

Film Title and Release Date: *Mr. Church* (2016)
Film Length in Minutes: 106 Minutes
Film Genre: Drama

Reviewer Name and Grade: Yaseen V., 10th Grade

Date Reviewed: July 6, 2021

The dramatic movie, *Mr. Church*, showcases Charlotte “Charlie” Brooks, a youth who lives in California with her mother, Marie Brooks. The film begins on a hot morning when Charlie wakes up to the smell of delicious food being cooked in her kitchen. When Charlie walks into the kitchen, she is startled upon seeing a black man preparing breakfast. Charlie’s mother explains to her that the man is Mr. Church, and that he will be the family cook. However, Charlie is suspicious of Mr. Church because she thinks he will drive a wedge between her and her mother. In reality, Mr. Church was hired by Marie’s late boyfriend and was guaranteed to have a lifetime salary as long as Marie’s cancer was kept a secret from Charlie. Six years later, Marie dies and Charlie goes off to college. After some time, she becomes pregnant and returns to Mr. Church for assistance. Five years after that, it is shown that Mr. Church helps Charlie raise her daughter. However, due to an enlarged heart, he too passes away. Charlie, overtaken by grief for the loss of her father figure, discovers how much Mr. Church kept a secret, such as his love for music. The film ends bittersweetly, with Charlie writing the story of her life with Mr. Church.

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

I found this film on Kanopy by casually browsing and chose it because it seemed interesting.

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

Yes, the plot of this film was very interesting because it shows how one man affected the lives of so many others in an impactful way.

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

I believe the pace of the film was just right because the plot gradually developed.

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

This film is appropriate for grades eight to ten, due to the uplifting and motivating events that happen throughout the movie.

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

Upon watching the captivating movie, *Mr. Church*, I truly gained a new perspective of the impact people have on our lives. The film truly motivates viewers to not be quick to judge one by their looks, but instead their character. I really enjoyed this movie and thought its plot was heartwarming.