

12/08/2024

Project:

A Belgian short film production (actors, set and music 100% local). Steven Spielberg said relatively recently at one interview that anyone can make a film these days. All you need is a phone. Let's see if he's right, shall we?

Who needs Hollywood, when you have Beersel?

Narration:

*A lot can happen in one day. These days we are confronted with conflicting ideologies of sexuality...and truth. We walk a tightrope between self-gratification and social responsibility. How far is too far, and how much is too much when it comes to desire versus morality and the trail, we leave behind us?*

The Plot:

KASTEEL is a story set in Flemish Brabant, in the town of Beersel. It is a short film in three scenes and three languages. The story depicts JADE, an aspiring part-time model and waitress who is at first unknowingly having an affair with HENK.

HENK is married to ANIKA. JADE doesn't know about ANIKA until she questions him at a café one afternoon. Their sexual dynamic manifests itself on their brief walk after their drink. He avoids making any definitive statements or commitments and this disturbs JADE.

JADE meets ANIKA by coincidence during a subsequent visit to the town castle on that same day. She does not know it is her until a suspicion arises on the back of a strange comment. There is an unprecedented sexual tension between JADE and ANIKA, which is seemingly one sided until ANIKA gives JADE her home address with an open invitation to come and visit her. JADE is excited to see her that evening but ANIKA declines, saying she has other plans.

That evening HENK is talking to ANIKA after her shower. They both stand in front of the proverbial window which ANIKA has mentioned to JADE during their chance meeting. ANIKA tells him about her new encounter. He flinches because he realises who it is. Unsure of whether JADE has mentioned him or not, he unknowingly confesses the liaison.

ANIKA then understands the nature of his relationship with JADE and decides to taunt him instead of confronting him. We also see their own sexual dynamic at play during this last scene.

It is suggested that JADE has stalked ANIKA to her address that evening and is in fact watching her naked silhouette from the street. The ending timelapses suggest something dramatic has happened and HENK is in complete denial.