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## BEFORE SUNSET

### Movie Details

 Post Author: Matt Ho  April 11, 2013  0

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BEFORE SUNSET

**DIRECTOR** RICHARD LINKLATER

**WRITER** RICHARD LINKLATER, JULIE DELPY, ETHAN HAWKE 

4.5/5 6 votes

**US BOX OFFICE** \$5.6M

**RUN TIME** 1 HR. 20 MIN. **RATED** R

**YOUR RATING**

**GENRE** DRAMA, ROMANTIC

**WATCH THE TRAILER** BEFORE SUNSET TRAILER

**STARS** Ethan Hawke Julie Delpy

## Synopsis

*Before Sunset* takes place nine years after *Before Sunrise* where Jesse (Ethan Hawke) and Celine (Julie Delpy) first met on the train and decided to spend a night walking around Vienna getting to know one another. Jesse is now a successful author who is in Paris on the last leg of his European book tour, promoting his new novel *This Time* inspired by the events of the first film. As he answers one final question during a QA with the press, he finds, to his surprise, Celine in the corner watching. The two reunite, and with only a little over an hour before Jesse's flight, they're once again forced to make the best of the little time they have together.

## Review

Romances aren't exactly built for sequels, because the point of the genre for the most part is to conclude with either the formation or the separation of a relationship. However, *Before Sunrise* did end on an ambiguous note that left audiences wondering whether Jesse and Celine would actually meet six months later in Vienna like they promised. We finally learn that while Jesse had returned to



Before Sunrise 4.5/5 6 votes SYNOPSIS Before Sunrise takes place nine years after Before Sunrise where Jesse and Celine first met on the train and decided to spend a night walking around Vienna getting to know one another. Jesse is now a successful author who is in Paris on the last leg of his European book tour, promoting his new novel *This Time* inspired by the events of the first film. As he answers one final question during a QA with the press, he finds, to his surprise, Celine in the corner watching. The two reunite, and with only a little over an hour before Jesse's flight, they're once again forced to make the best of the little time they have together. [\[..\]](#)



### TAKE THIS WALTZ

Take This Waltz 5/5 5 votes SYNOPSIS Margot (Michelle Williams) is married to Lou (Seth Rogen). They I [\[..\]](#)



### OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN

Olympus Has Fallen 3.1/5 12 votes SYNOPSIS Mike Banning, former U.S Army Ranger, was the head of the S [\[..\]](#)



### THE COMEDY

The Comedy 3.2/5 5 votes SYNOPSIS With a title as ironic as the subculture it criticizes, The Comedy [\[..\]](#)

## U.S Box Office

### Weekend Box Office for 4/12/2013

42	\$27,487,144
Scary Movie 5	\$14,157,367
The Croods	\$13,115,074
G.I. Joe: Retaliation	\$10,894,415
Evil Dead	\$9,488,302

Source: *The Numbers* - Movie Box Office

## Advertising

the city, Celine did not make it due to the death of her grandmother. *Before Sunset* sets the stage for their reunion and director Richard Linklater could've easily followed the predictable path of a traditional rom-com (apparently the original direction in early versions of the scripts), but instead he manages to beautifully recapture the minimalist charm of the first film and strips it down further.

The story takes place in real time, within the span of a late afternoon as opposed to an entire night. Less happens, but *Before Sunset* is surprisingly well paced. If anything, the real time approach effectively provokes a strong sense of urgency for Jesse and Celine to make up for the nine years they lost. Because they've been apart for so long, *Before Sunset* is able to carry a familiar, but different air of mystery to the characters and the development of their relationship that was found in *Before Sunrise*. This is why the repeated formula works well for the sequel. While Jesse and Celine became well acquainted in the first film, they're essentially strangers as adults who have to rediscover one another, as do we, the viewers. These circumstances raise new questions and it sets the ground for intriguing dialogue, which is the strength of *Before Sunset*. Not only is it extremely well written, but also it's well balanced. While Jesse and Celine's night in Vienna remains a consistent theme, it never feels drawn out or tired. Linklater, Hawke and Delpy injects fresh dialogue that keeps us hanging on their every word with more grounded conversations that complement the older Jesse and Celine we see before us. They still explore the grand topics of love and religion, but now they bring maturity, life experience and perspective into their discussions. It's the film's subtle way of showing the growth of the characters while simultaneously allowing us glimpses into the course of their lives without giving too much away.

If there's any difference between *Before Sunset* and *Before Sunrise*, it's the introduction of tension. The latter's dramatic element was its melancholic tone towards the end that transitions into hope when Jesse and Celine finally agree to meet again as the film draws to a close. This time things are shaken up with a tense moment where we learn the toll life has had on them. It's a scene that erupts with intense emotions and confessions that portrays a realistic and relatable look at the perils of life, and what happens when you realize your younger idealistic self is locked in a moment of the past.

As far as performance goes, Hawke and Delpy are both excellent in reprising the roles they played nine years prior to *Before Sunset*. It's clear that they understand the characters well and it certainly



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helps that they both wrote the script with Linklater. Their chemistry is undeniably strong and the way they play off one another is so swift and effortless that it's hard to believe no improvisation was involved. Not only are they brilliant in presenting us with the matured version of their respective characters, but they also display traces of the younger Jesse and Celine we fell in love with in *Before Sunrise*. Hawke is as charming and loquacious as ever as Jesse, while Delpy remains absolutely captivating as the girl with big ideas.

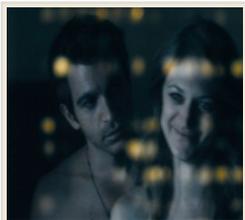
## Tagline

Memory is a wonderful thing if you don't have to deal with the past.

## Verdict

*Before Sunset* is a sequel that's actually better than its predecessor. This is minimalism at its best and it's a true follow-up that demonstrates growth and maturity from the first film. Paris serving as the romantic backdrop is a nice touch, but it takes a backseat to the dialogue that's just as perfect as *Before Sunrise*. Linklater, Hawke and Delpy once again capture the magic between Jesse and Celine and they're able to explore them on a deeper level with additional elements of tension and even repression at times. The third film *Before Midnight* is set to be released on May 24<sup>th</sup> and word is that it gained extremely positive reviews at Sundance this year. Here's hoping we finally get a proper conclusion to Jesse and Celine's story.

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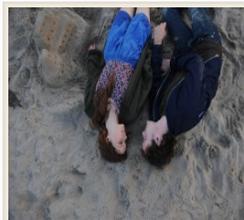
Anna Karenina



The Secret In Their Eyes (El Secreto de Sus Ojos)



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