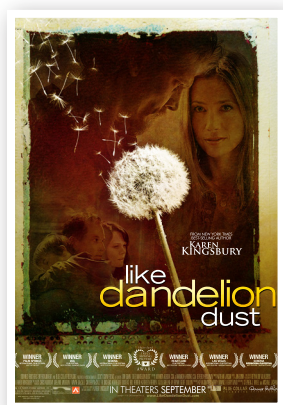




Like Dandelion Dust



Synopsis

Joey lives an idyllic life with his parents on the coast of Florida. His days are spent playing with his cousins, sailing with his dad and making up stories with his mom. It's a perfect life until the day they receive a disturbing phone call: a stranger's decision could tear Joey away from the comfort and security of the only home he's ever known.

One family is determined to keep the son they love, the other is determined to begin a new life, the life they've always dreamed of. Joey's future rests in their hands and someone must make the bravest decision of their life.

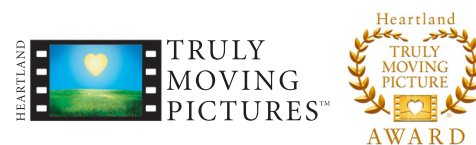
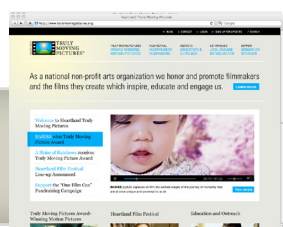
Discussion Questions

- Both the Bowers and Rip and Wendy struggle to come to terms with what their life could be like without Joey. Have you ever experienced a life-altering family situation? How did it impact you and how did you deal with it?
- Twice Wendy makes the decision to surrender her child because she believes it is the best thing for him and his future. What decisions in your life have you made because it was the best solution for someone other than yourself?
- Rip has been an alcoholic and an abusive husband. How does he show Wendy that he's changed? What do you believe motivates her to give him another chance?
- Although not always as extreme as Rip's realization and attempt at change, many of us have tried to change at some point in life. Have you ever had to come to terms with something about yourself that needed to be changed? How did you come to terms with realizing your flaws and repairing them?



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Like Dandelion Dust

- Jack and Rip both long for a son of their own and each has a chance to be Joey's dad. How does each man show his ability as a father?
- The Bowers and Rip and Wendy are portrayed in vastly different ways. Despite their socioeconomic differences and the way they interact as couples, they do share some similarities. What are the similarities between the ways in which each couple makes Joey a member of their family? What are the differences?



Get Involved

- Wendy makes the choice to stay with an abusive husband rather than leave him. There are many women who find themselves in this same situation every day. Learn more about how to help those in need by raising awareness about Domestic Violence.

- National Coalition Against Domestic Violence: www.ncadv.org

- *Like Dandelion Dust* highlights the importance of both adoption and foster care. While you might not be in the position to foster or adopt a child, you can still have an important role in a child's life by being a mentor, coach or friend. Below are resources to get involved in mentoring, as well as more information on both adoption and foster care.

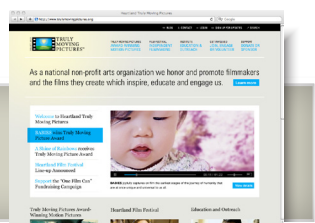
- Mentor: www.Mentoring.org

- National Council for Adoption: www.AdoptionCouncil.org

- National Foster Care Coalition: www.NationalFostercare.org

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