

as you wish princess bride

As You Wish Princess Bride is a phrase that resonates deeply with fans of the 1987 cult classic film, "The Princess Bride," directed by Rob Reiner. This movie, based on William Goldman's novel of the same name, is a unique blend of adventure, romance, and comedy, featuring memorable characters and quotable lines that have stood the test of time. In this article, we will explore the significance of the phrase "as you wish," the characters who embody it, and the broader themes of love and devotion in the story.

Understanding the Phrase: "As You Wish"

The phrase "as you wish" is uttered by the character Westley, played by Cary Elwes, and is a central motif in both the film and the book. This simple phrase carries profound meaning, reflecting Westley's unwavering love and dedication to Princess Buttercup, portrayed by Robin Wright.

The Context of the Phrase

In the film, "as you wish" serves as Westley's response to Buttercup's requests. Initially, it is a statement of servitude, as Westley works as a farmhand on Buttercup's family estate. However, as the story unfolds, it becomes clear that these words are infused with deeper feelings.

1. Expression of Love:

- When Westley says "as you wish," he is not merely agreeing to fulfill Buttercup's requests; he is expressing his love for her.
- This phrase symbolizes his willingness to put her needs above his own, showcasing the depth of his affection.

2. Symbol of Commitment:

- The phrase illustrates Westley's commitment to Buttercup, indicating that he will do anything for her happiness.
- It highlights the theme of selflessness that runs throughout the narrative.

3. Connection Between Characters:

- "As you wish" serves as a verbal thread connecting Westley and Buttercup, reminding audiences of their bond even when they are apart.
- The phrase is repeated throughout the film, reinforcing the idea of enduring love across time and adversity.

The Characters Behind the Phrase

To fully appreciate the significance of "as you wish," one must understand the characters who embody this sentiment in "The Princess Bride."

Westley: The Dashing Hero

Westley, initially introduced as a humble farmhand, is the quintessential romantic hero. His journey throughout the film showcases his bravery, intelligence, and unwavering love for Buttercup.

- Transformation: After leaving to seek his fortune, Westley becomes the masked Dread Pirate Roberts, a feared figure in the seas. Despite his change in status, his feelings for Buttercup remain unchanged.
- Heroic Deeds: Throughout the film, Westley performs astonishing feats to rescue Buttercup, proving that his love is not just words but backed by action.

Buttercup: The Strong-Willed Princess

Princess Buttercup is not merely a damsel in distress; she is a strong and independent character who exhibits depth and resilience.

- Initial Ignorance: At the beginning of the story, Buttercup is unaware of her true feelings for Westley, mistaking her longing for him as mere sadness when she believes he is dead.
- Evolution: As the story progresses, Buttercup's character develops from a naive girl to a woman willing to fight for her own happiness.

Thematic Elements of Love and Sacrifice

At its core, "The Princess Bride" is a story about love, sacrifice, and the lengths one will go to for those they cherish.

True Love Versus Superficial Love

The film presents various forms of love, comparing true love with more superficial relationships.

- True Love: Westley and Buttercup's relationship epitomizes genuine love, which is characterized by selflessness, trust, and unwavering commitment.
- Superficial Love: In contrast, characters like Prince Humperdinck are depicted as embodying a more selfish kind of love, driven by power and possession.

The Role of Sacrifice

Sacrifice is a recurring theme throughout the film, with characters making choices that reflect their love for one another.

- Westley's Sacrifices: Westley faces numerous challenges and dangers, all of which he undertakes for Buttercup's sake. His journey is filled with moments where he risks his life to save her.

- Buttercup's Sacrifices: Even Buttercup, who starts as the object of rescue, ultimately shows her strength and willingness to make sacrifices for Westley.

The Cultural Impact of "As You Wish" and The Princess Bride

Since its release, "The Princess Bride" has become a cultural phenomenon. The phrase "as you wish" has transcended its original context, being referenced in various forms of media and popular culture.

Quotability and Memes

The film is rich with memorable quotes, but "as you wish" stands out for its emotional resonance.

- Fan Memes: The phrase has been repurposed in countless memes, often used to express affection or agreeableness in humorous contexts.
- Romantic Gestures: Couples often use the phrase as a way to express their love and commitment to one another, making it a popular choice for wedding vows and romantic notes.

The Legacy of the Film

"The Princess Bride" continues to enchant audiences of all ages, partly due to its timeless themes and engaging characters.

- Anniversaries and Reunions: The film's cast has participated in reunions and special screenings, highlighting its enduring popularity and the affection fans have for it.
- Merchandising and Adaptations: The film has inspired a plethora of merchandise, from clothing to collectibles, and even stage adaptations, ensuring that its legacy endures for future generations.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the phrase "**as you wish**" is much more than a simple response in "The Princess Bride." It encapsulates the essence of true love, devotion, and the willingness to sacrifice for those we hold dear. Through the characters of Westley and Buttercup, we see how love can triumph over adversity, and how the most powerful expressions of affection can often be found in the simplest of phrases. As the film continues to resonate with audiences, it serves as a reminder of the timeless nature of love and the lengths we go to for those we cherish.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the significance of the phrase 'As you wish' in The Princess Bride?

'As you wish' is a recurring phrase used by Westley to express his love and devotion to Buttercup. It signifies his willingness to do anything for her, emphasizing the theme of true love throughout the film.

Who are the main characters in The Princess Bride?

The main characters include Westley, Buttercup, Inigo Montoya, Vizzini, and Fezzik, each contributing to the story's adventure, romance, and humor.

What genre does The Princess Bride belong to?

The Princess Bride is a blend of fantasy, adventure, romance, and comedy, making it a unique and beloved film that appeals to a wide audience.

How does The Princess Bride incorporate humor into its storytelling?

The film uses witty dialogue, absurd situations, and memorable one-liners to create humor, often poking fun at classic fairy tale tropes while delivering clever satire.

What themes are explored in The Princess Bride?

Key themes include true love, the nature of heroism, the battle between good and evil, and the importance of perseverance and friendship.

How did The Princess Bride perform commercially and critically upon its release?

Upon its release in 1987, The Princess Bride received mixed reviews but gained a cult following over the years, becoming a beloved classic and performing well in home video sales.

What is the role of Inigo Montoya in the story?

Inigo Montoya is a skilled swordsman seeking revenge on the man who killed his father. His quest for vengeance intertwines with the main storyline, adding depth and a personal stake to the adventure.

Why is The Princess Bride considered a cult classic?

The Princess Bride is considered a cult classic due to its unique blend of humor, romance, and adventure, its quotable lines, and its ability to resonate with audiences across generations.

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