

Film guide

Girlhood

France | 2014 | Cert. 15 | 113 mins
Director: Céline Sciamma

A coming of age story that follows Marieme, a teenager growing up in a housing estate on the outskirts of Paris with her younger sister and abusive older brother. As an escape from her life Marieme falls in with a girl gang who encourage her to quit school, change her name and clothes, believing it will lead to a better life.



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You will like this film if you liked

Kidulthood (2006, 15)



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Watch next

La Haine (1995, 15)



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Talk about it (before the film)

What do you associate with Paris? What does the city look like? How would you describe a typical Parisian? Where do your impressions come from?

Talk about it (after the film)

- Can you identify moments when Marieme (Vic) changes her appearance or behaviour? Why do you think she does this? When, if ever, would you say that Marieme is 'being herself'?
- What are Marieme's options for her future when she is told she can no longer continue in school? Do you think her situation is typical of girls her age in France?
- Think about the scene in the hotel room when the girls sing 'Diamonds', what do we learn about the characters and their relationship in this scene?
- Do you think that Marieme makes good choices in the film? Are there any points when you may have behaved differently? What do you think she wants in the future?

Write about it

Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs' website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it's similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

Extension Activities

Imagine you're making a film about you and your friends; other than the story, what would you need to include to capture your personalities and friendship? Choose a location, soundtrack, costumes and props for a scene in your film and explain how your choices help the audience build an accurate impression of you.