

# Alberta Romance Writers' Association

Alberta Romance Writers' Association (ARWA) \* 223 - 12 Ave. SW \* Calgary, Alberta \* T2R 0G9

## A Writer's Dozen

### Twelve Things We Can Learn from Romance Movies

*List compiled by Ramona Heikel*

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1. The rich, dashing man is not necessarily the one we want to spend “ever after” with. (*While You Were Sleeping, Bridget Jones, Mr. Wrong, French Kiss, Just Write*)
2. Love has a way of sneaking up on us when we’re not looking. (*America’s Sweethearts, Green Card, As Good as it Gets*)
3. Ordinary memories, even painful memories, become ever-so-wistful with the right background music. (*The Way We Were, Before Sunset, Love Story*)
4. Romance movies are able to focus our attention on vivid scenery, fast-paced action, good looks, and witty dialogue when the plot is weak and there is little depth to the romantic relationship. (*Runaway Bride, Message in a Bottle, Raising Helen, Bridget Jones the Edge of Reason, Sleepless in Seattle*)
5. The movie may or may not be worth owning, but it might lead you to a must-have soundtrack. (*Hope Floats, Garden State*)
6. We adults still like fairy tales (and heroes from romance novels **can** come to life!). (*Romancing the Stone, The Princess Bride, Camelot, A Knight’s Tale*)
7. Sometimes “happily ever after” means leaving your beloved behind. (*Casablanca, Spanglish, Meet Joe Black*)
8. “Love comes from a strange and wonderful place we don’t know about”, and heavenly agents may be wreaking havoc, forcing a man and a woman to take a good look at each other. (*A Life Less Ordinary, Peggy Sue Got Married*)
9. Not even the Beautiful People are immune to heartache. (*Notting Hill, The Truth about Cats and Dogs*)
10. A weak woman who finds strength inside is irresistible. (*African Queen, Overboard*)
11. Things can go perfectly wrong, but if there is that soul connection, they will come together at the end. (*Jet Lag, The Very Thought of You, An Affair to Remember, Serendipity, 50 First Dates*)
12. In our own lives, we may not invite the intensity, the agony, the heart-wrenching of a once-in-a-lifetime romance, but two hours of it is pure bliss! (*Onegin, City of Angels, Don Juan Demarco, The Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, Cyrano de Bergerac, Shakespeare in Love*)

