

Dangerous Ishq: Janmon ka badla

Written by Sharad Vatss
Saturday, 12 May 2012 18:30



This, so called, Karisma Kapoor's comeback vehicle actually makes you come back from theatre.

This was supposed to be the most awaited, well researched and promising film for Karishma Kapoor's return. It falls short on all three counts!

The film fails to match Vikram Bhatt's previous thrillers (1920 and Haunted). In fact, it comes across as a comic take on the Sunday special epic serials.

Completely women centric — Karisma is there in almost every frame — it gives the leading lady ample scope to show her histrionics.

The weak story is set in five eras, and talks about 'janam janam ka saath'. You tend to wonder what made Karisma chose this to reunite with her fans.

Story: Supermodel Sanjana (Karisma) is hit on her head as her beau Rohan (Rajnish Duggal) is being kidnapped. This results in her getting the ability to travel through her past lives. During this journey of regression, she gets to know her 'janmo ka bandhan' with Rohan and their friends and foes from those lives. She learns that all of them exist in their present life too and playing the same roles. Linking the past to the present with flashbacks, the unusual happenings are being explained. Sanjana has to solve this all and save Rohan within 24 hours with the help of ACP Bhargava (Jimmi Shergil).

Seems Interesting...!! Well, not actually!

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Performance: Karisma Kapoor is a fine actress but looks exhausted in the movie. So what we get is an age-defying mother of two in real life, hopping around in high heels, eternally decked up with make-up, weeping, gun-toting, turning Punjabi, Rajasthani and even Islamic, all with traumatic accents throughout the film. The film travels through many eras and she fails to blend with the time. Neither her looks and dresses nor her dialogue delivery convince.

Jimmy Shergill, riding on the success of his last hit 'Sahab Biwi aur Ghulam', proves to be the only respite of the movie. He does his best to hold the weak script.

Rajnish Duggal is worse than he was in '1920'. He better go back to the old modeling career or seek admission to some acting school.

Divya Dutta and Ravi Kishan have played their roles well. Divya, as usual, is top-notch but gets less scope to perform. Ravi is a bit loud but brings some thrill to the movie.

Ruslaan Mumtaz looks lost and extremely uncomfortable. Arya Babbar and Sameer Kochhar leave no impact. Gracy Singh would like to forget this film soon. She looks funny trying to portray a 'meera bai'. Natasha Sinha is worse of the lot.

Music: Every ludicrous past life of the female lead in the movie is backed by an equally tormenting song. If this is the kind of compositions that Himesh Reshammiya now concocts, he should give up on music.

Behind the scenes: Vikram Bhatt's father Praveen Bhatt is a veteran in the field of cinematography and it shows in the movie.

The sore point of the film is its 3D, which is actually so bad and blurry that by the time film ends, your eyes hurt. There's not even a single scene where you can justify wearing those funny glasses. If you can do just better with a 2D version. At least your eyes are saved.

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Ameen Haji's story is quite predictable. The dialogues fail to complement the era. Moreover, none of the actors look comfortable in those languages. Most of the actors have been given voice over, and it seems as if we are watching the classics Ramayan or Mahabharat with everybody speaking in the same tone.

The action by Abbas Ali Moughal seems to suffer from budget constraints.

The direction is the weakest link. Vikram Bhatt fails to make an impact the way he did in '1920' or 'Haunted'. This one actually looks like the effort of a first timer. He says he went through regression (travelling in past life) in New York and that's how he got the idea of this movie. He also seemingly got inspired by Dr Brian Weiss's 'Many Lives Many Masters'. But even all these reasons could not make him find a good screenplay.

Vikram Bhatt tried almost the same concept last year in his movie 'Phhir', which didn't work either.

Dangerous Ishq is actually dangerous to your sensibilities. Beware! It seems like Vikram wants a 'Janmon Ka Badla' from his audience this time. No wonder Karisma is hiding behind those blindfolds in the poster.

Sorry Vikram, you may have been born in China during your past life, but, why punish us!

(Rating: 2 stars out of 5 for me.)

---Sharad Vatss is a movie buff who works for Pepsi.