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College Writing

“Because I had a headache”, was the main character's excuse for her failed suicide attempt that involved swallowing a bottle of aspirin and chasing it with a bottle of vodka. The opening scene is the authentic portrayal of an adolescent girl struggling to decipher the state of her mental health in the movie, “Girl, Interrupted”. A film directed by James Mangold; written by Mangold, Lisa Loomer and Anna Hamilton Phelan, was adapted from Susanna Kaysen's same titled memoir. “Girl, Interrupted” chronicles Susana Kason’s journey of self-discovery the psychiatric hospital in Belmont, Massachusetts. The film also challenges social preconceptions, and will resonate with anyone who has ever questioned their sanity after experiencing the weight of life's labels.

Scattered notes

Portrayal the complexities and struggles of seeking mental health treatment during the late 1960's throughout the film is engaging is the thought provoking and relatable theme of the film as well “Girl, Interrupted” presents a real life portrait of the effects of the social stresses her time in represents a period of self-discover and forming relationships while everyone was making plans for plans for college, Susanna consumes a bottle of aspirin and a bottle of vodka.

successfully portrays the emotions of a young women struggling with the inability to

Susanna had just graduated from high school struggling after graduation who refused to study further.

The journey of an adolescent girl navigating the struggles as she tries to cope with her mental health issues is portrayed in the authentic, 1999 drama "Girl, Interrupted".

Susanna challenges many social norms

With the exception of a few flashbacks designed to establish aspects of Susanna's character before her 1967 commitment, the film is mostly set within the walls of Claymoore, and focuses on the relationships Susanna establishes with her fellow inmates and Valerie (Whoopi Goldberg), a nurse who has her best interests at heart. Other patients who register as more than walking clichés are Daisy (Brittany Murphy), a highly strung girl with an eating disorder; Georgina (Clea DuVall), a timid pathological liar; Polly (Elizabeth Moss), a disfigured girl with low self-esteem; and Lisa (Angelina Jolie), a charismatic sociop

The film showed the personal frustration and confusion involved in understanding one's disorder in a time when society lacked much insight into psychiatric disorders.

The film is an accurate portrayal of her hospitalization in the late 1960's

Challenges of receiving treatment in the 1960's of an adolescent patient who is trying to gain insight into their mental illness, while also facing the challenge of growing up.

also offers insight into the impact of others on our view of ourselves, as well as the impact of others on our behaviors and view of the world.

conveying her character's volatile emotional life

Relatable dialog

in a manner which is relatable to anybody who has ever questioned their place in the world.

stuck in the mental ward until her doctors decide she is ready to return to society.

she develops relationships in the mental ward,

She described her suicide attempt with vodka and a bottle of aspirin as her solution to a headache remedy.

Her suicide attempt, according to her explanation, was a simple solution to her headache that involved a bottle of aspirin.

The film unfolds in an episodic way, like the journal it's based on. Themes make an appearance from time to time, but not consistently; the film is mostly about character and behavior and although there are individual scenes of powerful acting, there doesn't seem to be a destination. That's why the conclusion is so unsatisfying: The story, having failed to provide itself with character conflicts that can be resolved with drama

at Claymoore, where her subject of study is herself. Susanna is not therefore a captive of an evil system but someone seduced by a careless one, and there is the temptation to suspect she deserves what she gets.

Distinguished

the movie uses flashback to take us back and forth between the hospital and her pre-institutional life to help us understand visually what was going on inside her confused, but obviously creative and gifted mind.

movie forces one to understand the horror of having to deal with mental illness and does not glamorize being insane. It flirts with the idea that something in us causes tender and sensitive young people to lapse into insanity if the culture does not practice unconditional love

Genuine

accurate portrait of the struggles some endure to overcome the

callousness and insensitivity shown by the psychiatric “profession”

She seems to leave the institution without any overt bitterness or hatred towards those who imprisoned her; and her compassion to the end for the evil and seductive Lisa is extraordinary.

The characters within the film face coming of age challenges, as well as showcasing that even with their label of mental illness, they are still human. They showed their vulnerability, fears, and sadness, but they also showed hope and friendship.

This movie was directed by James Mangold and produced by Douglas Wick and Cathy Konrad

girl is a significant decrease in interest or pleasure in almost all activities, loss of desires, and taste for life

society, we are quick to judge individuals who don't conform to social norms, especially when there is not a distinct line between insane and indifferent.

A constant underlying theme throughout the movie and something that is definitive in our own culture is the need to constrain individuals within conventional social norms, while at the same time, not understanding the full risk of that action.

individual with a mental illness balances on a fine line between giving a life-long label and misdiagnosing

Characters are interesting that you

Resolution at the end. Some might argue that because there wasn't diagnosis or resolution but others point out that as the authenticity.

She Discovery of what is normal to her, regardless of what people think. Example: Explaining plans to write rather than work in retail at her exit interview.