



DirectBuy Imagine Your Dream Kitchen at Direct Insider Prices.
 Cabinets Lighting Flooring Appliances Furniture Electronics
 Get Your FREE Visitor's Pass

movie reviews

Reviews Great Movies Answer Man People Commentary Festivals Oscars Glossary One-Minute Reviews Letters Roger Ebert's Journal Scanners Store

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES News Sports Business Entertainment Classifieds Columnists

search

GO Search powered by YAHOO!

register

You are not logged in.

Log in »

Subscribe to weekly newsletter »

related articles

Anyone for a line of scented candles? Indian Caftan tops? "Eat, Pray, Love" pasta? (mail) »

times & tickets

Fandango Search movie showtimes and buy tickets.

about us

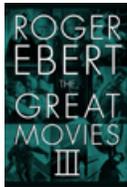
About the site »

Site FAQs »

Contact us »

Email the Movie Answer Man »

on sale now



Buy now »



EAT PRAY LOVE (PG-13)

Ebert: ★★ Users: ★★ You: [Rate this movie right now](#)



Julia Roberts, about to eat or pray.

Eat Pray Love

BY ROGER EBERT / August 11, 2010

Elizabeth Gilbert's book "Eat, Pray, Love," unread by me, spent 150 weeks on the New York Times best seller list and is by some accounts a good one. It is also movie material, concerning as it does a tall blond (Gilbert) who ditches a failing marriage and a disastrous love affair to spend a year living in Italy, India and Bali seeking to find the balance of body, mind and spirit.

During this journey, great-looking men are platooned at her, and a wise man, who has to be reminded who she is, remembers instantly, although what he remembers is only what she's just told him.

I gather Gilbert's "prose is fueled by a mix of intelligence, wit and colloquial exuberance that is close to irresistible" (New York Times Book Review), and if intelligence, wit and exuberance are what you're looking for, Julia Roberts is an excellent choice as the movie's star. You can see how it would be fun to spend a year traveling with Gilbert. A lot more fun than spending nearly two hours watching a movie about it. I guess you have to belong to the narcissistic subculture of Woo-Woo.

Here is a movie about Liz Gilbert. About her quest, her ambition, her good luck in finding only nice men, including the ones she dumps. She funds her entire trip, including scenic accommodations, ashram,

cast & credits

Liz Gilbert [Julia Roberts](#)
Richard [Richard Jenkins](#)
Stephen [Billy Crudup](#)
David [James Franco](#)
Felipe [Javier Bardem](#)
Delia Shiraz Viola Davis
Ketut Liyer Hadi Subiyanto

Columbia Pictures presents a film directed by Ryan Murphy. Screenplay by Murphy and Jennifer Salt. Running time: 141 minutes. Rated PG-13 (for brief strong language, some sexual references and male rear nudity).

Printer-friendly » E-mail this to a friend »



Substantial Savings. 700+ Trusted Brands
 Cabinets Lighting Flooring Appliances Furniture Electronics
 DirectBuy FREE Visitor's Pass

in theaters

latest reviews

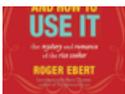
- 👍 [Around a Small Mountain](#)
- 👍 [Centurion](#)
- 👍 [Chicago Heights](#)
- 👍👍 [Flipped](#)
- 👍👍 [Lebanon](#)
- 👍👍 [Mesrine: Killer Instinct](#)
- 👍👍 [The American](#)

more current releases »

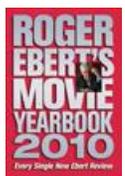
one-minute movie reviews

still playing

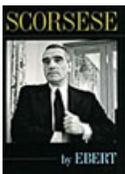
- 👍👍 [The A-Team](#)
- 👍 [Accomplices](#)
- 👍 [Agora](#)
- 👍👍 [The American](#)
- 👍👍 [Anton Chekhov's The Duel](#)
- 👍 [Around a Small Mountain](#)
- 👍👍 [Behind the Burly-O](#)
- 👍 [Best Worst Movie](#)
- 👍👍 [Cell 211](#)
- 👍 [Centurion](#)
- 👍 [Chicago Heights](#)
- 👍 [Coco Chanel and Igor Stravinsky](#)
- 👍 [Cropsey](#)
- 👍👍 [Cyrus](#)
- 👍 [Daddy Longlegs](#)
- 👍 [Despicable Me](#)
- 👍 [Dinner for Schmucks](#)
- 👍 [Dogtooth](#)
- 👍👍 [Eat Pray Love](#)
- 👍 [The Extra Man](#)
- 👍👍 [Farewell](#)
- 👍👍 [Flipped](#)
- 👍 [Get Low](#)
- 👍👍 [The Girl Who Played with Fire](#)



[Buy now](#) »



[Buy now](#) »



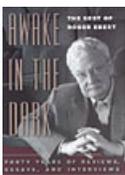
[Buy now](#) »



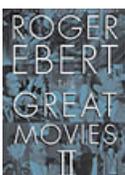
[Buy now](#) »



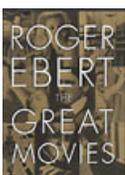
[Buy now](#) »



[Buy now](#) »



[Buy now](#) »



[Buy now](#) »

medicine man, guru, spa fees and wardrobe, on her advance to write this book. Well, the publisher obviously made a wise investment. It's all about her, and a lot of readers can really identify with that. Her first marriage apparently broke down primarily because she tired of it, although Roberts at (a sexy and attractive) 43 makes an actor's brave stab at explaining they were "young and immature." She walks out on the guy ([Billy Crudup](#)) and he still likes her and reads her on the Web.

In Italy, she eats such Pavarottian plates of pasta that I hope one of the things she prayed for in India was deliverance from the sin of gluttony. At one trattoria she apparently orders the entire menu, and I am not making this up. She meets a man played by [James Franco](#), about whom, enough said. She shows moral fibre by leaving such a dreamboat for India, where her quest involves discipline in meditation, for which she allots three months rather than the recommended lifetime. There she meets a tall, bearded, bespectacled older Texan ([Richard Jenkins](#)) who is without question the most interesting and attractive man in the movie, and like all of the others seems innocent of lust.

In Bali she revisits her beloved adviser Ketut Liyer (Hadi Subiyanto), who is a master of truisms known to us all. Although he connects her with a healer who can mend a nasty cut with a leaf applied for a few hours, his own skills seem limited to the divinations anyone could make after looking at her, and telling her things about herself after she has already revealed them.

Now she has found Balance, begins to dance on the high wire of her life. She meets Felipe ([Javier Bardem](#)), another divorced exile, who is handsome, charming, tactful, forgiving and a good kisser. He explains that he lives in Bali because his business is import-export, "which you can do anywhere" — although later, he explains she must move to Bali because "I live in Bali because my business is here." They've both forgotten what he said earlier. Unless perhaps you can do import-export anywhere, but you can only import and export from Bali when you live there. That would certainly be my alibi.

The audience I joined was perhaps 80 percent female. I heard some sniffles and glimpsed some tears, and no wonder. "Eat Pray Love" is shameless wish-fulfillment, a Harlequin novel crossed with a mystic travelogue, and it mercifully reverses the life chronology of many people, which is Love Pray Eat.

<p>Mortgage Rates Hit 3.25% If you owe less than \$729k you probably www.SeeRefinanceRates.com</p>
<p>FX Market Trend Guide Learn to ride even the toughest markets GFTforex.com</p>
<p>Drivers With No DUI Are Paying Too Much If you haven't had a DUI you are paying Auto-Insurance-Experts.com</p>
<p>Today's Top CD Rates CD (Certificate of Deposit) Rates. CDRates.Bankaholic.com</p>

Ads by Yahoo!

Mom Turns \$97 into \$6795
Your city: Mom spills secret on how she makes \$6795/mo part time.
[news1reports....](#)

- 👍 [Grown Ups](#)
- 👍 [I am Love](#)
- 👍 [Inception](#)
- 👍 [Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work](#)
- 👍 [Jonah Hex](#)
- 👍 [The Karate Kid](#)
- 👍 [The Kids are All Right](#)
- 👍 [The Killer Inside Me](#)
- 👍 [Knight and Day](#)
- 👍 [The Last Airbender](#)
- 👍 [Lebanon](#)
- 👍 [Life During Wartime](#)
- 👍 [Love Ranch](#)
- 👍 [Mercy](#)
- 👍 [Mesrine: Killer Instinct](#)
- 👍 [La Mission](#)
- 👍 [9500 Liberty](#)
- 👍 [OSS 117: Lost in Rio](#)
- 👍 [Predators](#)
- 👍 [Putty Hill](#)
- 👍 [Ramona and Beezus](#)
- 👍 [The Red Machine](#)
- 👍 [Restrepo](#)
- 👍 [Salt](#)
- 👍 [A Small Act](#)
- 👍 [A Small Act](#)
- 👍 [Solitary Man](#)
- 👍 [Something Better Somewhere Else](#)
- 👍 [The Sorcerer's Apprentice](#)
- 👍 [Spoken Word](#)
- 👍 [Toy Story 3](#)
- 👍 [The Twilight Saga: Eclipse](#)
- 👍 [The Twilight Saga: Eclipse](#)
- 👍 [Vengeance](#)
- 👍 [Wild Grass](#)
- 👍 [The Wild Hunt](#)
- 👍 [Winter's Bone](#)

[more current releases](#) »

on dvd

new on dvd

- [Red Riding Trilogy](#) ★★★★★ (8/31)
- [Survival of the Dead](#) ★★ (8/24)
- [City Island](#) ★★★ (8/24)
- [The Conversation](#) ★★★★★ (8/17)
- [Louie Bluie](#) ★★★★★ (8/10)
- [The Joneses](#) ★★ (8/10)
- [The Good Heart](#) ★★ (8/10)
- [Crumb](#) ★★★★★ (8/10)
- [Woodstock](#) ★★★★★ (8/3)
- [Spaceballs](#) ★★★ (8/3)

[more new on dvd](#) »

coming on dvd

[more coming on dvd](#) »

great movies on dvd

- [Walkabout](#) (5/18)
- [Come and See](#) (6/16)
- [The Red Shoes](#) (7/20)
- [Mystery Train](#) (7/21)
- [Fargo](#) ★★★★★ (8/3)
- [Woodstock](#) (8/3)
- [Crumb](#) (8/10)
- [The Conversation](#) (8/17)

[more great movies on dvd](#) »

Work At Home Mom Makes \$8795/Month

Work Online And Make Over \$8,795/Month! your city Special News Report.
[100khomejobs....](#)

Free Penny Stock Picks

Huge return potential on Penny Stocks. Free to Sign up. No Spam.
[www.freepenny...](#)

5 Best Weight Loss Pills

2010's Best Weight Loss Pills. Free Shipping & 100%...
[www.DietRatin...](#)

[Get listed here](#)



© copyright 2010, rogerebert.com

[Privacy Policy](#) [Terms of Use](#) [Submission Guidelines](#)

DirectBuy
The Home Improvement & Furnishings Club

Imagine Your Dream Kitchen at Direct Insider Prices.

- Cabinets
- Flooring
- Furniture
- Lighting
- Appliances
- Electronics

Get Your **FREE** Visitor's Pass