

## WEBSERIES REVIEW

### Aranyak Season 1



**Director:** Vinay Waikul  
**Cast:** Raveena Tandon, Parambrata Chatterjee, Ashutosh Rana, Zakir Hussain, Saurav Khurana

**STORY:** Set in the cold and picturesque hill station called Sironah, somewhere in North India, 'Aranyak' follows the lives of two starkly opposite police officers. Angad is a city-bred cop with sophisticated crime-solving skills while Kasturi (Raveena Tandon) is a native, friendly neighbourhood police-woman, who knows the people, places and the pulse of her small-town. Can they work together as a team to solve a puzzling case of a young tourist's rape and murder that has revived the rumours of a dreaded serial killer on the loose?

**REVIEW:** The sheer runtime of 'Aranyak' hurts it more than anything else because the show's plot seems like it could have been easily summarised in a feature film without losing its essence of darkness and secrecy. And because the screen-play is spread so thinly across the episodes, it tends to become weak and laborious.

The premise of Raveena Tandon-starrer 'Aranyak' isn't new nor is the setting of a sleepy small-town being rocked by a murder something that we haven't seen before, especially on OTT. Yet, this show produced by Rohan Sippy and Siddharth Roy Kapur, written by Charudutt Acharya and directed by Vinay Waikul, builds a strong sense of mystery and constant suspense that keeps it going. Sure, 'Aranyak' isn't the best in its genre but is certainly a well-made show that scores on nuanced performances and thrilling moments.

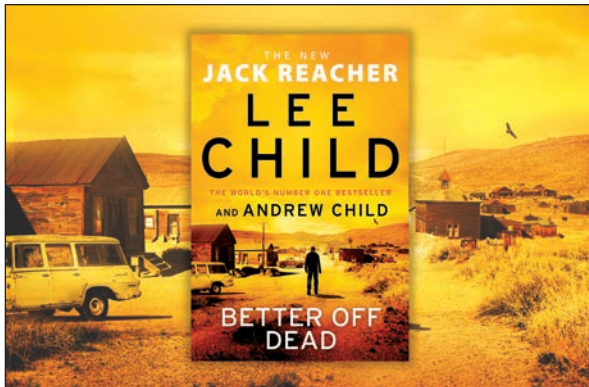
#### In-depth Analysis

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

## BOOK REVIEW

### Better Off Dead



**Title:** 'Better Off Dead'  
**Author:** Lee Child and Andrew Child  
**Genre:** Crime fiction  
**Publisher:** Bantam Press  
**Pages:** 352  
**Price:** 699 INR

**Review:** The Jack Reacher Series has been a rage among crime fiction enthusiasts and has been authored by the renowned writer James Grant. Having been adapted for the big screen under Christopher McQuarrie's direction, the book has already reached a wide audience and created an extensive fan base. Writing under his pen name, Lee Child, James has authored 24 books individually, beginning with 'Killing Floor' and concluding with 'Blue Moon'. The series was followed by Grant collaborating with his brother Andrew Grant, writing under the pen name of Andrew Child, for the 25th book in the series titled 'The Sentinel'. Second in line and much awaited, 'Better Off Dead' is co-authored by the siblings and has finally been released in October of 2021.

The story revolves around the eponymous protagonist Jack Reacher, who is an ex-major from the US Army's military police and goes about investigating intriguing but risky situations in the United States. When a random attack claims the lives of five men in a small town of the United States, Jack Reacher is summoned to investigate an apparently simple looking crime which becomes more complicated as he delves deeper within it. The latest book, 'Better off Dead', carries the investigatory adventures of Jack Reacher further as he comes across a Jeep crashed into the only tree in sight for miles in the middle of a desert. On the driver's seat is a woman, seemingly dead but perhaps only unconscious, who can tell? With a hidden motive and an army history, Michaela Fenton is an FBI agent who wants to bring down the notorious Dendonecker.

## GADGET REVIEW

### Xiaomi 11 Youth Vitality



<b>Expected Price</b>	<b>Rs 26,999.</b>
Display	6.55-inch (1080x2400)
Resolution	Qualcomm Snapdragon 778G
Processor	20MP
Front Camera	64MP + 8MP + 5MP
Rear Camera	Yes
Rear autofocus	Yes
Rear flash	8GB
RAM	128GB
Storage	4250mAh
Battery Capacity	Android 11
OS	Yes
GPS	Yes, v 5.20
Bluetooth	Yes
NFC	Yes
Infrared	Yes
USB Type-C	Yes
Fingerprint sensor	Yes
Proximity sensor	Yes
4G/ LTE	Yes
5G	Yes

#### Pros

- \* Design and Colour Shades.
- \* Sleek and Lightweight.
- \* Superb Display.
- \* Software Experience.
- \* Good Cameras.

#### Cons

- \* Decent Processor for Price.
- \* No Headphone Jack.

## VEHICLE REVIEW

### Volkswagen Tiguan



<b>Starting Price</b>	<b>Rs. 31.99 Lakh</b>
Fuel Type	Petrol
Engine Displacement	1984 cc
No. of cylinder	4
Max Power	187.74bhp@4200-6000rpm
Max Torque	320Nm@1500-4100rpm
Seating Capacity	5
No of Airbags	6
Transmission Type	Automatic
Boot Space	615 L
Fuel Tank Capacity	60.0
Body Type	SUV
Gear Box	7 Speed DCT
Steering Type	Power
Steering Column	Adjustable
Steering Gear Type	Rack & Pinion
Front Brake Type	Ventilated Disc
Rear Brake Type	Disc
Connectivity	Android Auto, Apple CarPlay
No of Speakers	8
Central Locking	Yes

#### Pros

- \* Understated Charm.
- \* Quality Insides.
- \* Practical Cabin.
- \* Driver focused.

#### Cons

- \* Low Fuel Economy.
- \* Limited Engine Performance.

# Health and Lifestyle

## Five pieces to make your bedroom warm & cozy for winter



that is all things vibey and unique. The style is unique in itself, but what adds in more warmth is the material of it.

It is made with a stunning leather in the deep hue of brown, the style simple yet elegant. Fill this with your favorite books for when you are craving some alone time with your favorite fictional characters.

#### Candlesticks

Nothing, and we mean nothing can warm-up and light up space like candles can, and when this can be done in a fashionable manner, that is cherry on the cake! A set of gorgeous candle holders with candles by your dresser, or your bedside which you can light to lit up your room will always

Come December, and the winter air is filled with the scent of hot chocolate, holiday movies, cozy sweaters, and warm love all around. All one wants to do is snuggle up in their coziest, warmest, softest blanket, and basically become a human burrito, and we absolutely stan that with our whole existence! The bedroom is our safe haven on any given day, but in winters the importance of a warm cozy space to unwind in, is just all the more essential. Changing up things a little, can instantly and effortlessly make your room a warm snugly paradise, that you will never want to leave, rightfully so!

#### Hot cup of coffee

Winters are the time we enjoy our warm cup of coffee, a hot brewing tea, or some good old-fashioned hot chocolate the most. Create a little nook in your room where you can enjoy your time doing just that. A warm wooden coffee table where you can sit, and journal your thoughts away while sipping on your hot beverage. Top it up with your favorite coffee table reads, some nude-hued aesthetic candles and you have yourself your very own Pinterest-worthy spot. If you are someone that loves coming home to the comfort of your books and bed, a book holder would be the perfect addition to your room, placed just by an arm's length by the bedside.

#### Book holder

Baggit by Curio Casa is an edgy and fabulous book holder,



be a mood. Candles and especially scented candles can lift up a space like no other. I mean just imagine a cold winter evening, you are sitting on your hot drink while reading your favourite book and the air is filled with the light aroma of vanilla cinnamon or a soft peony sandalwood, it cannot get better than that!

#### Hued vases

If we were you, we would also add in some earthy hued vases and throw in some ever so beautiful gyspo aka baby breath which would add a little more character and beauty to your room. These you can place by the window or even by the coffee table to enhance.

# ASTROLOGY

## WEEKLY PREDICTIONS 19<sup>TH</sup> — 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021

#### ARIES



MAR 21 - APR 19

Sun in Sagittarius, in your house of adventure, making a sextile to Jupiter in Aquarius in your house of friendships. Also, Venus goes retrograde. A friend may call you with a tempting offer. You could plan an adventure together. This might involve outdoor rock climbing or indoor skydiving (the type without a plane or a parachute). Aries, you can feel like a kid again.

#### LIBRA



SEP 23 - OCT 22

Sun in Sagittarius, making Jupiter in your house of romance and adventure. Libra, you have an opportunity to get back together with someone from your past. Libra, it's possible this person is coming into your life now, knocking on the door and waiting to be let in. Now you're likely weighing the pros and cons about answering that call.

#### TAURUS



APR 20 - MAY 20

Venus goes retrograde. When you reach out to a friend or former colleague, you could gain a job opportunity. It's possible you're connecting at exactly the right time. Reach out to people today and see what doors could be open for you. Mercury in Capricorn, in your house of travel, makes a trine to Uranus in your own sign of Taurus.

#### SCORPIO



OCT 23 - NOV 21

Mercury in Capricorn, in your house of communication, makes a trine to Uranus in Taurus in your house of relationships. You may get a very interesting offer from an intriguing stranger for a coffee date. Scorpio, this may be someone you've seen before but never had a long conversation with. And now, standing in line at the local Vons or Stop & Shop, your head might be spinning with thoughts of romance.

#### GEMINI



MAY 21 - JUN 20

Sun in Sagittarius, in your house of relationships, making Jupiter in Aquarius in your house of legal commitments. Someone you know may have recently got married, or perhaps you are attending a wedding today. One of your older kids may tell you they are thinking about getting engaged. If you're looking for love, as you could meet someone who is looking for commitment.

#### SAGITTARIUS



NOV 22 - DEC 21

Sun in Sagittarius (happy birthday!), in your house of confidence, making a sextile to Jupiter in your house of communication. People seem to be going out of their way to contact you. Friends from high school, people you knew from a community group, colleagues you used to work with, even that boss you didn't get along with, all seem to be thinking about you. Sagittarius, you are one of the most popular people around.

#### CANCER



JUN 21 - JUL 22

Sun in Sagittarius, in your house of work, making a sextile to Jupiter in Aquarius in your house of money from other people. Also, Venus goes retrograde. Today, you have an opportunity to make some extra dough. It's possible you are working overtime, or if you own a business, sales are up. Some might suggest you take the day off but making money is more fun. Cancer, someone may repay a debt they owe.

#### CAPRICORN



DEC 22 - JAN 19

Mars in Scorpio, in your house of community, making a sextile to Pluto in your own sign of Capricorn. Today, you could be tapped on the shoulder to lead an organization. Capricorn, you could become president of your networking group or have a pivotal role in a community outreach organization. And while this does mean more responsibility, it looks great on your resume.

#### LEO



JUL 23 - AUG 22

Sun in Sagittarius, in your house of romance, making a sextile to Jupiter in Aquarius in your house of relationships. Also, Venus goes retrograde. A love from your past may show up at your door. Now you can't get this person off your mind. Leo, start talking and see what unfolds. Mercury in Capricorn, in your house of work, makes a trine to Uranus in Taurus in your house of career.

#### AQUARIUS



JAN 20 - FEB 18

It's a good idea to make a vision board or to do a colorful screensaver with reminders of your goals. Aquarius, you might light a yellow candle to find a new job or burn incense to gain a promotion. Consider doing some Feng Shui by sweeping off your front porch to welcome in new career energy. Every once in a while, it's good to let your friends know how much you appreciate them.

#### VIRGO



AUG 23 - SEP 22

Sun in Sagittarius, in your house of home and family, making Jupiter in Aquarius in your house of organization. Also, Venus goes retrograde. The whole family may be springing into action, getting the house ready for the holidays and possibly overnight guests. Perhaps you have not decorated in a couple of years, and now you're ready to go all out.

#### PISCES



FEB 19 - MAR 20

Pisces, you might be venturing out to take a class, perhaps on cookie decorating or Ikebana (Japanese flower arranging). Perhaps you are getting ready to teach a class, gathering people online to show them how to blog or to get their YouTube channel started. Today, you're involved with others and learning along the way.