

Film Title and Release Date: *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* (2018)

Film Length in Minutes: 92 minutes

Film Genre: Drama/Romance

Reviewer Name and Grade: Prisha S. 11th Grade

Date Reviewed: July 22 2020

The main character, teenager Cameron Post, is caught with another girl in the backseat of a car. She is sent away to a conversion therapy camp named God's Promise where advisors aim to remove the teenagers' sin of SSA, or same-sex attraction. The story takes place in 1993 in a rural setting.

Cameron is forced to the camp and is introduced to odd personalities. She remains timid and closed-off with her peers since she does not want to engage with their behavior or efforts to change their identities. However, Cameron meets two teenagers, Jane and Fonda, who she relates to and bonds with at the camp. Jane is carefree, blunt, and realistic regarding Cameron's expectations of the camp and its disciples. Adam's timidness is similar to Cameron's, but he gradually opens up to her as they spend more time together.

Cameron makes no attempts to change her SSA for advisor Lydia's appeasement; instead, she pretends to emotionally partake in the Christian activities to be released from the camp, as do Jane and Adam. Cameron dreams about her SSA as she is unable to act upon it in the Christian environment. However, her roommate Erin surprises Cameron by her act of homosexuality. Cameron soon realizes that several "disciples" are not changing through conversion therapy and continue to hide their SSA. For instance, Adam's roommate Mark had an incident of self-harming at the camp and was sent to the hospital. This sent a shock wave through fellow disciples, especially Cameron, Jane, and Adam. The three decide to sneak out of the camp and live freely with the comfort of their homosexuality.

How did you find the film on Kanopy (by title search, subject search, casual browsing, etc.)?

I was browsing on Kanopy and the description of the movie interested me.

Did the plot keep you interested?

Some parts of the plot seemed redundant as if the plot was advancing then backtracking.

Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow, or just right?

The pace of the film was slow. There were multiple periods of time with no advancement or building of the plot.

What grade level(s) is this film appropriate for?

This film is appropriate for older grades such as 11th and 12th grade.

Rating:

4 stars: I enjoyed this film and found it worthwhile to watch.

I enjoyed the different perspective of the film. Usually, portrayals of LGBTQ teenagers involve a setting at a school or within the discomfort of their loved ones. This film, however, is set in the extreme environment of a conversion therapy camp. The watcher can fully comprehend the limitations and abuse people of the LGBTQ community must face in many situations.