



Aftersun written and directed by Charlotte Wells
Reviewed by Caroline



Drama, Coming-of-age

Give a summary without spoilers!

Aftersun follows a woman named Sophie as she reflects on the last trip she took with her father when she was 11. She rewatches the home videos she made of the vacation and her conversations with her father. Throughout the trip, Sophie begins to notice the more mature sides of life, namely the behavior of older teens at the resort and the struggles which her loving father hides from her. From the beginning it is assumed that this trip was the last time Sophie saw her father, but what happened to him is unclear. The film uses ambiguity to allow the viewer to use their imagination to fill in parts of the story, and it mimics the dreamy nature of childhood. *Aftersun* is a cinematic and hazy sequence of Sophie's coming of age. It is beautiful and thought-provoking.

What drew you to this film?

I had seen ads for the film using the song "Under Pressure" by Queen and David Bowie, which plays in the final scene of the film. The song combined with these scenes was really beautiful and drew me to watch the rest of the film.

Did it remind you of something that you've previously watched?

The cinematography and subject matter reminded me of the film *Mid90s*. The protagonists in both films are at similar stages in their lives, and the aesthetics and time period are similar. Both films are produced by the A24 studio, which is known for its stylized and artistic films.

To whom would you recommend this film?

I would recommend this to people who enjoy artistic films and want to watch something about dark and serious subjects without shocking images. The film portrays an emotional and at times, severe, story but it doesn't go for shock value and is actually very beautifully shot.

Overall, did you like it and would you recommend it to others?

Yes, I loved it and I would recommend it to everyone. It reshapes the way you think about family, relationships, and age. Regardless of your personal story you will likely find yourself connecting to the story of *Aftersun*.

Anything else that you would like to add to this review? What made you choose it? Did you like the cover? Was it recommended to you? Did you find it at the library?

N/A