

MOVIE REVIEW

Safed



Director: Sandeep Singh
Cast: Abahy Verma, Meera Chopra, Barkha Bisht Sengupta
STORY: Shunned by society, a young widow and a transgender person from Varanasi find solace in each other. But will such an unconventional relationship be accepted?

REVIEW: The film aims to portray how widows and transpersons are treated by society. However, the portrayal seems lopsided as it focuses on the transperson being mistreated while the widows' experiences in society remain largely unexplored. The narrative primarily hinges on melodrama and loud dialogues mouthed by the troupe of transpersons. The depiction overuses expletives and graphic scenes that will make the viewer squirm. Still, some portions are thought-provoking — like the third gender blessing a newlywed couple, or a newborn baby is considered auspicious, yet their birth in a household spells doom.

Showing similarities between Kaali and Chaandi's respective realities through a conversation when they complete each other's sentences and Chandi's empathy for the widows are some of the good moments in the movie. Many elements seem forced, such as Chaandi falling victim to a crime and playing Holi with the widows. The climax is overstretched and heightens the drama. Safed's concept must have been good on paper but falls short at the execution level. A good thought turns more sensational than sensitive, and the over-dramatisation takes away from its impact.

In-depth Analysis

Our overall critic's rating is not an average of the sub scores below.

Direction	██████████	3/5
Dialogues	██████████	3/5
Story	██████████	3/5
Music	██████████	3/5
Visual appeal	██████████	3/5

BOOK REVIEW

The Fast and the Dead



Title: 'The Fast and the Dead'
Author: Anuja Chauhan
Genre: Thriller
Pages: 420
Price: Rs 499

Review: Anuja Chauhan's latest literary offering, 'The Fast and the Dead', unfolds in the vibrant world of Bangalore's Habba Galli, where the calmness and spiritual sense of Karwa Chauth night is shattered by the unusual Dondi Pais and her double-barrelled shotgun. What begins as an attempt to disperse noisy mongrels takes a sinister turn when a stray bullet claims the life of a sour jeweller, setting the stage for a gripping and classic whodunnit.

Chauhan masterfully weaves together a tale of suspense, romance, and the quirks of a neighbourhood mingled with its residents and stray dogs. Against the backdrop of the bustling bazaar, the devout residents speculate on divine retribution, linking the jeweller's demise to his wife's untimely breaking of her Karwa Chauth fast. The author, Anuja Chauhan introduces a cast of characters, from rising Bollywood star Haider Sait to the canny ACP Bhavani Singh, the only common link to her previous work, 'Club You to Death'.

While 'The Fast and the Dead' is a sequel to Chauhan's previous work 'Club You to Death', it can also be read as a stand-alone novel. The book showcases her ability to craft engaging narratives in diverse settings. The narrative unfolds with a delightful blend of suspense and humour, keeping readers hooked until the last page. Chauhan's storytelling techniques shine as she navigates the complexities of a murder mystery, offering readers a taste of the city's charm and the behaviour of its inhabitants. Anuja Chauhan's venture into Bangalore proves successful, adding another compelling chapter to her list of bestsellers.

GADGET REVIEW

Redmi 13C 5G



Expected Price	Rs 10,999
Display	6.74-inch
Resolution	(720x1600)
Processor	MediaTek Dimensity 6100+
Front Camera	5MP
Rear Camera	50MP
RAM	4GB, 6GB, 8GB
Storage	128GB, 256GB
Battery Capacity	5000mAh
OS	Android 13
Wi-Fi	Yes
GPS	Yes
Bluetooth	Yes, v 5.30
USB Type-C	Yes
Headphones	3.5mm
Number of SIMs	2
Face unlock	Yes
Fingerprint sensor	Yes
Magnetometer	Yes
Accelerometer	Yes
Ambient light sensor	Yes

Pros

- * Stylish design.
- * Excellent battery backup.
- * 5G on a budget.
- * Solid build.

Cons

- * Slow charging.
- * Average cameras.

VEHICLE REVIEW

Jeep Compass



Starting Price	Rs. 20.49 - 32.07 Lakh*
ARAI Mileage	14.9 kmpl
Fuel Type	Diesel
Engine Displacement	1956 cc
No. of cylinder	4
Gear Box	9-Speed
Max Power	167.67bhp@3750rpm
Max Torque	350Nm@1750-2500rpm
Seating Capacity	5
Transmission Type	Automatic
Boot Space	438 L
Fuel Tank Capacity	60 L
Body Type	SUV
Front Suspension	McPherson Strut with Lower Control Arm
Rear Suspension	Multi Link Suspension with Strut Assembly
Steering Type	Power
Steering Column	Tilt & Telescopic
Front Brake Type	Disc
Rear Brake Type	Disc

Pros

- * Looks more premium.
- * Gets an all-new, modern-looking cabin.
- * Big update to the infotainment with two 10-inch screens.
- * Lots of added features to aid convenience.

Cons

- * Prices expected to go further up.
- * No major changes to the exterior.

Health and Lifestyle

How colors influence the mood and atmosphere of your room



popular colors and their emotions.

Blues and greens

Colours like blue and green have a calming effect which also reminds us of the sky and nature. These colours reduce stress and also help in promoting a sense of relaxation. Whether it is a serene blue bedroom or a lush green living area, these colours know how to bring peace to your mind.

Red and pink

Red and pink are usually associated with energy, vibrancy, and passion. They create the path of conversations and invite a feeling of excitement while adding a touch of drama.

When it comes to designing the interiors of your home, colours not only speak about one's aesthetics but are also a powerful tool that can shape emotions and help create a soothing atmosphere. The study of colour psychology also delves into how it is connected to human nature and this makes it an essential aspect to consider while choosing the interiors of your home.

One needs to understand the nuances of colour psychology and how the palettes harness their magic to create interiors that summon the desired feelings and moods. Colours have a silent ability to communicate with one's emotions on a subconscious level. Every colour has a message for you and it evokes a certain kind of emotional response.

For instance, if there are serene blues, then it'll give rise to a sense of calmness. Whereas reds evoke energy and passion. Colour language should allow us to create a specific narrative the moment one enters the space which also improves the overall experience and mood of a person. Warm earth tones such as terracotta, beige, and warm browns tend to bring a sense of groundedness and coziness to one.

They have the power to evoke emotions of natural beauty and comfort while making them a perfect choice for the creation of a livid living space.

Therefore, one needs to specialize in utilizing earth tones to infuse warmth and tranquillity into the interiors, while making one feel relaxed. Let's take a look at some of the



These palettes know how to create a focal point and add personality to your space making them look captivating.

Neutral shades

Neutral colours include grays, whites, and blacks which provide a canvas-looking design style to your room. They deliver effects of sophistication and elegance while allowing other design elements to take center stage. Neutral colours also help in creating timeless interiors that stand the test of time and blend with different aesthetics.

Colour psychology is a remarkable tool that also helps enhance the corners of your house and orchestrate emotions with the creation of a memorable space. The hues do not just create a visual delight but also showcase the reflection of one's emotion and ambiance you wish to nurture.

ASTROLOGY

WEEKLY PREDICTIONS 07TH – 13TH JANUARY 2024

ARIES



This week, slowing down is beneficial. The week begins on Sunday, December 31, with the moon in Virgo and your house of organized plans opposing Saturn in Pisces. Don't try to build anything today without reading the instructions first, or you might find that you have a lot of leftover pieces and poor results. Today, take things step by step.

TAURUS



This week is about relationships and good connections. The week begins on Sunday, with the moon in Virgo and your house of romance. Taurus, you might want a little bit of fun while your partner wants to get serious. You could have a discussion about the future in which you feel some pressure to make a commitment or at least a promise. One of you might be flirting while the other is thinking long term.

GEMINI



This week, you have lots of options. The week begins on Sunday, December 31, with the moon in Virgo and your house of home and family opposing Saturn in Pisces. Gemini, you might be torn trying to decide whether you want to go out on the town or stay in your cozy home with loved ones. You might have to split your time between parties and celebrations and staying home with the kids.

CANCER



This week, you're getting a good start. The week begins on Sunday, with the moon in Virgo and your house of vehicles and short-distance travel opposing Saturn in Pisces. It might be hard to get around town today. This could be due to faulty instructions, roadwork, or bad weather conditions. Give yourself extra time to get anywhere, and know that the people around you are feeling just as impatient.

LEO



This week, you could create something extraordinary. The week begins on Sunday, with the moon in Virgo and your house of money opposing Saturn in Pisces. Leo, you might be looking ahead now and resolving to do better when it comes to handling money. And now you have the focus and ambition to lean in to saving and investing.

VIRGO



This week, you're moving ahead of the pack. The week begins on Sunday with the moon in your own sign of Virgo and your house of confidence opposing Saturn in Pisces. A person in authority could point out that you know quite a lot. They might be pushing you to start your own business or apply for a promotion. They're encouraging you to take hold of your power.

LIBRA



This week, there are benefits inside and out. The week begins on Sunday, with the moon in Virgo and your house of the shadow self opposing Saturn in Pisces. Today, you have the capacity to do some good inner work, and you might even have a breakthrough. Libra, you could reach a point of understanding something that reorders your world. Consider asking yourself some important questions.

SCORPIO



This week, you're meeting the right people. The week begins on Sunday, with the moon in Virgo and your house of friendships. There's an opportunity to forge a deep and meaningful connection with someone. You might have to go out of your way to show someone you're serious about this friendship. In fact, you might have to forgo something you want to do in order to show this person that you're open to their ideas.

SAGITTARIUS



This week, you're looking for personal freedom. The week begins on Sunday, December 31, with the moon in Virgo and your house of social standing opposing Saturn in Pisces. Sagittarius, you might want to see friends or loved ones, but there is something keeping you at home. It could be the weather or that you promised someone you would stay home. Today, you might be kept from doing what you want.

CAPRICORN



This week, you're surrounded by angels and guides. The week begins on Sunday, December 31, with the moon in Virgo and your house of education opposing Saturn in Pisces. Capricorn, you might be tasked with learning something new, and it isn't easy to do. It could be challenging on all levels. The solution is to break projects into small, manageable parts. Today, you can conquer a challenging task.

AQUARIUS



This week, you're expanding your circle of friends. The week begins on Sunday, December 31, with the moon in Virgo and your house of investments opposing Saturn in Pisces. Aquarius, you might be doing some last-minute year-end financial planning. You could feel inspired to get your finances in order as the new year dawns. On Monday, January 1, Venus in Sagittarius squares Saturn.

PISCES



This week, you're making plans for the future. The week begins on Sunday, with the moon in Virgo and your house of relationships opposing Saturn in Pisces. You and your partner might have a very serious discussion about the year ahead. Pisces, you could talk about where the relationship is going and start to make solid plans.