



Rabbit Hole

Synopsis



Becca and Howie Corbett are a happily married couple whose perfect world is forever changed when their young son, Danny, is killed by a car. Becca, an executive-turned-stay-at-home mother, tries to redefine her existence in a surreal landscape of well-meaning family and friends. Painful, poignant, and often funny, Becca’s experiences lead her to find solace in a mysterious relationship with a troubled young comic-book artist, Jason – the teenage driver of the car that killed Danny, while Howie immerses himself in the past, seeking refuge in outsiders who offer him something Becca is unable to give. The Corbetts, both adrift, make surprising and dangerous choices as they choose a path that will determine their fate.

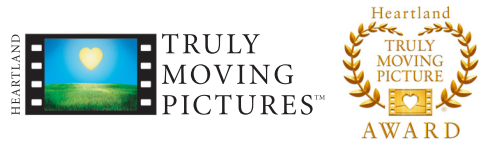
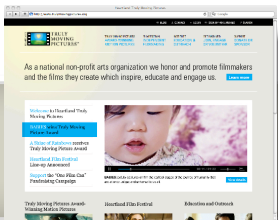
Discussion Questions

- *Rabbit Hole* is based on a renowned stage play by David Lindsay Aباire, who also wrote the screenplay for the film. How do you imagine the stage play would differ from the film? In what ways would it be easier or harder for the director to elicit such strong emotions from the audience on the stage or on the screen?
- The film walks a fine balance between melodrama and honest, truthful story-telling. In what ways did the filmmakers manage this fine balance?
- Howie and Becca react very differently in the way they grieve for Danny. Can you understand Howie’s willingness to deal with the grief and move forward? Can you empathize with Becca’s resistance to anything that would remind her of Danny?
- Becca’s mother tries to comfort her by talking about how she lost someone close to her. How is her mother’s well-intended advice received by Becca? Why?



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- Each person grieves in very different ways, as evidenced by Becca, Howie, and Becca's mother. What makes the grief a person feels so singular, different from the grief anyone else experiences?
- What did you think of Jason's involvement in Becca's life? Why was his presence such a great comfort to Becca, while Howie reacts entirely differently?
- What does the title of the film mean? How does Jason's comic book help explain (or confuse) the film's title?
- What sort of resolution do Becca and Howie reach at the end? Do you think this is a realistic ending? Would it have been more or less honest if they had broken up or reached a state of complete acceptance and happiness?

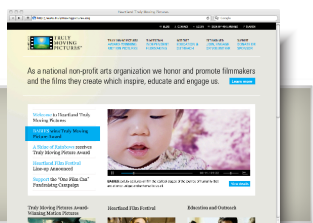
Get Involved

- It can be very difficult to tenderly talk to someone experiencing grief. What characteristics make grief counselors effective in talking to people who are mourning? Learn more about grief counselors and the education they receive at www.aihcp.org/aagc.htm.
- Has anyone close to you died, or do you know someone who has lost a loved one? Have you thought about how to talk to them, or how to listen and not talk, based on the experiences of Howie and Becca in the film?



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