

what a girl wants dvd

What a Girl Wants DVD is a delightful romantic comedy that has captured the hearts of many since its release. The film, originally released in 2003, stars Amanda Bynes as the spirited and independent protagonist, Daphne Reynolds. The story revolves around Daphne's quest to connect with her estranged father, who is a wealthy British politician, and her journey to find love and acceptance. This article will explore various aspects of the film, including its plot, characters, themes, critical reception, and the significance of the DVD format for fans and collectors.

Plot Summary

The film opens with Daphne Reynolds living in California with her free-spirited mother, who has always encouraged her to embrace her individuality. As Daphne approaches her 18th birthday, she learns that her father, Lord Henry Dashwood, resides in England and has never been part of her life. Driven by a desire to meet him and understand her roots, Daphne travels to London.

Upon her arrival, she discovers that her father is a prominent figure in British society, engaged in a political campaign. To her dismay, Daphne learns that her father is unaware of her existence, and she struggles to fit into the upper-crust world of British aristocracy. Despite the challenges, Daphne's vibrant and genuine personality wins over some people, including her father's charming assistant, Ian Wallace, played by Oliver James.

As the story unfolds, Daphne must navigate the complexities of her father's world, including the disapproval of his fiancée, who sees Daphne as a threat to her ambitions. The film combines humor, romance, and heartfelt moments as Daphne learns about herself, her family, and the meaning of true love.

Main Characters

Understanding the characters of "What a Girl Wants" is essential to appreciating the film's narrative and its emotional depth. Here are some of the key characters:

Daphne Reynolds

- Portrayed by Amanda Bynes, Daphne is a lively and determined teenager who embodies the spirit of independence. Her quest for familial connection drives the plot and showcases her growth throughout the film.

Lord Henry Dashwood

- Played by Colin Firth, Henry is Daphne's estranged father, a politician who is initially unaware of his daughter's existence. His character evolves as he learns to embrace Daphne's free-spirited nature.

Ian Wallace

- Ian, portrayed by Oliver James, is Henry's charming assistant who becomes Daphne's love interest. He supports her through her challenges and becomes a crucial ally in her journey.

Lady Jocelyn Dashwood

- Henry's fiancée, played by Anna Chancellor, is portrayed as elegant yet manipulative. She sees Daphne as a threat to her social standing and adds tension to the story.

Themes and Messages

"What a Girl Wants" explores several themes that resonate with audiences of all ages. Here are some of the prominent themes highlighted in the film:

Identity and Self-Discovery

- Daphne's journey is ultimately one of self-discovery. As she navigates her newfound connection with her father, she learns about her identity, heritage, and what it means to be true to oneself.

Family and Acceptance

- The film emphasizes the importance of family bonds and acceptance. Daphne's desire to connect with her father reflects the universal longing for familial relationships and the complexities that can arise from them.

Love and Relationships

- The romantic subplot between Daphne and Ian showcases young love's innocence and sincerity. Their relationship develops as they support each other, highlighting the significance of partnership and mutual respect.

Social Class and Expectations

- The contrast between Daphne's carefree Californian lifestyle and the rigid British aristocracy serves as a commentary on social class and the expectations that come with it. The film challenges stereotypes and encourages individuality over conformity.

Critical Reception

Upon its release, "What a Girl Wants" received a mix of reviews from critics and audiences alike. While some praised its lighthearted charm and Amanda Bynes's performance, others criticized it for its predictable plot and formulaic approach to the romantic comedy genre.

- Positive Aspects:

- Amanda Bynes received acclaim for her charismatic portrayal of Daphne, showcasing her comedic timing and emotional range.
- The film's humor and heartwarming moments resonated with younger audiences, making it a popular choice for family viewing.

- Criticism:

- Some critics pointed out that the plot was somewhat formulaic, following a familiar trajectory of romantic comedies.
- Others felt that certain characters lacked depth, particularly the antagonistic figures.

Despite the mixed reviews, the film has maintained a loyal fanbase and has become a beloved classic among teen romantic comedies.

DVD Release and Special Features

The DVD release of "What a Girl Wants" has allowed fans to enjoy the film in the comfort of their homes while also providing additional content. The DVD includes:

- Theatrical Trailer: A glimpse into the film's marketing and promotional material.
- Deleted Scenes: These scenes provide insight into the film's production and storytelling choices.
- Behind-the-Scenes Features: A look at the making of the film, including interviews with the cast and crew, which gives fans a deeper understanding of the creative process.

The DVD format is particularly significant for collectors and fans who appreciate physical media. Owning a DVD allows fans to revisit the film whenever they wish and enjoy the additional content that adds to their viewing experience.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the What a Girl Wants DVD serves as a nostalgic reminder of a beloved romantic comedy that continues to resonate with audiences. The film's charming characters, engaging plot, and meaningful themes of identity, family, and love make it a timeless classic. Whether you are revisiting the film for the first time in years or discovering it anew, the DVD provides a perfect opportunity to experience Daphne Reynolds's heartwarming journey.

With its blend of humor, romance, and vibrant performances, "What a Girl Wants" remains an endearing film that captures the essence of youth and the importance of staying true to oneself. As fans continue to enjoy the film through its DVD release, it is clear that Daphne's story will endure for generations to come.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the plot of 'What a Girl Wants'?

The film follows Daphne, a teenage girl who travels to England to find her estranged father, a wealthy politician, and navigates the complexities of her newfound royal life.

Who stars in 'What a Girl Wants'?

The film stars Amanda Bynes as Daphne, along with Colin Firth as her father, and Kelly Preston as her mother.

Is 'What a Girl Wants' based on a book?

Yes, the movie is loosely based on the play 'The Reluctant Debutante' by W. Somerset Maugham.

When was 'What a Girl Wants' released on DVD?

'What a Girl Wants' was released on DVD on September 23, 2003.

What are some special features included in the 'What a Girl Wants' DVD?

The DVD includes special features such as behind-the-scenes footage, deleted scenes, and a music video.

Is 'What a Girl Wants' suitable for children?

Yes, the film is rated PG and is generally considered suitable for children, with themes of family and self-discovery.

Can I find 'What a Girl Wants' on streaming services?

Yes, 'What a Girl Wants' is often available on various streaming services, but availability may vary based on your region.

What is the main theme of 'What a Girl Wants'?

The main theme of the film revolves around identity, the importance of family, and the challenges of adolescence.

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