

FREEDOM WRITERS: A FILM THAT CAPTIVATED THE AUDIENCE

By Milagros Jure and Lucía Ortiz

I'm deeply fond of drama films, and this one was no exception. Not only did it have a catching plot, but also the characters experienced a great personal development throughout the whole movie. I'm obviously talking about "Freedom Writers".

Everyone who's seen this film has found the plot to be inspirational. Erin Gruwell, a rookie highschool teacher, has difficulties instructing her socially divided students. These kids grew up in a society where shootings and riots were normal, everyday events. That's why Erin strives to make a change in her students' lives and show them that there's more than just violence and death in life.

Little did these youngsters know that they would end up loving "Miss G" and caring deeply for each other. Especially one of them: Eva. This Latin girl had an internal battle between what she had been taught her whole life and what she knew was right. Thanks to Miss Gruwell and her unconventional, but effective, ways of teaching, Eva escaped from the obscure and cruel social surroundings she had been brought up in.

But while the gangsters fought in their internal "war", there was one white kid in the class who only wanted to learn. Ben had been stuck in the middle of the storm during his whole school life and been bullied for his pale skin tone. However, thanks to Miss Gruwell he could come to grips with the discrimination he'd suffered and make invaluable friends.

I was fascinated by the convincing plot and found myself intrigued until the very end. I would totally recommend it because of its brilliant cast and touching moral lesson. So, if you're a high school student, the characters will definitely get under your skin as you're likely to feel identified with their strong personalities and with the complex society they live in.