
Contents

<i>List of images</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
1 Introduction: chick flicks and chick culture SUZANNE FERRISS AND MALLORY YOUNG	1
2 Women's films: comedy, drama, romance MAUREEN TURIM	26
3 Fashioning femininity in the makeover flick SUZANNE FERRISS	41
4 The return of pink: <i>Legally Blonde</i> , third-wave feminism, and having it all CAROL M. DOLE	58
5 A soundtrack for our lives: chick-flick music LISA M. RÜLL	79
6 The southern-fried chick flick: postfeminism goes to the movies DEBORAH BARKER	92
7 Something's gotta give: Hollywood, female sexuality and the "older bird" chick flick MARGARET TALLY	119
8 Simple pleasures: lesbian community and <i>Go Fish</i> LISA HENDERSON	132

9	Chica flicks: postfeminism, class, and the Latina American dream MYRA MENDIBLE	158
10	Chic flicks: the new European romance MALLORY YOUNG	175
11	The “babe scientist” phenomenon: the illusion of inclusion in 1990s American action films HOLLY HASSEL	190
12	Babes in boots: Hollywood’s oxymoronic warrior woman KATE WAITES	204
13	Afterword: once I got beyond the name <i>chick flick</i> KAREN HOLLINGER	221
	<i>Selected filmography</i>	233
	<i>Selected bibliography</i>	239
	<i>Contributors</i>	245
	<i>Index</i>	248

Images

1.1	Bridget Jones (Renée Zellweger) attracting her boss's attention	6
1.2	In <i>Bride and Prejudice</i> Austen's Jane and Elizabeth Bennet are transformed into Jaya and Lalita Bakshi (Namrata Shirodkar and Aishwarya Rai)	10
1.3	The Asian-American romantic comedy <i>Saving Face</i> subscribes to and subverts chick-flick conventions	11
3.1	Before: Dick Avery (Fred Astaire) photographing Jo Stockton (Audrey Hepburn) and Marion (Dovima) in the Embryo Concepts bookstore	46
3.2	After: the "gamine" turned "bird of paradise"	46
3.3	Before: Mary (Parker Posey) strutting her stuff on the improvised "runway" in the library	49
3.4	After: "Party girl" turned librarian	50
3.5	Before: Andy Sachs (Anne Hathaway) reacts to the first step in her makeover: Jimmy Choo stilettos	53
3.6	After: the "fashionista" applies finishing touches	53
4.1	Elle (Reese Witherspoon) arrives at Harvard in "Malibu Barbie" attire	65
4.2	Elle appears at a law-school party inappropriately dressed	69
6.1	Washing windows for Shelby's wedding	99
6.2	Idgie's (Mary Stuart Masterson) bad influence on Ruth (Mary-Louise Parker)	104
6.3	Frank (Nick Searcy) claiming his wife	106
6.4	Sidda's (Sandra Bullock) initiation	111
7.1	The "Calendar Girls" (Helen Mirren, Julie Walters, <i>et al.</i>) are temporarily seduced by the bright lights of LA	126
7.2	Erica (Diana Keaton) finds an age-appropriate mate in Harry (Jack Nicholson)	128
9.1	The Latina maid (Jennifer Lopez) gushes subserviently at the white, male senator (Ralph Fiennes)	163

9.2	Ana (America Ferrera) inspires her co-workers to take a stand against their sweatshop conditions	169
10.1	Amélie's (Audrey Tautou) isolation is emphasized by the film's camera work	179
10.2	Amélie framed against an empty Paris metro station	180
10.3	Sissy (Franka Potente) and Bodo (Benno Fürmann) prepare to leap to their fate in <i>The Princess and the Warrior</i>	183
10.4	Martha (Martina Gedeck) escapes to the restaurant cold-food locker in <i>Mostly Martha</i>	185
11.1	A flock of giant, mutated bats terrifies Dr Sheila Casper (Dina Meyer) in 1999's <i>Bats</i>	191
11.2	In 1990's <i>Tremors</i> , geologist Rhonda LeBeck (Finn Carter) escapes her pants and the underground monsters, later dubbed "graboids," with the help of handyman Valentine McKee (Kevin Bacon)	197
11.3	Dr Margo Green (Penelope Ann Miller) brings science to a monster-fight in 1997's <i>The Relic</i>	200
12.1	Lara Croft (Angelina Jolie) arrives via jet ski	210
12.2	School bus depositing the daughter of Vernita Green (Vivica Fox) as she fights with Beatrix Kiddo (Uma Thurman)	216