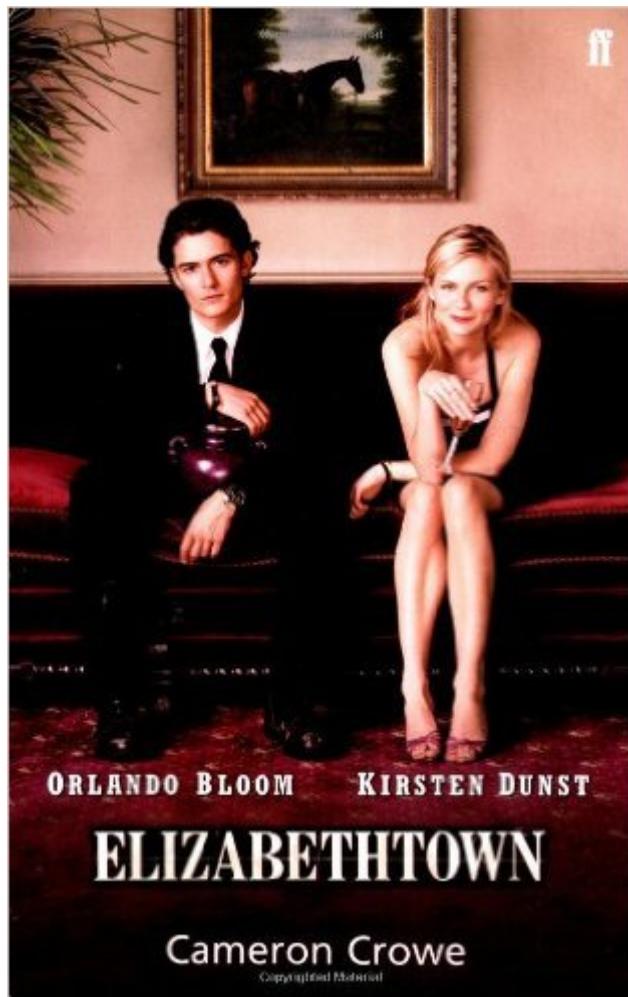


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Elizabethtown



Synopsis

The screenplay to the latest film from the Oscar-winning writer/ director of *Jerry Maguire* and *Almost Famous* Drew Baylor (Orlando Bloom) was the wunderkind of Mercury Shoes: the hot industrial designer who'd dreamed up the powerhouse athletic-wear company's next revolutionary shoe concept—the *Spasmotica*—upon which Mercury's hopes of global domination were pinned. That is until eight years of development—including a research and promotion outlay equal to the operating costs of a small nation—went up in smoke as the extensively hyped and highly anticipated *Spasmotica* premiered to colossal failure. Suddenly the laughingstock of the industry, dumped by his boss and his girl, things can't seem to get worse—until Drew gets word of his father's death. With his mother grief-stricken and his sister needed by her side, Drew must travel to his father's provincial hometown of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, to attend the memorial on his family's behalf. On the flight, Drew meets Claire (Kirsten Dunst), a witty and charming flight attendant, who helps him navigate the rough waters ahead and proves that even in our darkest hour love and redemption are never out of reach.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"sadness and disappointment are really a personal victory in disguise." Those lines in the foreward by Crowe made me buy the book. That and just how much the movie striked my curiosuty. Even though the movie had a lukewarm affect on me, its intent resonated with me. Especially after I had a chance to read some of Crowe's interviews online. He's a brave man who refuses to shade his stubborn optimism in a world where cynicism is strangely fashionable. Crowe is smart enough to know that cynicism is really just a defense mechanism for souls as vulnerable as the characters he

creates. Of all his movies, Elizabethtown has the most vulnerable souls bumping into each other. They are all guarded, but their defense is more transparent. This comes through more when you read the screenplay than seeing the actual movie. While most Hollywood movies move at the speed of light, The movie for E-Town moves at the speed of life. It takes it time to work things out, just as life really does. Appropriately, the movie tests the patience of a person who is accustomed to fast moving, quick-cut dialogue and action. In the screenplay, you are invited to peel back the layers of the characters -- especially Claire -- by dissecting their dialogue and looking between and behind words. For this reason, reading this movie is actually more enjoyable than watching it. I've met "a Claire" before, and Crowe captures her perfectly in the script. She's good at playing the hot-potato with one-liners, and you realize it's a slight of hand to throw your attention off from the "real her." In the screenplay you're perfectly cued to recognize her real self breaking through when her and Drew have their TRUE breakthrough after their romantic breakthrough, and she says "You're an artist, man.

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