

Never Mind “Kids”, it’s Extra Special _an appraisal

The film ‘Taare Zameen Par’ is a fantabulous piece of art, a story, a painting of a dyslectic child called Ishaan Awasthi (Darsheel Safari). The filmmaker is fully right in saying that “every child is special”, and they should be well cared for. There is an underlying catch in this idea, which is very clear to both Amole Gupte and Aamir Khan. The idea is that Ishaan is indeed special and a gifted child. Some of the other kids in the film stand for what the filmmaker really wants to say. "Kids" should remember this (never mind the Australian cricketers).

Ishaan’s elder brother Yohan Awasthi (Sachet Engineer) is special because his head rests firmly on his shoulders even after all his successes. We see “kids”, who, on their route to competitiveness, forget the rules of the game (never mind the Australian cricketers!). He, on the contrary remains balanced and more significantly, a passionate person, whom Ishaan always turns to in crises.

Ishaan’s best friend Rajan Damodaran (Tanay Cheda) is more like kids we come across in our daily lives. Yes, he is also special because he is disabled (differently able). However, that is not important. He is the one who stands out and appreciates Ishaan’s explanation for a poem read in the classroom when the teacher snubs Ishaan. He understands that Ishaan badly needs his parents. He shows a deep felt concern, when he sees Ishaan lost, dangerously standing on the grills of a parapet next to a gorge. We see him almost jump in his sitting posture when Ishaan receives a prize at the end. “Kids” forget to offer commiserations to second comers (never mind the Australian cricketers!), when they win and here is a boy who applauds his friend to the limits.

Kids need to understand the camaraderie between Rajan and Ishaan, and their sensitivity for each other’s needs. Kids like Rajan set high standards for others and he is extra special! Hopefully, “Kids” will watch this film and learn something!!

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