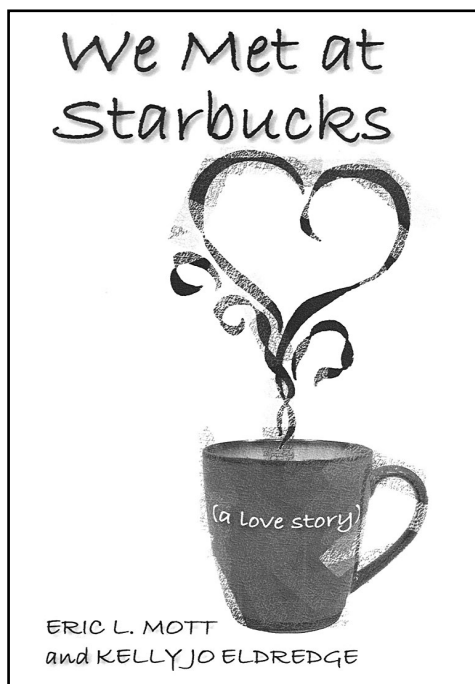


A whole latte love



By **Bob McDonnell**
The Surveyor

I love books. Recently in this space I have reviewed business books, a sports trivia book, an autobiography and a book of poetry. Now I am going to venture into an area where I have never gone before. I am going to review *We Met at Starbucks: a love story*. I may have to retreat to a man cave or watch some football after I do this, but here goes.

This is an easy read, and the two authors, Eric L. Mott and Kelly Jo Eldredge, use a very easygoing “he said/she said” format. One could almost imagine the now-married couple sitting at a Starbucks of course, relating to you how they met online.

The letter accompanying my copy of the book, the couple’s first, says it “takes an honest and joyful look at achieving personal growth while searching for love after divorce.” The letter further states that the book is “a light-hearted look at the sometimes wacky world of online dating, and also a truly compelling statement of how turning inward and developing personal authenticity can end up attracting true love.”

The book, which is small and contains only 73 pages, does all this in a very entertaining way. Anyone who has ever delved into the world of online dating, or has thought about it, will find the book fun and informative. Anyone who frequents a Starbucks (and who doesn’t?) can wonder if the couple at the next table is going through what the two authors did in their quest for true love.

The easy explanation for why the book was written is given in what could qualify for a Guinness Book of Records shortest forward ever. It reads: “Whenever we tell

people the story of how we met, they usually respond, ‘Oh, you should write a book.’”

Starbucks was chosen by the two online daters for a few reasons. First of all, it is the easiest and most convenient place to meet. The atmosphere there is neutral and low-key and there is no loud music playing. The best reason to pick a Starbucks is that they are everywhere. The male readers will appreciate database programmer and Internet developer Eric’s Rule of Starbucks Proximity.

Kelly Jo’s accounts of some of her dates, which she calls experiments, are hilarious. These men ranged from the self-absorbed, to the liars, to a wild and crazy guy whose favorite ice cream flavor was vanilla. Her recounting of the dates and her impressions will probably hit home with many who are or were on the dating scene.

Kelly Jo also gives a list of advice to future online daters. Read Chapter 13 for the full list of sage musings on the topic. She says to avoid the ones who are checking their own reflection in the rearview mirror for five minutes after arriving in your driveway. She says to watch out for the one whose idea of a great date is pizza and beer, which you provide. Others to avoid include ones who just discovered that e-mail exists.

In Chapter 15 the female side of the couple points out common signs to look for to tell whether you are in for a scary date or a good one. It is very insightful.

The book is not without its serious side. Eric briefly reflects on how he handled the birth of their stillborn child. Kelly Jo talks very openly about her previous battle with alcohol, how she brought it up in relationships, and how Alcoholics Anonymous is and always will be part of her (and now Eric’s) life.

The women will enjoy how and when Eric proposed to Kelly Jo. The male readers may want to take notes. I don’t want to spoil that part of the story, so you will have to read the book to find out what happened.

The book concludes with a series of thoughts on what the duo discovered along their way to find each other and true love. The words of wisdom seem appropriate for any relationship, maybe even yours.

As mentioned, this book is an easy and enjoyable read. It is too bad that Valentine’s Day is so far away. This little bundle would make a good present for the lady in your life. Guys ... it might also work on any occasion, along with some flowers as a “get out of jail free” pass.

“*We Met at Starbucks: a love story*” is available at PublishAmerica.com, Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com. To find out more about Eric Mott and Kelly Jo Eldredge go to www.4CatsInk.com.



Hank Azaria and Simon Pegg star in *Fat Boy, Run*.

DVD Review “Run, Fat Boy, Run”

Rated: PG13

Directed by: David Schwimmer
you may remember him as “Ross” from the mega popular hit “Friends”
Starring: Simon Pegg, Hank Azaria, Thandie Newton, Ameet Chana and Dylan Moran

Heidi’s Illustrious Rating: 2.5
(if you like British humor and David Schwimmer humor)

Word of Warning: Typical British style humor, lots of naked male bodies, lots of swearing.

My husband and I are big fans of British film. Not even I can share our love of movies such as “Monty Python” films and “Fuzz,” but there is a British comedy in the theater we usually

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our way to see it. “Run, Fat Boy, Run” is directed by “Friends” alum David Schwimmer and features actors from the British films “Hot Fuzz” and “The Day After Tomorrow.” While a little of the mor style in those two odd and wacky films has seeped into “Run, Fat Boy, Run,” this quirky British flick is reminiscent of an episode of “Friends” (equipped with a moral to the story and a happy ending). It is enjoyably, but quickly forgettable.

Set in an unusually sunny London, England, this is the story of a man named Dennis. Dennis has trouble with things. The movie opens with a scene of Dennis running (literally sprinting) away from the church