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The After franchise, based on the novel by Anna Todd, is a young woman's journey into a complicated relationship with a guy having a dark secret. ===== A young woman falls for a mysterious student at college and embarks on a rocky romance. The series, which started as a surprise hit in 2019, has grown into an epic tale of love despite critics' negative views. With its yearly release schedule, the movies keep audiences hooked in the proper viewing order. ===== Based on the novels by Anna Todd, the After franchise explores the relationship between Tessa and Hardin as they mature and face life's ups and downs together. The series is unique because it shows the characters outside of their romantic relationship, unlike other romance stories that focus only on the steamier aspects. After Everything After everything came to an end, Tessa Young was left to pick up the pieces of her shattered heart. With Hardin Scott gone from her life, she found solace in her studies and a new sense of purpose. However, as she delves deeper into her research, old wounds begin to resurface, threatening to tear her apart once again. Hardin's journey of self-discovery had been long and arduous, but he was finally finding himself. He had confronted his demons and made amends with his family, but the question remained - could he ever truly be happy without Tessa by his side? The movie follows Hardin as he navigates this new chapter in his life, unsure of what the future holds. With the help of his loved ones, he must learn to let go of the past and forge a new path forward. As the credits roll on After Everything, audiences are left with a sense of closure and new beginnings. The After film series may be coming to an end, but its impact will be felt for years to come. Release Date October 24, 2023 Runtime 100 minutes Director Castille Landon Writers Anna Todd After Everything and the Upcoming After Movies: A New Chapter for the Franchise ===== The fifth movie in the After series, directed by Castille Landon, takes a unique approach by focusing on Hardin's story while Tessa is absent. This departure from the norm suggests that the franchise might not be concluding with this installment, as more sequels and prequels are planned. After Everything establishes that Tessa and Hardin will eventually get their happy ending, paving the way for further content. Prequel and Sequels A new movie titled Before is set to release in 2025 and serves as a prequel. This film will focus on a younger Hardin, exploring his family life and trauma before the events of the original series. Director Castille Landon reveals that this installment will mark a maturation for the franchise, shifting its emphasis away from romance. The second confirmed new movie in the After series lacks a title but will take place after the events of After Everything. This film will also deviate from the established plot, focusing on Hardin's children and cousin Addy as they navigate their own storylines. Details are scarce, but it is known that this installment will be an original work, not based on an existing novel by Anna Todd. The Origins of the Franchise For those new to the After series, it's essential to understand its roots. Author Anna Todd penned the novels as a fanfiction, drawing inspiration from her own life and interests, including her experience with Harry Styles. While this might seem unusual, the franchise has found success in its transition from fanfiction to legitimate literature. Where to Begin? With multiple movies and prequels on the horizon, it can be challenging to know where to start. The After series is based on real-life events and people, which may make it difficult for some viewers to jump in without context. However, with each new installment, fans are given more opportunities to become invested in the characters and their stories. With Before and its upcoming sequel set to take the franchise in new directions, fans can expect a fresh perspective on the After universe. While details are scarce, the planned departure from the traditional romance-focused plot may attract both old and new fans alike. The correct viewing order of the "After" film franchise is crucial to understanding the narrative, as the titles do not provide any hints about what happens in each movie. Here's a rundown of the films in order: 2019's "After," followed by its sequel, 2020's "After We Collided," then 2021's "After We Fell." The fourth installment, 2022's "After Ever Happy," chronicles a tumultuous period in Tessa and Hardin's relationship as they face the return of their absent fathers. The latest film, released in 2023, is titled "After Everything." The narrative centers around star-crossed lovers Tessa Young and Hardin Scott, who attend college together. As they navigate their relationship, Tessa parts ways with her high school boyfriend Noah after discovering his struggles. Throughout the series, Tessa and Hardin's bond is tested by various obstacles, including the return of their fathers. It is worth noting that the "After" franchise has experienced re-casting in several instances, particularly among its supporting characters. Watching the films in order helps to clarify these changes. The After franchise follows the tumultuous love story between Tessa Young and enigmatic bad boy Hardin Scott as they navigate personal differences, family drama, and professional ambitions in a series of five films. The adaptation from Anna Todd's novels initially based on her One Direction-inspired fan fiction has undergone several behind-the-scenes switch-ups. After Ever Happy marks a controversial point in the After movie canon. Fans assumed it would be the last film in the franchise, as Todd originally wrote four books in the "Hessa" novel series. Shortly before the film's release, however, Fiennes Tiffin announced they filmed a fifth movie concurrently with After Ever Happy. Fans expecting a happy ending for Tessa and Hardin came away with... well, mixed reactions, as predicted by the film's star. This fourth entry takes place after college as our central couple tries to figure out how their relationship works in the real, adult world. "It feels like a more grown-up version because they are more grown up," Fiennes Tiffin teased to EW in 2022. "It's so nice that not just the fans have grown up together, but I've grown up, the characters have grown up, and we've all been on this journey together." The movie only adapts part of Todd's fourth book before leaving fans hanging with a cliffhanger ending. After series guide: From web to movies — a deeper dive into the story's timeline ===== The After series has gained immense popularity from its humble beginnings as fanfiction on the web to becoming a successful traditional publishing franchise and now, a movie adaptation. Similar to other fanfictions like 50 Shades of Grey and The Love Hypothesis, which have made their way to traditional publishing and movies, the romances in this channel are often appealing due to their pure entertainment value and explicit content. The series follows the tumultuous relationship between Tessa and Hardin, with each installment exploring the highs and lows of their relationship. Here's a brief overview of the movie adaptations in order of release date: After (2019) - The first movie was released on April 12, 2019, marking the beginning of the story. It introduces us to Tessa, played by Josephine Langford, who meets Hardin, played by Hero Fiennes-Tiffin, a friend of her roommate and a textbook bad boy. After We Collided (2020) - Released on October 23, 2020, this installment continues to follow the epic highs and lows of Tessa and Hardin's relationship as they reconcile after the big reveal at the end of the first movie. The screenplay has contributions from Anna Todd, working with Mario Celaya. After We Fell (2021) - Released on October 22, 2021, this picks up right where After We Collided left off, with Tessa's re-entry into her father's life and her impending move to Seattle due to a job opportunity. Hardin finally understands how poorly he treats Tessa and attempts to get his anger issues under control. After Ever Happy (2022) - The penultimate installment in the series was released on September 7, 2022. It marks a significant turning point for the characters as they navigate their complicated relationships and family dynamics. After Everything (2023) After Everything The wait is over as the highly anticipated film After Everything hits theaters on September 13th, 2023. This latest installment in the After series brings back Sharon Sobol and Castille Landon, who reprise their roles as Tessa and Hardin. The story picks up where After We Fell left off, with Tessa moving to New York City and Hardin starting his journey towards sobriety. According to Hero Fiennes Tiffin, who plays Hardin, the character is "getting closer to being that best version of himself" in this film. When Tessa and Hardin finally reunite, they discover that their differences have subsided, and they start to reconnect. However, things take a dramatic turn when Tessa discovers something shocking, leading her to terminate their relationship once and for all. Castille Landon not only directs but also writes the screenplay for After Everything. Interestingly, this is the first film in the series to deviate from its literary roots. In this movie, Hardin is determined to win Tessa back, while she's more focused on moving on from him. To improve himself, Hardin reaches out to his first love, Nathalie, to make amends. The filmmakers have a history of pleasing their fans by either sticking to the source material or making changes that cater to their audience. In After Everything, they've made an interesting choice by veering off the original novel's path. Nonetheless, fans can expect an emotional and engaging conclusion to the series.