The film deals with the story of an uncomplicated, unsophisticated and naïve young woman, Andrea Sachs (as played by Anne Hathaway) and her move to New York and into the fashion world when she lands a job, surprisingly so, at Runway magazine, a world leading glossy fashion publication with a world-wide following. The film is based on the book The Devil Wears Prada written by Lauren Weisberger, which in actual fact contains most of Ms Wienberger’s own experiences as an assistant to Anna Wintour, the infamous Editor-in-Chief of Vogue Magazine. The film follows Andrea’s ‘transformation’ and adaptation into the fast-paced, money, image and power driven industry that is haute couture and fashion today. Although Andrea’s experience is the main focus of the film, it is not however the most interesting of the various processes that one can see developing as the film progresses.

Meryl Streep’s brilliant performance as Miranda Priestly, Andrea’s new boss from hell and Editor-in-Chief of Runway magazine, brings to the viewer an exceptionally complicated individual, albeit one who is portrayed as extremely controlling, cold and narcissistic. Miranda’s presence is dreaded and her character feared by all whom either works for her, or has anything to do with her. Even the top fashion houses seem to support her position of power. One nod of approval, or a side-ways glance of disgust by her make or brake fashion collections bound for the catwalks of the world even before they are shown to the eager aficionados, fashion junkies and followers each season.

Although the film does not give any insight into Miranda’s past, it does highlight her present functioning as a controlling, anal-retentive and creative genius. Miranda’s presence is dreaded and her character feared by all whom either works for her, or has anything to do with her. Even the top fashion houses seem to support her position of power. One nod of approval, or a side-ways glance of disgust by her make or brake fashion collections bound for the catwalks of the world even before they are shown to the eager aficionados, fashion junkies and followers each season.

The Devil Wears Prada is a feel-good movie, both for those with a narcissistic inclination dreaming of a high-powered career and for those feeling like the under-dog. Andrea learns very valuable lessons in the end, especially regarding life’s priorities and ‘different’ norms and values that are light-years apart from those seemingly adhered to and practised within the world of fashion. Meryl Streep’s performance in this film deserves all accolades and prizes coming her way this award season.