before this is lesser known. Throwing light on it and giving a glimpse of the man behind the 'tragic prince', Chandramouli retells Abhimanyu's story from the time of his birth to when he died fighting in the Chakravayuh. In the process, the author highlights the little-known aspects of Abhimanyu's remarkable life and retells the epic 'Mahabharata' through Abhimanyu's point of view.
No matter how many times one revisits the 'Mahabharata', it never fails to amaze readers as they discover a new perspective of it each time. And reading Chandramouli's account of Abhimanyu's story is one such experience. The author's moving narrative and easy writing style makes it a fascinating read. Fans of Chandramouli's previous novels or those who like reading mytho-fictions would like to add 'Abhimanyu' to their reading list.

GADGET REVIEW

Oppo F21s Pro 5G



Expected Price	Rs 26,999
Display	6.43-inch
Resolution	(1080x2400)
Processor	Qualcomm Snapdragon 695
Front Camera	16MP
Rear Camera	64MP + 2MP + 2MP
Rear autofocus	Yes
Rear flash	Yes
RAM	8GB
Storage	128GB
Battery Capacity	4500mAh
OS	Android 12
GPS	Yes
Bluetooth	Yes, v 5.10
USB Type-C	Yes
Headphones	3.5mm
Face unlock	Yes
Fingerprint Sensor	Yes
Compass	Yes
Proximity sensor	Yes
Colours	Dawnlight Gold, Starlight Black

Pros	Cons
* Great design.	* Low light shots need improvement.
* Good battery life.	* Lacks stereo speakers.
* Good camera performance in daylight.	

VEHICLE REVIEW

TVS iQube Electric



Starting Price	Rs. 1.60 - 1.61 Lakh*
Range	100 km/charge
Charging Time	2 Hour 50 Min - 80%
Top Speed	78 kmph
Motor Type	BLDC
Battery Type	Lithium Ion
Battery Capacity	3.04 kwh
Brakes Front	Disc
Brakes Rear	Drum
Kerb Weight	117.2 Kg
Starting	Push Button Start
Wheels Type	Alloy
Tyre Type	Tubeless
Transmission Type	Automatic
Ground Clearance	157 mm
Tail Light	LED
USB charging port	Yes
Additional Features	
Number Plate Lamp, Parking Assist	
Live Location Status, Crash & Fall Alert	
BMS-Controlled Protection System	

Pros	Cons
* Powerful hub motor.	* Annoying startup tune.
* Features Q-park.	* The raised floorboard.
* Well-balanced suspension setup.	

Health and Lifestyle

A six-step guide to getting your interior design right



Daunted by reorganising your space and don't know where to begin? Here's a step-by-step guide from Shah Akshat, Founder and Entrepreneur of a design company, to help you get started on designing your own living or workspace. While hiring a good interior designer will help, knowing the basics of aesthetic design can give you a head start!
Less is always more
As cities get populated and space becomes a prized possession, practicality should be your new mantra. Space has to be used optimally and not merely to a decorative extent – hence prime use of a property's carpet area and ideal positioning of furniture is paramount. Good space planning in fact is key to make an area look its best.
Let the sunshine flow
A significant part of creating a good interior design is the optimum use of natural light, along with ventilation. More natural light fills the space with positive energy and also makes the space look bigger. Not just that, your power bills will also go down substantially.
Shade & Shape
Colours can enhance the illusion of space and intimacy, depending on what you choose to splash on the walls. White and other pastel shades, such as blush pink, can make a space appear larger than it is – more so if the space is bathed in natural light. Conversely, if there's very little or no natural light, consider using dark pastel shades to give a sense of intimacy and cosiness. For a soothing and safe touch, go for pastel



shades as they are easy to merge in any design setting.
Multifunctional territory
The concept and culture of work from home during the pandemic has given birth to multifunctional rooms as bedrooms, living rooms and even dining rooms that double up as workspaces in the last two years. Multiple uses of rooms is now the new norm as apartments and houses have limited scope for expansion too.
Tech is the future
A smart home for a smart you! Even though technology has reached new realms of advancement, its introduction to private homes came pretty late. A smart home will involve operations of all your appliances and gadgets, such as televisions, music systems, lights, curtains, etc., with a simple voice command. This is all the rage in 2022; the world is rapidly moving towards intelligent living and technical help assistants.
Texture & Tone
Just as colours make a space feel warm or cool, texture lends tone and weight to the space. In interior design, texture implies the surface quality of a material used. To give an example, rough textures set off a feeling of warmth as they reflect less light, giving the object a rustic and weighty feel whereas smooth and shiny textures lend themselves to a modern look as they reflect more light, making the living space feel more contemporary. Quite simply, without texture, a space will fall flat. It's the perfect way to add depth, dimension, and decadence to a room.

ASTROLOGY

WEEKLY PREDICTIONS 09TH – 15TH OCTOBER 2022

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19 This week, your star is shining brightly. The week begins with Venus in Libra, which represents your life path. There is also a full moon in your own sign of Aries. You could be in love with someone who isn't beneficial for your life. To stay in relationship, you must either adjust or ask them to make some changes. The sun in Libra trines Saturn in Aquarius.	LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22 This week, it's all about choices. The week begins with Venus in Libra making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. Libra, you might be playing the game of comparison today. You could be thinking that if you were more successful, you'd be more confident. You might tell yourself that you'd take more action if you didn't feel so nervous.
TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20 This week, your energy ebbs and flows just like the tides. The week begins with Venus in Libra and your house of working routines making a quineux to the North Node in your own sign of Taurus. You could sprint through your to-do list and be ready to take on more. Or you might be quite excited about a new project and lose all track of time. Today, you could be in the flow.	SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21 This week, an important connection is coming your way. The week begins with Venus in Libra and your house of pleasurable escapes making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. There is also a full moon in Aries. Today, you might realize you're spending a little too much time on social media and not enough in real life. There are people to meet out there, new friends and possibly romance.
GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 20 This week, you might give in to temptation (at least briefly). The week begins with Venus in Libra making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. You could be tempted into a romantic liaison with someone who might not be the most prudent choice. They could be exciting, intriguing and downright titillating, but this isn't necessarily a connection your friends would approve.	SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21 This week, you're a leading force for good. The week begins with Venus in Libra and your house of community making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. Sagittarius, you could be around a lot of people today. This might be a group that shares a hobby or interest of yours or wants to work with you to make changes in the neighborhood. And now you're in the spotlight because everyone is happy to see you.
CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22 This week, when you ask, you can receive. The week begins with Venus in Libra and your house of family making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. There is also a full moon in Aries. As much as you love your family, you don't always agree with them. Cancer, this could be one of those days when you're going to ask a family member to compromise so you can do what you want.	CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19 This week, you're racking up some wins. The week begins with Venus in Libra making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. Your podcast or video seems to be racking up a lot of likes. Capricorn, you might get more followers for your channel, or you could be retweeting someone famous and it's noticed by many others. Today, you're in the spotlight from the comfort of your own sofa.
LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22 This week, you're ready to negotiate for what you want. The week begins with Venus in Libra making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. Leo, you might be reviewing an important agreement and, frankly, the terms aren't entirely to your liking. It's very important to have a clear idea of your objectives and let the other side know what you're willing to give in order to get what you want.	AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18 This week, it's good to be flexible. The week begins with Venus in Libra and your house of travel, making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. There's also a full moon in Aries. Your travel plans might hit a snag when your airline changes your flight or you can't find a rental car to reserve. Aquarius, you might spend some time on the phone trying to get things straightened out.
VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22 This week, you're making positive adjustments. The week begins with Venus in Libra making a quineux to the North Node in Taurus. There is also a full moon in Aries. Virgo, your recent bank balances might indicate that you need to make an adjustment in your spending. There is a clear way forward where you can put in the effort.	PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20 This week, patience brings success. The week begins with Venus in Libra and your house of intimacy making a quineux with the North Node in Taurus. There's also a full moon in Aries. Lately, you could be feeling that the timing is off between you and your sweetheart. Pisces, you might want to snuggle in the morning, but they're up early to play golf.