Meet the freshmen

WHERE ANGELS FEAR TO TREAD
Directed by Charles Sturridge.
Written by Tim Sullivan, Derek Granger, and Charles Sturridge.
Starring Helena Bonham Carter and Rupert Graves.
Based on the book by E. M. Forster.

By Jennifer Duncan

One’s first impressions upon viewing the opening moments of *Where Angels Fear to Tread*, based on a novel by E. M. Forster, are strong reminders of *A Room With a View*, another film based, not unexpectedly, on a Forster text. The fact that two of the main characters, Caroline Abbott (Helena Bonham Carter) and Philip Herriot (Rupert Graves), are played by two of the principle actors from *A Room With a View* serves only to heighten this effect. To complicate things further, the actresses playing Harriet Herriot (Judy Davis) is famous for her role in *A Passage to India*, yet another adaptation of one of Forster’s works. Nevertheless, to the credit of the actors and director, within a quarter of an hour all the above is forgotten and the viewer is engrossed in a new world of substantially different, well-defined, and engaging characters.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott look on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott look on.

The movie’s major thematic conflict is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

One of the film’s major thematic conflicts is typical for Forster, or at least, I am beginning to believe it is typical. Staid, Victorian English travelers fall under the spell of romance, wild, and free Italy. Lilia Herriton (Helen Mirren), the widowed sister-in-law of Philip Hcrriton (Rupert Graves), meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.

Rupert Graves meets Giovanni Guidelli as Llia Herriton and Caroline Abbott looks on.