

## Intoxicating 'The Age of Adaline' a Featherweight Fantasy

Submitted by [PatrickMcD](#) [1] on April 24, 2015 - 6:30am

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Rating: **4.0/5.0**

CHICAGO – “The Age of Adaline” is a beautifully shot featherweight fantasy that remains charming as long as you don’t think about it too hard, or at all. At one point one character asks another why he loves Adaline, and he replies “because she makes no sense.” The same could be said for this movie. It doesn’t make a lick of sense but I enjoyed it and it’s intoxicating in its own way. It goes down easy like a good “Manhattan” or some other vintage cordial of the era.

Blake Lively stars as Adaline, a pretty young woman who has a Zelig-like quality of being involved in just about every major event to happen in San Francisco in the first half of the 20th century. She’s born just after the great earthquake after all, on new years eve and gets herself into the movies when Thomas Edison himself comes around with his movie camera. After her husband dies in an accident, while building the Golden Gate bridge no less, she is caught in a freak snowstorm while driving to see their daughter.



Harrison Ford in 'The Age of Adaline'

*Photo credit: Lionsgate*

I’m no fan of cranky old Harrison Ford. His surliness seems increasingly out of place in the big budget blockbusters he continues to star in, but every now and then his cranky cantankerous persona will find just the right outlet under the radar. The film does indulge some silly romantic scenes of the elderly Ford running through the woods yelling Adaline’s name in the same tone of voice as Dr. Richard Kimball imploring police to find the one armed man in “The Fugitive,” but I enjoyed him anyway, and his barely concealed grumpiness worked for the character.

No one is going to call “The Age Of Adaline” one of the greatest love stories of our time. And it’s a nearly two-hour movie with only about 100 minutes of actual material in it. But it’s a charming enough date movie that will dazzle your eyes, and it left me satisfied before vaporizing into the ether.

*“The Age of Adaline” opens everywhere on April 24th. Featuring Blake Lively, Harrison Ford, Michiel Huisman, Ellen Burstyn, Amanda Crew and Kathy Baker. Screenplay by J. Mils Goodloe and Salvador Paskowitz. Directed by Lee Toland Krieger. Rated “PG-13”*



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