

Film Close-Up: Paris Hilton

by Joey_Berlin

Paris Hilton is rich enough to buy anything she wants - except movie stardom. She will have to earn that the hard way, by headlining major films that draw big crowds. Her biggest role so far - besides in her infamous first video - was the 2005 horror flick "House of Wax," but that stab at breaking through on the big screen was not a huge hit.

So Hilton has a lot riding on her new comedy, "The Hottie and the Nottie." The only well-known member of the cast, Hilton stars as a hot young woman who is best friends forever with an ugly duckling. In "The Hottie and the Nottie," Hilton vows not to go on dates until her drop-dead repulsive gal pal has a love life of her own.

The famous heiress and professional party girl turns 27 this month, and she already has her own lines of clothing, books, shoes, perfume, hair extensions, drinks and watches. Now "The Hottie and the Nottie" gives Paris her first big chance to carry a nationally released movie by herself, and her future in Hollywood could hang in the balance.

Q: Would you ever date a "nottie," an ugly guy?

A: Yeah, I have before.

Q: Who?

A: I'm not going to say who because I'd feel bad! You probably have seen him in photographs.

Q: You seem so happy in this movie. Did you feel that way the whole way through filming?

A: It was so much fun on set. We all immediately bonded and became really close friends. We would hang out even when we weren't working. I was really happy with everything.

Q: How did you like being a producer of this movie?

A: It's a lot of work. You are basically working on and off camera. It was just such a fun project that I enjoyed every minute of it.

Q: How seriously do you think people in the movie industry take you?

A: I think a lot of people have seen me on "The Simple Life." I've been doing that show for five seasons and it's a reality show. I play a character, though, so I'm basically acting in that but maybe people think that is really how I am. It's not, though. I've been working with Ivana Chubbuck, who is an incredible acting coach, and I worked very hard for this. Now they will take me seriously.

Q: Was this story line your original idea?

A: Actually the writer came to me with it, and so he wrote this with me in mind. He said, "There is no one else who could play the hottie the way you could play it." And I read it. I just fell in love with it. It's a really fun film, but it also has a really beautiful message. I just think it was a cute and fun love story.

Q: So what do you look for in a man?

A: Someone who can make me laugh, someone who is sweet, fun to be around, and honest.

Q: And what turns you off about a man?

A: Just someone who, if we are at dinner, they are rude to a waiter or someone like that. I get angry. People who lie or people who brag, just guys with bad attitudes.

Q: What is the weirdest pick-up line you have ever heard?

A: A lot of men will come up to me and try to be cool. They will be like, "Hi, what's your name?" I'm like, "I'm Deborah." And they will just keep talking to me pretending like they don't know who I am.

Q: How many dogs do you have now?

A: Seventeen. And four cats. I just put a doggie mansion into my backyard, a replica of my house with a chandelier in the stairwell, and furniture.

Q: What is the best explanation you could give someone who just does not get you, someone who doesn't understand the publicity and the media attention?

A: I'm just a sweet person with a big heart. I am having the time of my life. I'm very happy and I just want to make people smile. I want to bring some color to the world.

Q: Do you think you will sneak into theaters showing this movie, to see the audience's reactions?

A: Yeah, I've already been to two theaters. I'm going to definitely sneak into some in L.A.

Q: What do you enjoy most about acting?

A: I love being on set. I love meeting new people and experiencing it. I love being in front of the camera. I love being another character. It's fun to escape from your real life.

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