

A Trip to the Cineplex

The deafening noise from the surround-sound system in the enclosed cinema was so overpowering that I was tempted to shut my ears. However, as the booming sound subsided and the cinema darkened, I leant back in anticipation, waiting for the film 'Happy Feet' to start.

Once the film started, I forgot about my earlier irritation with the noise. I burst out laughing whenever the penguins danced. They looked so adorable as they sashayed from side to side, mimicking the movements of professional dancers. Curling up in my seat, I felt as comfortable as I did at home. I was beginning to enjoy the ear-splitting noise each time the music came on. It helped me to immerse myself in the film. In contrast to the thunderous music and talking, there was exceptional silence whenever there was a lull in the film. The alternate loud and soft sounds added to the entire cinematic experience. Occasionally, I sipped from a large cup of soda placed in a holder on the handle of the seat and munched on the popcorn placed on another holder on the other side of the seat. It was a blissful feeling sitting there. I could not remember when I had ever felt so comfortable.

However, things did not go smoothly. Halfway through the film, I heard the ringing of a mobile phone behind me. Irritated, I turned around to tell the perpetrator to switch off his mobile phone. To my annoyance, he ignored me and began talking loudly on the phone. A few irate people around him signalled for him to keep quiet but he just brushed them off. His inconsiderate behaviour had certainly marred my enjoyment of the film. However, the sound from the film must have been too loud for after a while, he left the cinema to continue with his call outside.

I settled down in my seat again, glad that the annoying man had left. Despite the touching moments in the film, most of the time, I was in stitches as I watched the antics of the penguins. They were so adorable that I felt like keeping one as a pet. I finished my popcorn and soda long before the film ended. When the credits came on, the lights were turned on and the cinema was once again showered in bright yellow lights similar to the time when I first entered. However, this time, there were empty boxes of popcorn everywhere and drinks left in their holders as cinema-goers left the cinema without picking up after themselves.