

The Last of the High Kings

Rodrigo Arellano




It's Dublin 1977, approximately six weeks before Elvis Presley died. Frankie, a 17 year old, frets over the possibility of having failed his final exams, all his dreams of going to university are on the scrap heap.

On his bedroom wall he marks the days remaining until the arrival of his exam results when, he believes, his life will cease to have meaning. So he decides that everything he wants to achieve in a lifetime he must do before that date - the most important: to seduce the most attractive girls in his school. But *The Last of the High Kings* is neither mundane nor shallow. This is a beautiful film about being young and a little about being Irish.

The acting is admirable and it is interesting to note that most of the main actors are American in this otherwise Irish film. They include Frankie, Jared Leto (*My So Called Life*), his bigoted mother, Catherine O'Hara (*Home Alone*), and one of Frankie's girlfriends Christina Ricci (*Wednesday* from the *Adams Family*). Director David Keating is to be congratulated for showing such control over his actors and the film in general - his first feature film.

As Frankie learns about the world, we learn about Ireland. We don't see pubs and romantic beer drinking competitions. Here bigotry, youth, hope, fashion, love, sex, Elvis Presley, and the vicissitudes of life are all made into a dough, cooked and served with fresh butter. This movie will leave you energised, youthful, and maybe even resolute about doing that one thing you always wanted to do but never really got around to doing.

Rating: 

Competition

To celebrate youth and beautiful scenery, *The Young Lawyer's Journal* is giving away a night at the beautiful Rosehill Guest Cottages.

The two stylish cottages are set among 150 year old gardens situated one hour from Melbourne in the magnificent Trawool Valley.

Get set for log fires, country cooked breakfasts, candlelit dinners in your cottage, luxurious furnishings, fine wine and home made breads, preserves, pastries and cakes. Owners Graeme and Liz Walker will happily pack a scrumptious picnic to take with you when you take on the rugged hills, wineries, rivers or romantic walking tracks. And in addition the lucky winner will also receive a bottle of fine local wine.

To win write to us naming the Irish poet who won the Nobel Prize in 1995, and include a poem explaining why you need the break. Entries must be received by Darren Hogeboom at the Law Institute by last mail on Friday 30 January 1998. The judge's decision will be final... you know the deal.

Looking forward to reading your masterpiece.

The use of the cottages is limited to Sunday - Thursday.

