

THE SIEGEL ENTERTAINMENT SYNDICATE

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Reviewed on The Siegel Entertainment Syndicate:

Map of the Human Heart is an epic, if slightly offbeat, love story. The movie is told in flashback, and we soon see a white explorer, played by Patrick Bergin, arriving in an Eskimo village. When a young Eskimo boy becomes ill with a white man's disease, the brusquely heroic explorer flies our young Eskimo protagonist to civilization, where the young boy meets a half Cree Indian/half French Canadian girl who is also in the hospital. The two kids become fast friends in a charmingly innocent and sparkingly acted series of scenes. We come to care deeply about these two kids who find solace together from their individual heartaches. The rest of the movie, which is considerable, follows the grown up boy (played by Jason Scott Lee) as he tries to find the girl of his youth. Eventually, during World War II, they meet again. Life, however, has changed drastically for both of them. But their passion for each other remains, and it forms the centerpiece of this majestically conceived and delicately directed movie. Anne Parillaud is all sensuous charm and gamin femininity as the grown up halfbreed girl. Who wouldn't love her? Jason Scott Lee, whom you will see in a few weeks as Bruce Lee in Dragon: The Story of Bruce Lee, is intensely charismatic. Patrick Bergin gives a steely-eyed, measured performance as the white man who may not be the hero he appears to be. All accolades, however, go to Vincent Ward, the director, who fashioned an intelligent, perceptive, and deeply moving drama out of ice, snow, love, and tears. Map of the Human Heart is a three-and-a-half star movie that will, indeed, convince you that love has no boundaries.