

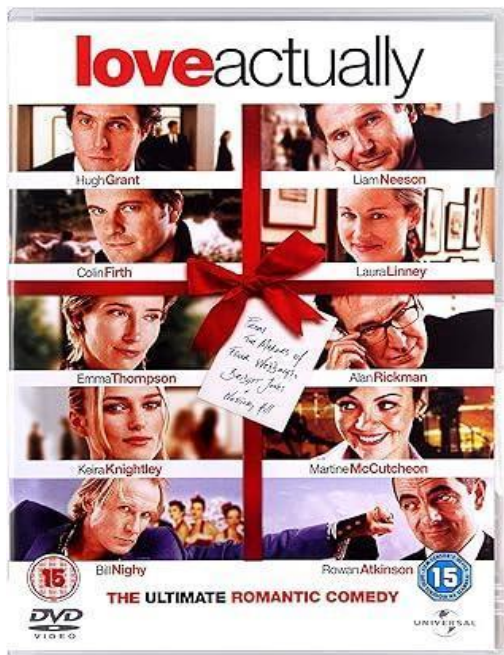
REF: 303

The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **Love Actually**

[1 Disc]

Library Image



ISBN: 5050582206609

Information

Title: **Love Actually** – 21st November 2003 (United Kingdom)

Publication:

Origin: United Kingdom, United States, France

Release date: United States- 21st January 2010 (H'Wood, California Prem)

AKA: Also Known As: Love Actually All Around

Genres: Comedy, Drama, Romance

Classification: 15

Disc Nos. 1

Duration: 2hr 15m

Region Code:

Region:

Product Code:

MPN:

EAN:

UPC:

Languages: English, Portuguese, French

Filming locations: Marseille, Bouches-du-Rhône, France

Sound mix: Dolby Digital, DDS, Dolby Atmos

Colour – Colour

Aspect Ratio: 2.39:1

The image shows the theatrical release poster for 'Love Actually'. It features a grid of character portraits with their names: Hugh Grant, Liam Neeson, Colin Firth, Laura Linney, Emma Thompson, Alan Rickman, Keira Knightley, Martine McCutcheon, Bill Nighy, and Rowan Atkinson. A red ribbon is wrapped around the grid, with a tag that says 'From the makers of Four Weddings and a Funeral'. The title 'love actually' is at the bottom in red and black. Above the title, it says 'THE ULTIMATE ROMANTIC COMEDY'. At the bottom, it says 'In cinemas - on november 21, actually'.

Note: Reference Only – Not available for loan or Sale – Private Collection

Title: Love Actually

Storyline

Follows the lives of eight very different couples in dealing with their love lives in various loosely interrelated tales all set during a frantic month before Christmas in London, England.

A voice-over opens the film, commenting that whenever the narrator gets gloomy about the state of the world, he thinks of the arrivals gate at Heathrow Airport, and the pure and uncomplicated love of lovers, friends and families welcoming their loved ones. He also points out that the messages from the 9/11 victims were messages of love and not hate. The story then switches among the interconnecting "love stories" of many people:

Billy Mack and Joe

With his long-time manager Joe, rock and roll legend Billy Mack records a Christmas version of the Troggs' 1967 song "Love Is All Around", titling it "Christmas Is All Around". Although believing the record is terrible, Mack promotes the release in the hope it will become the Christmas number one single, which it does. He foregoes a victory party hosted by Elton John to celebrate Christmas with Joe, getting drunk and watching porn.

Juliet, Peter, and Mark

Juliet and Peter's wedding is videotaped by the best man, Mark, where a surprise band plays the Beatles' "All You Need Is Love" as they walk out of the church. Although the couple believe Mark dislikes Juliet, it is later revealed that he is actually in love with her.

When he evades her requests to see the video he shot at the wedding, she shows up at his flat. Juliet insists she wants them to be friends, but when she views the wedding video Mark recorded, she sees many extreme close-ups of herself and few of Peter's face. She realises Mark's true feelings towards her. After an uncomfortable silence, Mark blurts out that he acts coldly towards her out of "self-preservation".

On Christmas Eve, Juliet answers the doorbell to find Mark carrying a boombox playing a Christmas carol and large cue cards. While Peter is inside watching television, Mark shows a message of his love to Juliet through the series of cue cards. As he walks away down the street, Juliet runs after him, gives him a quick kiss, and returns inside. Mark walks away, uttering "Enough," to imply he can be content as friends.

Jamie and Aurélia

Writer Jamie is pushed by his girlfriend to attend Juliet and Peter's wedding alone, as she is ill. He returns before the reception to check on her, discovering she is having sex with his brother. Crushed, Jamie withdraws to his French cottage, where he meets Portuguese housekeeper Aurélia, who does not speak English. Despite not sharing a common language, a mutual attraction grows.

Jamie returns to England, realises he is in love with Aurélia, and begins learning Portuguese. He returns to France to find her and ends up walking through town with her father and sister, gathering additional people as they walk to her waitressing job. In basic, and often grammatically incorrect, Portuguese, he declares his love for her and proposes. She says yes in broken English, showing she too had been studying English "just in cases", as the crowd erupts in applause.

Harry, Karen, and Mia

Harry is the managing director of a design agency. Mia is his secretary. Harry is happily married to Karen, a stay-at-home mother. They have two children, Bernard and Daisy. Mia behaves in an overtly sexual way with him at the office and asks him for a Christmas present. At the company Christmas party held at Mark's gallery, they dance closely.

While Christmas shopping, Harry calls Mia and asks what she wants for Christmas. He is almost caught by his wife purchasing an expensive necklace with a gold heart pendant from the jewellery department when the salesman, Rufus, takes an inordinate amount of time to wrap it. Later, Karen finds the necklace in Harry's coat pocket and assumes it is for her. Opening a similarly shaped box on Christmas Eve, she is heartbroken to find it is a Joni Mitchell CD, realises he bought the necklace for someone else, and cries in their bedroom alone. She keeps a happy face so as not to ruin her family's holiday. She confronts Harry and asks what he would do if he were her. She feels he has made a mockery of their marriage and of her. Harry comes clean and admits that he has been foolish.

David and Natalie

David, Karen's brother, the recently elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom is single. Natalie is a new junior member of the household staff at 10 Downing Street. During a meeting with the US president, they pass Natalie, and the president makes inappropriate comments to David about her. Later, David walks in on Natalie who was serving tea and biscuits to the president, and finds him kissing her. Natalie seems embarrassed, and the president has a sly grin

on his face. At the following joint press conference, David is uncharacteristically assertive while taking a stand against the president's intimidation techniques.

Feeling uncomfortable around Natalie, David has her moved to another position. He is spurred to action on Christmas Eve when he finds a Christmas card from her in his red box, declaring that she is his and only his. He finds her after a door-to-door search of her street. Her entire family is on their way to a multi-school Christmas play, and he offers to drive them so he can talk to her. As Natalie sneaks him into the school, he runs into his heartbroken sister, Karen, who believes he is there for his niece and nephew. As David and Natalie try to keep from being seen and watch from backstage, they finally kiss. Everyone sees them kissing as the curtain rises.

Daniel, Sam, Joanna, and Carol

Daniel, Karen's close friend, mourns the recent death of his wife, Joanna, as he tries to care for his stepson Sam. Sam has fallen for an American classmate, also named Joanna, and after talking with his stepfather, decides to learn the drums to accompany her in the big finale for their school's Christmas pageant at Karen and Harry's children's school. Sam feels he has missed his chance to impress her, but Daniel convinces him to try to tell Joanna how he feels at the airport before she returns to the US. Sam slips through airport security and catches up with her. She acknowledges him by name, which surprises him. Sam returns to Daniel to tell him, and Joanna follows him, surprising him again, and kisses him on the cheek. Meanwhile, Daniel meets Carol, the mother of Sam's schoolmate, and there is a mutual spark.

Sarah, Karl, and Michael

Sarah first appears at Juliet and Peter's wedding, sitting next to her friend Jamie. An American working at Harry's graphic design company, she is in love with the creative director, Karl. Prompted by Harry, they finally connect at the Christmas party, and Karl drives her home. Sarah invites Karl in and they immediately pull off their clothes and begin to get intimate when Michael, her mentally ill brother, telephones from a psychiatric hospital, aborting their tryst. On Christmas Eve, they are both working late. Karl tries to find words but just wishes her a merry Christmas and leaves. In tears, Sarah calls Michael and visits him to give him a Christmas gift.

Colin, Tony, and the American girls

After unsuccessfully attempting to woo various Englishwomen, including Mia and Nancy (Juliet and Peter's wedding caterer), Colin Frissell informs his friend Tony that he plans to go to the US, convinced that his Britishness will be an asset. Landing in Milwaukee, Colin hails a taxi and asks the driver to take him to the nearest bar. There, he immediately meets Stacey, Jeannie, and Carol-Anne, three stunningly attractive women who instantly fall for his Estuary English accent, inviting him to stay at their home, where they are joined by their 'sexiest' roommate Harriet.

John and Judy

John and Judy are professional stand-ins for films. They meet doing the sex scenes for a film for which Tony is a production assistant. John tells Judy, "It's lovely to find someone I can actually chat to." While they are perfectly comfortable being naked and simulating sex on-set, they are shy and tentative off-set. They carefully pursue a relationship, attending the Christmas pageant (involving David and Natalie, Harry and Karen's children, Daniel and Sam, etc.) at the local school with John's brother. They get engaged by the end of the film.

Rufus

Rufus is the jewellery salesman whose meticulous gift-wrapping nearly results in Karen seeing Harry buying a necklace for Mia. In another scene, his distraction of airport staff enables Sam to sneak past them to talk to Joanna. (In the director and cast commentary, it is revealed that Rufus was originally supposed to be a Christmas angel, but this was dropped from the final script.)

Epilogue

One month later, all the characters are seen at Heathrow Airport. Billy's Christmas single has spurred a comeback. Juliet, Peter, and Mark meet Jamie and his bride, Aurélia. Karen and the kids greet Harry, but Karen's stilted reaction suggests they are struggling to move past his affair. Sam greets Joanna, who has returned from America, and Daniel is joined by his new girlfriend, Carol, and her son. Newlyweds John and Judy, heading off to their honeymoon, run into Tony, who is awaiting Colin's return from America. Colin returns with Harriet and her sister Carla, who meets Tony for the first time but greets him with a hug and a kiss on the lips. Natalie welcomes David back from his flight in view of the press, showing their relationship is now public. These scenes dissolve into footage of actual arrivals at Heathrow, as the screen is divided into an increasing number of smaller segments to form a photographic mosaic of a heart.

Story association

Interconnections between the Love Actually characters

All the stories are linked in some way; while Billy Mack and his manager may not connect with any of the other characters physically, Billy appears frequently on characters' radios and TVs, his music video twice providing an

important plot device for Sam's pursuit of Joanna, and they also cross paths with the other characters in the closing Heathrow scene. John and Judy work with Tony, who is best friends with Colin, who works for a catering company that services the office where Sarah, Karl, Mia, and Harry work. Mia is friends with Mark, who runs the art gallery where the Christmas office party takes place. Mia also lives next door to Natalie. Mark is in love with Juliet and friends with Peter. The couple is friends with Jamie and Sarah. Harry is married to Karen, who is friends with Daniel, and her brother is David, who works with Natalie. Harry and Karen's children (and thus David's niece and nephew), Natalie's siblings (and thus Mia's neighbours), and Carol's son are all schoolmates of Sam and Joanna. Daniel proclaims that his late wife was the only one for him unless Claudia Schiffer was to call him up. Carol is played by Claudia Schiffer.

Cast

Chiwetel Ejiofor as Peter
Colin Firth as Jamie
Gregor Fisher as Joe
Hugh Grant as David, the Prime Minister
Sienna Guillory as Jamie's girlfriend
Keira Knightley as Juliet
Andrew Lincoln as Mark
Laura Linney as Sarah
Martine McCutcheon as Natalie
Lúcia Moniz as Aurélia
Liam Neeson as Daniel
Bill Nighy as Billy Mack
Alan Rickman as Harry
Thomas Sangster as Sam
Rodrigo Santoro as Karl
Emma Thompson as Karen
Michael Fitzgerald as Michael
Kris Marshall as Colin
Abdul Salis as Tony
Heike Makatsch as Mia
Martin Freeman as John
Joanna Page as Judy
Olivia Olson as Joanna
Billy Bob Thornton as the U.S. President
Rowan Atkinson as Rufus
Claudia Schiffer as Carol
Nina Sosanya as Annie
Ivana Miličević as Stacey
January Jones as Jeannie
Elisha Cuthbert as Carol-Anne
Shannon Elizabeth as Harriet
Denise Richards as Carla
Lulu Popplewell as Daisy
Marcus Brigstocke as Mikey
Julia Davis as Nancy
Ruby Turner as Jean
Adam Godley as Mr Trench
Élisabeth Margoni as Eleonore
Edward Hardwicke as Sam's grandfather
Caroline John as Sam's grandmother
Jack Black as Turbo Action
Meg Wynn Owen as Mary, the PM's secretary
Colin Coull as Gavin, the PM's bodyguard
Anthony McPartlin as TV host Ant (himself)
Declan Donnelly as TV host Dec (himself)
Michael Parkinson as TV host Parkinson (himself)

