

## **Film Title and Release Date: *A Street Cat Named Bob* (2016)**

**Length of Film: 103 minutes**

**Film Genre: Drama**

**Reviewer Name and Grade: Sarina P., 9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Date Reviewed: December 28, 2020**

A Street Cat named Bob is a film based on a true story. It is about James, a formerly homeless musician, trying to recover from his addiction to heroin. After he gets his own house via public housing, he discovers a cat has made his way in through the window and is now eating his cornflakes. He lets him stay for the night, but releases him the next day. Later, the cat, who James has now named Bob, is injured. James takes Bob to the vet and receives medicine for him. Over the course of the movie, James and Bob bond, and eventually Bob officially becomes James' cat. The effects that the addiction had on his life are a main focus of the movie. As a result of him priorly being seen as a junkie, his family has come to look down on him. Many of his old friends are also addicted to drugs, and the consequences for them can be fatal. James realized that he doesn't want to end up like them, and is determined to bettering himself. With the help of his newfound friends, James is hired into more respectable careers, and eventually ends up publishing his story as a book. The story ends with a heartwarming reunion with his family.

*How did you find this film on Kanopy?*

We found this film on Kanopy through browsing. We had heard good things about it, and it seemed cute.

*Did the plot keep you interested?*

The plot of the movie managed to maintain my attention well, which is impressive since it wasn't very action packed. The movie was compelling while being down to Earth and following the original story well.

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

The film's pace was a bit on the slower side, but not so much so that it lost my interest.

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

It partially depends on maturity, but due to the themes of drug addiction and death, I would rate it PG-13 (the film is not rated originally). It's a good film for a variety of ages since it depicts mature subjects without making the film too scary for preteens.

*Rating:*

I would give this movie a 4 star rating, and even that may be a bit harsh. I loved the depth provided for the characters, and it's very original. The reason why I took off a star is because it is possible to take away the wrong message from it. Many of the movie's scenes are dedicated to showing how James made a greater profit when people were interested in his services because he had a cat. This could give people the idea that buying a pet can give you money and clout, and that shouldn't be the only reason to adopt an animal. Other than this and one scene having a very underwhelming conclusion (Bob is lost and after a searching montage, he randomly shows back up in James' house), the movie was very captivating.