

*10 Things I Hate About You*, directed by Gil Junger, is a popular romantic comedy that premiered in 1999. The movie is a modern-day adaptation of Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* that tells the story of high schoolers in Seattle. The movie follows sisters Katarina "Kat" and Bianca Stratford in their (sometimes unwanted) romantic antics.

Kat Stratford is a high school senior with a no-nonsense and rebellious attitude. She confidently expresses her opinion no matter how it may be perceived by her classmates. Other than bashing the assigned books in her English class, Kat is largely antisocial. On numerous occasions, Kat makes sure that everyone knows that she "does not care what anyone thinks". Kat is also a strong feminist.

Bianca is the complete opposite of her sister. Bianca, a sophomore, is a social butterfly. She is popular and definitely takes advantage of her upper middle class status, sporting a Prada backpack that she loves. She is outgoing and bubbly and well-liked by everyone in school. Her main goal in life is to be popular. Bianca is frustrated because she states that she is the only sophomore in school that is not dating. Her father does not allow his daughters to date.

In Act I of the film, the relationship between Bianca, Kat, and their father, Walter, is examined. Walter is an obstetrician who is obsessed with the idea of preventing his daughters from

teenage pregnancy. He creates a rule that his daughters will never date. Although Kat could care less about the rule, Bianca is frustrated. According to her, she is the only one in her class without a boyfriend. Bianca especially wants the rule to change when she meets Joey, a self-absorbed, "model" senior. When Bianca appeals to her father, Walter devises what he believes is a failsafe plan: Bianca can date when Kat does.

When Cameron, the new boy at school who is in love with Bianca, asks Bianca out, she informs him of her father's new rule. Although Cameron is not aware that Bianca has no desire to go out with him, Cameron and his friend Michael decide to find someone to go out with Kat. Patrick, mysterious and resident badboy at school, is the perfect choice. Cameron and Michael approach Joey as a "backer" to pay Patrick to go out with Kat, making him believe that he will be able to go out with Bianca. When Joey pays Patrick and informs him of his job of taking Kat out, this event begins Act II.

In Act II, Patrick attempts to win Kat over. Even though Kat rejects the first few attempts, Patrick enlists Cameron's help in getting information on Kat's likes and dislikes. With this information, he begins to win her favor, and she agrees to go to a party with him. After Kat gets drunk when seeing her sister with Joey, she and Patrick share some nice moments. Kat

leans in to kiss Patrick, and Patrick tells her that they should do it another time. Kat feels rejected and avoids Patrick.

After almost giving up, Cameron finally confronts Bianca after seeing her and Joey together because he now knows that he was just a pawn in her game. Bianca kisses Cameron and they begin a friendship. Joey pays Patrick his next installment to take Kat to the prom so he can go with Bianca. Patrick knows that Kat is angry with him, so he enlists the help of the marching band to put on a show. Patrick goes out of his comfort zone and sings to Bianca in the middle of her soccer practice. Patrick's singing antics begin Act III.

Act III is all about the prom. Drama ensues with Patrick and Kat after a romantic date that turns sour. Patrick insists that Kat go with him to the prom even though she is against this type of event. Bianca agrees to go to prom with Joey after frustratingly asking Cameron during their French lesson why he has not asked her. Walter will not let Bianca go to prom if Kat does not go. Bianca is frustrated with Kat, so Kat decides to tell her about her secret history with Joey. 3 years prior, Kat went out with Joey and after she agreed to have sex with him because "everyone was doing it", she regretted it. Kat agrees to go to prom so her sister can also participate. Bianca takes Kat's warning about Joey and goes to prom with Cameron.

At the prom, Kat finds out about Patrick and Joey's agreement and leaves heartbroken. Joey punches Cameron for taking Bianca to the prom, and Bianca punches Joey in the face. At school, Kat reads her poetry assignment aloud with reveals that she is in love with Patrick. She finds a Fender guitar in her car that Patrick bought for her, and he confesses his feelings. They share a kiss.

An interesting Easter Egg in the film is the name of the high school, Padua. Padua is the city in Italy that *Taming of the Shrew* takes place. There are also multiple incorporations of Shakespeare, including Michael's "promposal" to the Shakespeare-obsessed Mandella. The poem that Kat reads about Patrick demonstrates irony because even though it is entitled "10 Things I Hate About You", she ends up saying all of the things she loves about him. An example of plant and payoff in the film occurs with Bogey, a "future MBA" who kicks Michael out of their group. In the beginning of the film, Michael explains to Cameron that Bogey will eventually get what's coming to him after kicking him out. Later, Michael and Cameron sabotage Bogey's party by changing the flier from "future MBAs only" to "free beer", and the entire school shows up. This event kicks off the relationships between Patrick and Kat as well as Cameron and Bianca.