



FILM: **LEAN ON PETE**

FDG RATING: 3.5 😊😊😊😊😊

Film Discussion Group (FDG) Scale is 1-5 (5 is best)

Andrew Haigh: *director; and writer*
Charlie Plummer: *actor, Charley*
Steve Buscemi: *actor, Del*

DATE: June 10, 2018

DISCUSSION SUMMARY: **LEAN ON PETE**

A twist on the bonding of “a boy and his dog” is the bonding of 15year old, Charley, and an ailing, aging racehorse named Lean on Pete, bound for slaughter. Charley has a poor, miserable life with his careless father. At a local racetrack, he meets Del (Steve Buscemi), a vile, cantankerous owner who mistreats his horses, pushing them too hard, and who, with his arm in a cast, begrudgingly hires Charley for odd jobs. Charley meets the aging quarter horse Lean on Pete, and the two forge a bond filling an emotional need for the lonely teenager.

When Charley’s father dies, making him likely to go into care, and he learns Pete is bound for slaughter, Charley kidnaps the racehorse. Their journey across America begins, in search of a long lost aunt.

The film came to our art house film theater and left so quickly that only one film discussion group participant was able to see it. She praised the outstanding acting by Charlie Plummer as the teenage Charley, describing him as a brilliant actor in a difficult, challenging role. Also, true to form, Steve Buscemi, was memorable as the foul-mouthed jockey. An emotional, coming of age story, the best word for this film is heartwarming. She awarded it a cozy warm 3.5 on our scale of 1 to 5. (5 is the best).



See you at the movies!

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