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After the Ball

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Movie Review

Title: After the Ball

Main Performers: Portia Doubleday, Marc-André Grondin, Lauren Holly

Director: Sean Garrity

Reviewer: Whitney Troxel

Studio: Myriad Pictures

Year Released: 2015

Run Time: 101 min.

MPAA Rating: G (Canada rating)

Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Dependable



Review

Kate Kassell is a recent fashion school graduate with a dream to design couturier. However, since her estranged father's business is selling "knock-offs" of designer fashions Kate is unable to find a job. In an attempt to reconnect with his daughter, Kate's father Lee offers her a job at the family business. Kate's stepmother and stepsisters treat her terribly in repeated attempts to get her to quit. When Kate exceeds expectations her stepmother frames her for corporate espionage and gets Lee to fire his own daughter. With some help from her godmother, Kate disguises herself as a new employee named Nate and returns to the family business to expose her stepmother's evil ways. Kate not only proves her stepmother's guilt, but manages to rebuild her relationship with her father.

After the Ball combines all the classic elements of Cinderella with the comedy of William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. The plot may be predictable, but the lighthearted nature of the film makes it entertaining to watch. Like many modern adaptations of Cinderella, the stepsisters are beautiful but incredibly idiotic. These types of characters can be irritating, but this movie manages to make them strangely charming. There are several laugh-out-loud moments throughout the film as well as a couple heart-felt moments between Kate and her father. *After the Ball* is the perfect movie for fans of *A Cinderella Story* and *She's the Man*.

*Contains mild language.