



WAKE

UP

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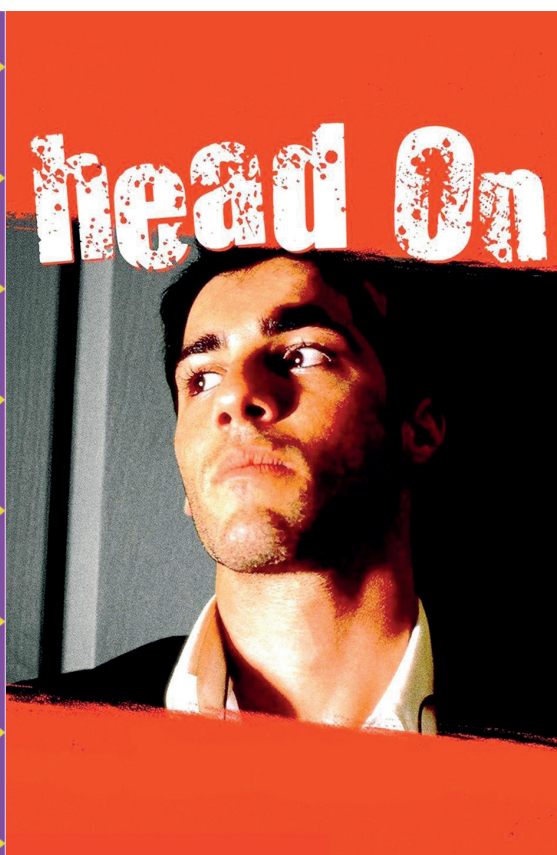
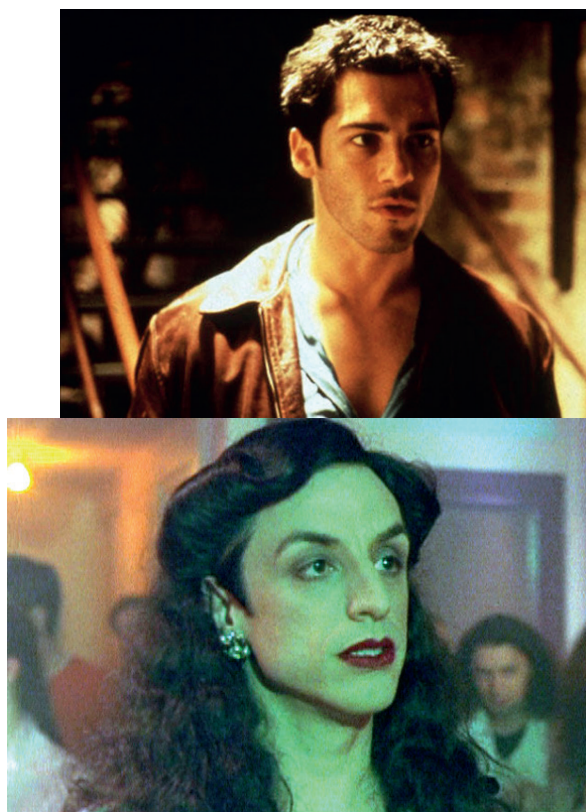
God's Own Country.

God's Own Country is a serious film that takes a lot of focus at the beginning before you get to the core of the plotline, but it is well worth the wait. Within this film we are shown the importance of accepting love no matter how hard it is to do so.

The main character struggles to understand that someone might want him for more than just sex, but once he realises that he, himself, has fallen in love, he recognizes the importance of letting people into your life.

We are shown that no matter how tough an exterior you put out, someone will always love you for who you are underneath.

This is not your typical romance film, in fact, to truly enjoy this film you need to be a little bit more than just interested in farming as otherwise you might struggle with this one. Despite this film not being solely based on the romantic relationship that blossoms, it still manages to teach us some valuable lessons that we all need to learn.



LGBT+ FILM REVIEWS

Head On.

Head On is an extremely hard-hitting film with a tough storyline. When learning about the violent lives that the characters lead within this film the scenes become quite graphic, however, this is what was needed to get across how life was for minority groups back in the late 90s. We are shown the struggles of fitting in depending on cultural background or sexuality. These characters are all outsiders, trying desperately hard to fit in while also hating on others who are outside of their 'groups'. This hostility towards one another doesn't help make anyone feel like they fit in and in the end, everyone ends up angry and hurt with each other.

Despite this film first coming out in 1998, we can still see a lot of the discrimination shown in this film in today's society. We still struggle to accept those from other cultural backgrounds or who identify with another gender or sexuality.

This film also discusses the topic of love, but in a much less romantic way than the rest of these films. We are shown how even when the main character is shown love and affection, he decides to push it away because he feels unworthy of this emotion and is happier being the disgrace to his family, he's always been told that he is.



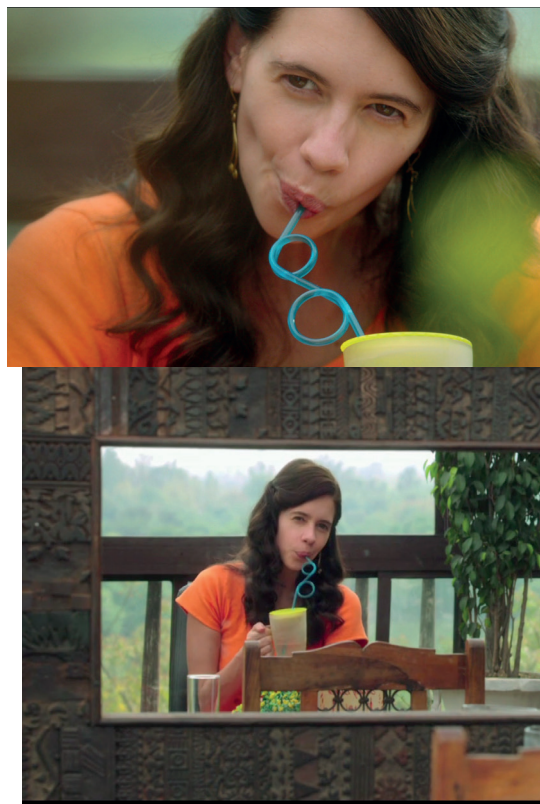
Loving Annabelle.

If you are one of those people, like me, who loves the film genre “RomCom” then this is the film for you. This is the perfect teenage rebellion film with a touching love storyline to make your heart swell with happiness...that is until the end.

Despite this being a light-hearted, at some points cheesy, teenage love affair, there are some plotlines that are much more serious helping us to become aware of the struggles within the LGBT community and the teenage years. These more serious topics are discussed in such a way that they

don't bring down the mood of the film, but make sure that they are not made fun of.

This film, yet again, shows the struggles of fitting in, being oppressed and being trapped in a situation you don't like. But it does it in such a way that it suggests that there is hope for everyone, even those who are really struggling with day-to-day life. However, there is no fairy tale ending to this film, suggesting that not everyone gets their 'happy ever after' but they still learn to cope with what they get.



LGBT+ FILM REVIEWS

Margharita with a straw.

This is a beautiful coming of age film in which the main character is not only struggling to discover her own sexuality, but is living with cerebral palsy. Everyday is a struggle for this girl, yet she still manages to find time to smile and enjoy life as much as she can. Despite this being an Indian film, you soon get used to reading the subtitles and the storyline is definitely worth the extra concentration that this film takes.

Within this film we are shown that love is for everyone and that it has no limitations.

Whether you are gay, trans, or suffer from a life-changing illness, you WILL find love... even if it's just loving yourself. This film also shows the struggle of discovering your sexuality and the challenges of coming out to a family that are anti-gay relationships.

Overall, this film is not easy-going but it is well worth the extra attention and perseverance. The lessons taught in this film are both beautiful and truly inspiring.



Milk.

This is a beautiful retelling of the life of Harvey Milk, gay activist, in San Francisco. The film shows the process that Harvey Milk went through to become a supervisor for San Francisco and the laws he put in place to make America a better place for members of the LGBT community to live in. In what is a beautifully executed film we are shown the importance of fighting for gay rights alongside the devastating effects of gay oppression.

Milk has been shot in such a way that it is enjoyable to watch while also making sure that we are aware of LGBT history in San Francisco. It makes you realise just how far the

LGBT community has come since the 1970s, but also just how far there still is to go. If there was ever a film to make you want to stand up against society and do the right thing for all minority groups, then this is film to watch.

While covering hard-hitting topics, and showing the struggles of being gay in an oppressed society, the tone is just light-hearted enough to make you enjoy the film and almost forget you are watching a true retelling of a time in our history. True retellings, such as this one, help to hit home the hard facts of our cruel society making us angry and ready to fight against them.

Words by Lara Brent