

Film Title: *Once I Was a Beehive* (2015)

Length of Film in Minutes: 119 minutes

Film Genre: Comedy/Family

Reviewer Name and Grade: Yaseen V., 9th Grade

Date Reviewed: August 1, 2020

This film begins with Lane Speer, a young girl who loves to go camping with her parents. Soon, however, Lane's father dies of cancer and her mother remarries to another man. Lane's mother marries a Mormon, and while they go off to enjoy their honeymoon, Lane is sent to her new "step-aunt". Along with this, she has been enrolled in a week-long Bible camp organized by the Latter-Day-Saints Young Women. Lane ultimately decides to go with her step-cousin, Phoebe. Their first task when they arrive at the camp is to set up their tepees. While other girls rush to get the task done, Lane and Phoebe take their time. This works in their favor later that night, when their tepee is the only one left standing after it rains that night. It is revealed to the audience that Phoebe has secretly brought her dog, Roxy, to camp and tells all the girls to keep it a secret from the counselors. After the night in the tent, the girls all hike to a glacier. However, Lane makes a bad impression on Bree, another girl at the camp. Later around the fire, Lane makes it up to Bree by cooking her a meal, and the two quickly make amends. At the end of the week, the girls work together as a team to successfully execute the "Trial of Faith" activity and find Roxy, who had gone missing. The film ends with Lane and Phoebe, now good friends, singing a song together onstage at the final camp talent show. Overall, this movie shows how although change can at times be difficult, it is ultimately a good thing and can bring new experiences and friends your way.

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

I found this film on Kanopy while casually browsing through the many films it offers.

Did the plot (for a fictional movie) keep you interested?

Yes, the plot kept me interested in the new life of Lane Speer, and how she was able to overcome the death of her father, her mother marrying again, and the introduction of new family and friends.

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

The pace of this film was just right and successfully told the story of Lane, who has to adjust to her new life with her stepfamily. The pace enabled all the characters in the camp to build a bond of friendship, which helped them prepare for the obstacles in the movie and the final camp talent show.

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

I believe this film is great for grades five and up for its good-natured plot and lessons. It is a feel-good movie that is great for families to watch together.

5 stars: I'm really glad I watched this film; it was awesome!

I believe this film deserves 5 stars because it tells a heartwarming story of Lane Speer, a girl who has her entire life altered after the death of her father. This movie shows her perseverance and ability to adjust and grow with the things around her. I would recommend this film for all ages

because it shows how to get through difficult times and gain friendships with those you would not expect, like how Lane became friends with her step-cousin Phoebe.