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English Composition

4.5 ShowWhatYouKnow

Books and Movies: Are they comparable?

“The book is always better than the movie”. This is something that has been said by many people. Yet as someone who enjoys reading and watching movies equally; I can’t seem to decide if that's true or not. A book gives you a nice quiet escape into another world; one you imagined. While watching the movie is another experience completely. I mean is it possible to even compare the two? Along with my own thoughts, I'll be sharing some quotes from two articles below; each author with their own opinions on the subject.

I have always enjoyed my time with a good book. The experience is subtle, quiet, and really helps my imagination go wild. I enjoy the journey my mind goes through while imagining what the characters sound or look like while reading. Now, taking a look at the movies created based on books I have read; I don’t feel like the two experiences are comparable. The reason being is just that, they are two different experiences. As stated in an article I read in *The Times Of India* “The movie will come out a separate work of art in itself and viewing it will be a different experience.” (Singh. T,2020, p.12)

While watching a movie there is no need to imagine anything, it's right in front of you. Movies bring the sound and visual effects to the story that allow for a whole new experience. Though the storyline is usually kept, a movie script is a completely different version of storytelling. I don't think they are comparable; a book takes you into detailed description from the perspective of a certain character. Meanwhile the movie tends to cover the big picture from all character perspectives.

Because of this I believe we have a right to our opinion in saying, " Hey,I enjoy one experience over the other". I wouldn't however say that one is better than the other. I have to agree with an author in *The Stanford Daily* "Sure, we can try to say that one tells the story better than the other, but I think that we should look at them as two separate stories entirely." (Taylor. C,2019 p. 2)

References:

Singh, T. (2020, September 15). Why you should read the book before watching the screen adaptation. *The Times Of India.*

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