



Walking Distance

Film Study Guide

Director: Alejandro Guzmán Álvarez

2015 | Fiction | 104 Minutes | Mexico | Spanish | Unrated

<http://www.plutofilm.de/films/walking-distance/0011>

Synopsis: The film *Walking Distance* (*Distincias Cortas*) is a modern day urban fairytale about Fede, a morbidly obese man whose weight makes it difficult for him to leave his house. Living a life of isolation, his only human connection comes through weekly visits by his overbearing sister and her long-suffering husband. After his brother in law shows Fede his vacation photos, Fede becomes inspired to leave his house and develop an old roll of film found in his house. Through this experience, Fede's life becomes renewed, introducing friendship, discovery and joy into his life.

Post-Screening Discussion Questions

1. What "distances" does Fede overcome over the course of the film?
2. How would you describe the relationship between Fede and Paulo? Does it change from the beginning of the film to the end?
3. How does photography connect the characters (particularly Ramon, Federico and Paulo)? Would the film be different if another hobby like sports or movies brought the characters together? Why or why not?
4. Does your perception of Fede change during the film? If so, how?

5. Why do you think Fede enjoys photography?
6. One of the themes in the film is overcoming adversity or a struggle. Have you had to overcome adversity in your own life? If so, how did you do it?
7. Why do you think his weight is openly discussed towards the second half of the film? Does this change how we see his character?
8. What do you think about the character Rosaura? How would you describe the relationship she has with her brother?
9. The beginning of the film has a darker lighting scheme than the second half the film. Why do you think the director made that choice? What do you think it symbolizes?
10. There is a scene where Fede, Ramon, and Paulo go to a travel agency. How is the interaction among the three of them and the travel agent different from Fede's interaction with the kids playing soccer at the beginning of the film?
11. Paulo is an avid reader of the comic book Death List and introduces the series to Federico. What does Fede's own "death list" say about him as a character?
12. What do you think is the allure of the beach? What words, phrases or feelings do you associate with going to the beach? Why might these appeal to Federico?
13. Was there a particular character that you connected with the most? Who was it? What about him or her resonated with you?