

# Buddy

## Questions for Discussion

The title *Buddy* presupposes friendship as an apparent theme in the film. How does Kristoffer, Geir, and Stig Inge's friendship help to transition one another into adulthood?

Kristoffer inadvertently forces Stig Inge to deal with his agoraphobia, but what issues does Stig Inge help Kristoffer deal with?

According to director Morten Tyldum: "Another message of the film is that even if your dreams come true, it doesn't necessarily make you happy." How does Kristoffer learn this once he becomes famous? Discuss how the fame he gains with these immature acts ironically force him to mature. Do the themes or tones of Kristoffer's videos change through the film as his character changes?

As the film opens, we see Kristoffer's interaction with his girlfriend and then the antics he participates in with his friend. How do these first couple of scenes introduce us to Kristoffer's emotional situation? Discuss how these scenes deal with the conflict and challenge he is facing as he moves into adulthood?

How do Kristoffer's videos help define his view of the world? How do the scenes he captures on his video camera relate to his world view to the audience? Discuss how the director uses the way characters are depicted in Kristoffer's videos in comparison to how they are depicted in the whole of the film to develop character and provide narrative momentum.

The recognition that Kristoffer, Geir, and Stig Inge receive brings each of them unexpected repercussions. How do they each react and come to terms with their changed situation? Are the characters' reactions beneficial or detrimental?

How does Kristoffer react to seeing himself on a billboard? Discuss this turning point and other pivotal moments for the characters.

What role does Henrietta serve in the lives of the roommates? Is she a significant catalyst for change in Kristoffer's life or merely a convenient love interest?

Why does director Morten Tyldum choose to use hand held video footage to introduce the characters and the setting? How does the shift into the more conventional cinematographic style transition the story?

Discuss the impact of reality television in America. How has reality television changed popular culture? And has reality TV affected the medium of cinema in anyway (whether it's the aesthetic or mass audience taste.) Does everyone indeed enjoy 15 minutes of fame (to paraphrase Andy Warhol).

If this film was remade by Hollywood, how would it be different? What changes would you like to see? And what wouldn't you like changed? Who would be cast?