

Film guide

Brooklyn

Ireland | UK | 2015 | Cert. 12 | 107 mins
Director: John Crowley

Brooklyn tells the story of Irish immigrant Eilis seeking opportunities in 1950s New York. After finding employment at a department store, Eilis overcomes her homesickness and falls in love. But when events force her to return to Ireland, she is faced with a heartbreaking choice between two lives. Unashamedly melodramatic and impeccably performed, this is a relatable story of a young woman defining her identity.



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You will like this film if you liked

Atonement (2007, 15)



WORKING TITLE © (2007) All rights reserved.

Watch next

The Long Day Closes (1992, PG)



CHANNEL 4 © (1992) All rights reserved.

Talk about it

What do you associate with the term immigration? What motivates people to move to new countries?

Discussion points

- Why does Eilis move to America? What has changed about Ireland when she returns? Do you think she ultimately makes the right decision?
- What colours do you associate with the setting of America and Ireland in the film? What impression of place do these colours give you? Why do you think the way in which each place is represented changes?
- What different examples of immigrants do we see in the film? What are the differences between them? Think about Eilis's experience and the men she serves at Christmas.
- How do Eilis's letters home help structure the film? How do they help to interest the audience? What do they reveal about both characters? What is left unsaid?

Write about it

Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs' website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it's similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

Extension Activities

Watch the beach scenes at Coney Island (00:53:46- 00:54:58) and Enniscorthy (01:16:50 -01:18:00). As you watch make notes on the colour, music and people and landscape in each scene. Use these to write a comparison of the appeal of both places.