

Home for the Holidays

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This short film consists of a juxtaposition of two streams.

The first stream is a collage of scenes from Christmas movies and Christmas episodes of television series, showing the saccharine harmony (including minor differences settled with agreement, understanding, forgiveness) of family getting together at Christmas.

The second stream shows various realities, which can be improvised by the cast and which can include a mother harping about the daughter not yet having a boyfriend, not yet being married, not yet having kids; a father harping about the son's job which isn't good enough; annoying and clearly disappointing grandkids; a daughter-in-law/son who is clearly disapproved of; criticism by parents of their kids' childraising; criticism by kids of their parents' childraising; vicious intersibling rivalry, contempt, disinterest; and on and on...

The hostilities (revealing hypocrisies, seething resentments, and so on) gradually escalate into explosion and silence - at which point the first stream ends with a lovingly spoken line like "Isn't this what Christmas is all about?"