The official poster for the new movie Exit To Eden shows four principal characters. Two of those characters, Paul Mercuro and Dana Delaney, resemble characters in the original book by Anne Rice. The other two characters, Dan Aykroyd and Rosie O'Donnell, have been fused into the image on a Hollywood poster as well as on the book. Unfortunately, Hollywood made the story about S&M. It's funny and cute, when in reality most people would never consider it. Rosie O'Donnell and Dan Aykroyd star as two cops who go undercover at a fantasy sex resort in Exit To Eden, a fast-paced comedy with an erotic love story.

The film itself is a combination of Dragstrip, Dirty Dancing, and Fantasy Island. Its billing as a romantic comedy is a bit misleading. Most of the humor is centered around Dan Aykroyd's inability to lose his inhibitions. As far as costumes go, the movie is first-rate. (Hubba Hubba sent a leather squadron to the preview.) There is a lot of flesh shown, and the male-female split is about 50/50. Most of the characters wander around the island in nothing but leather strip. It was difficult to determine what the producers were trying to do with this movie. It began like a police movie, but then the action shifted to the lives of the uninvolved, peripheral characters. The background of Dana Delaney's dominatrix was investigated partially, from her conversion from a repressed graduate student to the time she almost cried at her mother's funeral. However, this background information only serves to distract viewers from the real plot: New York police officers have to catch two diamond smugglers who are obsessed with capturing a photographer who has taken their picture.

It was interesting to consider the role Garry Marshall (Pretty Woman) took in order to achieve the movie's objectives. On one hand, the movie did include sex scenes, a spanking scene, and the occasional handcuff. There were bikinis and human ping-pong, and near-naked climbing. There was a stone full of wax chains and leather apparel, as well as a variety of other off-the-shelf items. However, all these hedonistic elements were balanced by actually registering, middle-aged "guests" on the island, who often refused to touch the personal slaves. (Dan Aykroyd's character is a culturally tinted white female physician required to drop his drawers.) This film is interesting as a cultural study. Cute and friendly, it makes the so-called repression and subordination of women look like everyday sex acts.

"Do you want what?" subordinates say to the guests: "I am here for your pleasure." Dan Aykroyd, "janitor" character, introduces an aura of repression to the island of fantasy, saying: "There is much sex going on around me that it distresses me, and I try to get to know it so I can control the repairs on small engines." That sentiment also makes this movie a must for MIT students. It certainly is cute, and it help the repressed become less uptight.

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