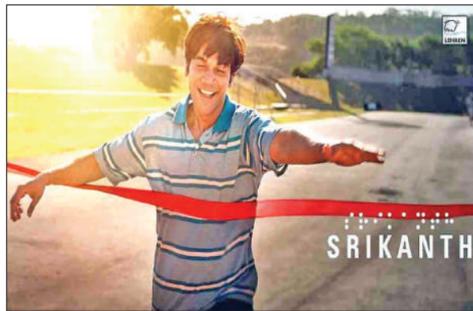


MOVIE REVIEW

Srikanth



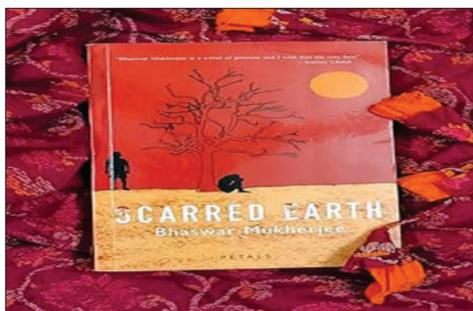
Director: Tushar Hiranandani
Cast: Rajkumar Rao, Jyotika, Alaya F
STORY: The biopic follows the journey of the visually-impaired industrialist Srikanth Bolla (Rajkumar Rao), his educational and entrepreneurial challenges, and how he overcame them with the help of his teacher and business partner.
REVIEW: Rajkumar Rao delivers a powerful performance as Srikanth, particularly excelling in portraying the character's internal struggles that come with success. He shines in the scenes when his indignation turns into insecurity and the endearing quality of laughing at himself. There's a scene when Srikanth trips, hurts his forehead, and fools his girlfriend, Swati (Alaya F) that he's got his eyesight back. While Rao convincingly portrays the adult Srikanth, the depiction of his teenage years seems a tad unconvincing. Jyotika is equally impressive as Devika, Srikanth's supportive teacher. Alaya F delivers a charming performance as Srikanth's love interest. However, the character deserved more depth; her role could have extended beyond just being a romantic element in the story.
The film has hummable romantic tracks by Sachet-Parampara ('Tu Mil Gaya' and 'Tumhe Hi Apna Maana Hai'), but the hero of the soundtrack is Papa Kehnte Hain from Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak, recreated by Aditya Dev. Saxophonist ID Rao lends an anthem-like quality that heightens the film's triumphant feel, especially in the second half, which evokes a range of emotions.

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

Direction	██████████	4/5
Dialogues	██████████	4/5
Story	██████████	4/5
Music	██████████	4/5
Visual appeal	██████████	4/5

BOOK REVIEW

Scarred Earth



Title: 'Scarred Earth'
Author: Bhaswar Mukherjee
Genre: Fiction – Thrillers and Suspense
Publisher: Petals Publishers & Distributors
Pages: 274
Price: INR 350
Review: "It was a revolution against exploitation; for those with vested interests and greed, it was exploitation in the name of revolution."
Could there be any truer words, given the context of social evolution in the face of human foibles since time immemorial? The good, the bad and the ugly faces of the society; all come together in Bhaswar Mukherjee's searingly soul-touching tale of tumult, human perseverance, grit, courage, justice, love, betrayal, hatred, and everything else. While the work may classify as fiction, it certainly draws inspiration from eclectic sources, the kinds that the newspapers are rife with nowadays. The backbone of the story is simple.
This young woman, who loses both her parents to the tragic turn of events, however, lives on, forged by 'a stronger force than the bonds of love and the paramount need for self-preservation', as realized by Muneim, a wonderful character, with such depth, that it is almost impossible to believe that he is a work of fiction. The novel also explores the theme of love in so many different forms, and so masterfully marauds across the boundaries that separate them, that it gives one a heartache to read through the pages. Filial love, social camaraderie, fraternal love, romantic love, marital love, love for power, money... the various forms of love intertwine to propel the story forward with conviction. The best thing about the story is that the kind of characters and their motivations have been so over-exploited in cinema and literature, that they stood a chance of appearing cliched, but Bhaswar Mukherjee obviates this inevitability with the strength of simplicity and honesty.

GADGET REVIEW

Moto G34 5G



Expected Price	Rs 52,999
Display	6.50-inch (1080x2400)
Resolution	Qualcomm Snapdragon 695
Processor	16MP
Front Camera	50MP + 2MP
Rear Camera	4GB, 8GB
RAM	128GB
Storage	5000mAh
Battery Capacity	Android 14
OS	Yes
Wi-Fi	Yes
GPS	Yes
Bluetooth	Yes, v 5.20
NFC	Yes
USB Type-C	Yes
Headphones	3.5mm
Face unlock	Yes
Fingerprint sensor	Yes
Magnetometer	Yes
Proximity sensor	Yes
Colours	Ice Blue, Charcoal Black, Ocean Green

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Display offers 120Hz refresh rate. * Vegan leather finish feels premium. * Good battery life. * 50-megapixel main camera. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Cameras don't perform well in lowlight.

VEHICLE REVIEW

Tata Punch EV



Starting Price	Rs. 10.99 - 15.49 Lakh*
Charging Time	5H 7.2 kW (10-100%)
Battery Capacity	35 kWh
Max Power	120.69bhp
Max Torque	190Nm
Seating Capacity	5
Range	421 km
Boot Space	366 Litres
Body Type	SUV
Ground Clearance	190 mm
Gear Box	Single Speed
Front Suspension	Independent, Lower Wishbone, McPherson Strut with Coil Spring
Rear Suspension	Semi-independent Twist Beam With Coil Spring
Steering Type	Electric
Turning Radius	4.9
Front Brake Type	Disc
Rear Brake Type	Disc
USB Charger	Front
Drive Mode Types	ECO CITY SPORT

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Two battery pack options: 25 kWh/35 kWh with real world range of ~200/300 km respectively. * Feature loaded: twin 10.25" screens, sunroof, ventilated seats, 360° camera. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Rear seat space is strictly average.

Health and Lifestyle

DIY ways to make the planet greener: Small actions, big impact



Early monsoons in cities, delayed snowfall in the mountains, and flooding of entire countries are the results of our world dealing with global warming. To survive as a species in the long run, all of us must come together and make changes in our lifestyle. Here are 10 easy ways to help the planet heal:

Upcycling and repurposing: Don't discard old items! Consider giving them a new life. Turn old glass jars and bottles into plant pots or repurpose clothing into reusable bags. Not only does this reduce waste, but it also encourages creativity and reduces the demand for new products.

Composting: Composting is a simple and effective way to reduce household waste while enriching soil. Home composters that take up minimal space and emit no foul odors are easily available. By composting food scraps and yard waste, you can divert organic matter from landfills and create nutrient-rich soil for your garden.

Urban gardening: No matter how small your living space, there are creative ways to grow your own food. DIY vertical gardens, container gardens, and rooftop gardens make it possible to cultivate herbs and vegetables in urban environments. This not only reduces the carbon footprint associated with food transportation but also provides habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.

Energy efficiency upgrades: Simple DIY upgrades to improve energy efficiency can reduce both utility bills and carbon emissions. Installing energy-efficient electronics and



adding insulation to walls are easy steps. Additionally, consider installing solar panels on the rooftop, which not only reduces electricity bills but also acts as a barrier from the heat.

Eco-friendly cleaning products: Many conventional cleaning products contain harmful chemicals that can harm both human health and the environment. DIY alternatives using natural ingredients like vinegar and baking soda are safer, cheaper, and more sustainable. You can also make Bio-enzymes at home from leftover lime and orange peels.

Reduce, reuse, recycle: The 3 R's remain a cornerstone of environmental stewardship. Reduce waste by opting for products with minimal packaging and avoiding single-use items whenever possible. Reuse items such as shopping bags, water bottles, and containers, and recycle materials like paper, glass, and plastic according to local guidelines.

Plantation: Plant a tree or trees with your loved ones on your birthday or any special occasion. Take care of it until it grows tall and sturdy and cherish its shade, fruits, and the happiness of contributing towards making the planet greener.

By embracing these DIY strategies, individuals can play a vital role in making the planet greener for future generations. Whether through upcycling, composting, urban gardening, energy efficiency upgrades, eco-friendly cleaning, or advocacy, every action counts in the collective effort to protect our environment. Together, we can create a more sustainable and resilient world.

ASTROLOGY

WEEKLY PREDICTIONS 19TH – 25TH MAY 2024

<p>ARIES</p> <p>MAR 21 - APR 19</p> <p>This week, you create an opportunity for yourself. Mars conjoins the North Node in your own sign of Aries and your house of confidence and conviction. Aries, you have the will to take on a big project, but you need a partner. Today, you could find someone to work with for a business venture, home project, or the next step in your career.</p>	<p>LIBRA</p> <p>SEP 23 - OCT 22</p> <p>This week, your positive attitude is contagious. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of relationships. Libra, you could be around a lot of new people today. You might attend an event or festival. You have the opportunity to make a connection with someone while you're enjoying an activity. If you're looking for a friend or love relationship.</p>
<p>TAURUS</p> <p>APR 20 - MAY 20</p> <p>This week, your capabilities are boundless. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of universal connection. Today, you can tap into the bigger Universe. Taurus, you might feel like information is being downloaded into your brain. You could have more energy and confidence now. The tools you need for your life path are within your grasp.</p>	<p>SCORPIO</p> <p>OCT 23 - NOV 21</p> <p>This week, you're getting to the heart of the matter. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of health and well-being. Scorpio, you could feel very motivated to change habits and routines to better support your body, mind, and spirit. You might start a new exercise program. You could set up equipment in your garage or spare room. You might connect with a personal trainer.</p>
<p>GEMINI</p> <p>MAY 21 - JUN 20</p> <p>This week, your resilience inspires others. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of friendships. One of your friends might have a brilliant idea, and this could lead to starting a business together or going on a trip to an exotic location. This helps both of you, especially if you've been stuck in a rut or feeling bored. If you're looking for love, you could find a special someone.</p>	<p>SAGITTARIUS</p> <p>NOV 22 - DEC 21</p> <p>This week, you see brighter days ahead. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of fun and adventure. Today, you can do something that is outside the box and even outside your comfort zone. Sagittarius, you might be climbing to new heights or swimming to new depths. Or you could be displaying your talents in front of an audience. By tomorrow, you could have some great stories to tell.</p>
<p>CANCER</p> <p>JUN 21 - JUL 22</p> <p>This week, you're following your heart. May 19, Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of reputation. What you do in the world today is very visible. If you're on social media, you might get more followers now. In your social circle, you could be at the head of the table. But note that if you're speeding down the highway, you could end up with a ticket.</p>	<p>CAPRICORN</p> <p>DEC 22 - JAN 19</p> <p>This week, your contributions in the world are noticed. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of family. Capricorn, you might come together with relatives for a joint project. Success is more likely when you partner with people you know well. You could combine resources for an investment or combine talents to build a business. This is a good day to start.</p>
<p>LEO</p> <p>JUL 23 - AUG 22</p> <p>This week, you turn challenges into opportunities. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of travel and adventure. Leo, this is a good day to plan a trip. You might find good prices for flights or accommodations. If you're traveling now, you could have an exceptionally good time. You might get involved with an organization or you could be voted into a position of authority in a group you belong to.</p>	<p>AQUARIUS</p> <p>JAN 20 - FEB 18</p> <p>This week, others admire your unique perspective. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of contracts and agreements. Aquarius, you might be looking over some paperwork today. This is a good day to fill out applications or commence an important project. If you're negotiating for a new car or apartment, you could do very well today. Friends and strangers might compliment your work.</p>
<p>VIRGO</p> <p>AUG 23 - SEP 22</p> <p>This week, you are pursuing a passion. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of resources from others. This is a good day to apply for a loan online or launch a business funding campaign. Virgo, you might go through the paperwork required by the SBA or talk to your wealthy uncle about giving you a loan.</p>	<p>PISCES</p> <p>FEB 19 - MAR 20</p> <p>This week, you're finding your own path. Mars conjoins the North Node in Aries and your house of financial gain. A moneymaking opportunity could open up for you, and you are ready to take action. This might be something you've been working on for some time, and now everything seems to come together for a profitable outcome.</p>