

## Time Table for Cinematherapy Sessions

Time Frame: 8am -2pm

8 – 9 : **Preliminary Preparations**

- set-up audio visual equipments
- discussion boards
- chairs, and materials needed for session
  - laptop
  - movies
  - DVD player
  - etc.

9 – 10 : **Start of Session**

- warm-up : energizer
  - introduce the activity that will follow the film viewing
  - provide brief introduction for film
  - bathroom breaks
  - set rules: before, during and after film viewing (what to do and not to do)
- \*\*show trailer of film to be showed

10-12 : **Film Viewing**

- no cuts on films
- sound system and film projection should be tested before the actual film viewing
- minimize technical difficulties during the film viewing
- avoid unnecessary actions to avoid distractions
- record observations for processing

12-1 : **Ending the Session**

- process the movie (insights on characters, address recorded observations, throw questions)
- \*\*show trailer of the next movie
- \*\*end with small activity

1-2 : **Pack-up**

- return borrowed equipments
- record data
- note uncontrolled variable during the session
- notice mistakes in the procedure to prevent it from happening again

**CINEMATHERAPY**

**Time Frame : 8am to 2pm**

**Materials and Equipments:**

- **Room / Venue**
- **Audio-Visual Equipment**
- **Movies**
- **Chairs**

**General Instructions:**

For the facilitators, each participant should be given their own seat. They should be able to have clear and unhindered view of the screen. Sound system should be consistent from front to back. There should be adequate spacing in between participants to avoid distractions between participants.

Before the film viewing, participants are given time to go to the bathroom, secure their belongings and attend to their duties, so as not to be disturbed during the film viewing. They should not have anything with them during the sessions. All items necessary for the sessions will be provided by the facilitators. Lights should be dimmed but not totally lit off for safety purposes. During the film viewing, participants are not allowed to leave the room.

**Sessions:**

<b>SESSION</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Self - Awareness</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Freedom and Responsibility</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Guilt</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Search for Meaning</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Awareness and Acceptance of Destiny and Nothingness</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>The "I" Dialogue</b>

**General Processing Questions:**

1. What can you say about the film?
2. What can you say about the protagonist? Can you say that you can relate to him in some level?
3. What part of the movie or a scene that made you think about yourself? How?
4. What is the best part of the movie for you? Why?
5. Did you like the ending of the movie? If yes, why? If not, how do you want the ending to be?

**Session 1 : Self - Awareness**

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES
Energizer	Rapport building
Film Viewing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groundhog Day</li> </ul>	<p>Make them realize that they are stuck because of their past decisions and that they can make new decisions.</p> <p>Make them realize that they are failing to live in the present because of their preoccupation with their past and the future.</p> <p>Help them understand that we are all alone but we have a capacity to related to others</p> <p>Make them realize their separation from nature</p> <p>Provide a picture of their scenario being disconnected with their fellow inmates</p>

**PROCESSING QUESTIONS:**

1. What do you think of the character of Phil Connors? Can you relate with him in some way? How?
2. What do you think of the situation you are in now? Are you happy where you are in right now? What decisions do you think led to this current situation?
3. Why did you end up with that decision? Do you blame something/someone in particular or held a grudge against that someone? Is this hindering you from living life to the fullest?
4. Have you done any efforts in reversing the effects or consequences of your actions? If yes, how did these efforts made you feel? If no, why not?

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES
Energizer	Rapport building
Film Viewing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dead Poets Society</li> </ul>	<p>Inculcate awareness regarding the capacity of humans to choose and act on their own will</p> <p>Instill the value of knowing that every action has a corresponding responsibility</p> <p>Teach them that although they cannot change certain events in their lives they can change the way they view and react to these events</p> <p>Aid in their confrontation that although destiny can't be changed, they can choose how to respond to each challenge</p>

**PROCESSING QUESTIONS:**

1. What do you think of the character of Todd? Can you relate with him in some way? How?
2. Have you ever felt that you wanted to do something but unfortunately, you were hindered to take that action?
3. Look back on what you wanted to do, think of the consequences that would have happened if you have ever done that action. Are you ready to face those consequences?
4. Think of the things that you want to achieve, analyze how are you going to achieve it with you in this situation.
5. How can you apply Carpe Diem in your present situation.

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES
Energizer	Rapport building
Film Viewing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Terminal</li> </ul>	Assert their unfulfilled potentials  Guide them throughout the confrontation process

**PROCESSING QUESTIONS:**

1. What do you think of the character of Viktor? Can you relate with him in some way? How?
2. Were you ever put in a situation that you felt left behind? How did you feel about this and how did you deal with that situation?
3. Given this situation, did you ever feel handicapped or incapacitated to bring out your full potentials?
4. Think of your talents or strengths and how you can use them in your present situation.
5. Do you feel that your potentials are being put to waste? Think of ways on how you can utilize your potentials right now.
6. What are the things that you could have achieved if you aren't in this situation?

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES
Energizer	Rapport building
Film Viewing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cast Away</li> </ul>	Make them realize that their suffering has value and importance  Help them realize that there's still value in life and it's still worth living

**PROCESSING QUESTIONS:**

1. What do you think of the character of Chuck Nolan? Can you relate with him in some way? How?
2. Were you ever put in a situation that you felt left behind?
3. Have you ever felt that you wanted to give up because of all your sufferings and hardships in life?
4. Have you ever felt that there this is nothing more to life than suffering?
5. What is the one thing/person that inspires you to strive and not give up despite of all the challenges that you have experienced?
6. With that value in mind, how will you utilize or incorporate that kind of inspiration at present?

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES
Energizer	Rapport building
Film Viewing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bucket List</li> </ul>	Help them understand our ultimate destiny which is death to be able to appreciate life  Make them aware that life is finite and things to be done should be done  Inculcate that for one to appreciate life, one should not be preoccupied with death, suffering and dying

**PROCESSING QUESTIONS:**

1. What do you think of the characters of Carter and Edward? Who can you identify with more? Can you relate with each character in some way? How?
2. What are your views about death and dying?
3. Have you ever had thoughts of death and dying? What are those?
4. Was there an instance that death inspired/influenced you to make the most out of your life?
5. What are the effects of these thoughts on your life?

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES
Energizer	Rapport building
Film Viewing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With Honors</li> </ul>	Help them assert to themselves that they are responsible for their being  Guide them through the process of accepting the past and enjoying the present not bothered by the future

**PROCESSING QUESTIONS:**

1. What do you think of the characters of Monty and Simon? Can you relate with each of them in some way? How?
2. Look into your life. Have you had any regrets in the past that you find difficult to accept at present?
3. Do you ever wish that you can take back those things that you made have said or done that made you regret? How do you cope with those regrets?
4. Look into yourself. Think of the things that you have done to redeem yourself in some way. What are these things? How do you feel about them?
5. Why would you say that these acts were redeeming and uplifting?
6. Would these things make a foundation to your goals in the future?

SYNOPSIS OF SELECTED MOVIES:

## **Groundhog Day**

*Duration: 1 hr and 41 mins*

TV meteorologist Phil Connors, his producer Rita, and cameraman Larry from the fictional Pittsburgh television station WPBH-TV9 travel to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania (which, in real life, as in the movie, holds a major celebration for Groundhog Day) to cover the annual festivities with Punxsutawney Phil.

After the celebration concludes, a blizzard develops that Connors had predicted would miss them, closing the roads and shutting down long-distance phone service, forcing the team to return to Punxsutawney. Connors awakens the next morning, however, to find it is again February 2, and his day unfolds in exactly the same way. He is aware of the repetition, but everyone else seems to be living February 2 exactly the same way and for the first time. This recursion repeats the following morning as well, over and over again. For Connors, Groundhog Day begins each morning at 6:00 A.M., with his waking up to the same song, Sonny & Cher's "I Got You Babe", on his alarm clock radio, but with his memories of the "previous" day intact, trapped in a seemingly endless "time loop" to repeat the same day in the same small town.

After briefly trying to rationalize his situation, and then thinking he is insane, Connors takes advantage of learning the day's events and the information he is able to gather about the town's inhabitants, and that his actions have no long-term consequences. He revels in this situation for a time: seducing beautiful women, stealing money, even driving drunk and experiencing a police chase. However, his attempts to seduce his producer, Rita, are met with repeated failure. He begins to tire of, and then dread, his existence, starting the day by smashing the alarm clock and professing the inanity of Groundhog Day as a holiday in his newscast. In a vain attempt to break the cycle, he kidnaps Phil the Groundhog. After a police pursuit, Connors drives a stolen truck into a quarry, causing both man and rodent to die in a fiery explosion; but the loop does not stop. He commits suicide several more times he electrocutes himself, lets a truck hit him on the road, and jumps from a tall building (other attempts are alluded to) but mere death cannot stop the day from repeating. After he dies, he simply wakes up listening to Sonny & Cher in the same bed again.

He initially tries to seduce Rita by learning as much as he can on a daily basis. This fails consistently. However, he is able to befriend her in a more sincere fashion. He tells her of his circumstances - how he is reliving the day over and over again - and manages to convince her with his extensive knowledge of events to come, the lives of the Punxsutawney townspeople, and Rita herself.

He opens his heart to Rita, and her advice helps him to gradually find a goal for his trapped life: as a benefactor to others. He cannot, in a single day, bring others to fulfill his needs but he can achieve self-improvement by educating himself on a daily basis.

After seeing an elderly homeless man die, Phil vows that no one will die on "his" day and performs many heroic services each and every day, including performing the Heimlich maneuver on a choking man and saving a little boy who falls from a tree. He however becomes despondent for being unable to save the homeless man, despite trying to get him medical care. A hospital nurse tries to console him when he wishes to learn the cause of the man's death, saying "it was just his time."

Though the film does not specify the number of repetitions, there is enough time for Connors to learn many complex skills, such as how to play jazz piano, speak French, sculpt ice, and memorize the life story of almost everyone in town. He also masters the art of flipping playing cards into an upturned hat, which he offhandedly suggests takes six months. According to author Rubin, his intent in the original script was for the time-frame to be ambiguous, but longer than a single lifetime. The studio objected to this, asking that it be reduced to two weeks. Director Ramis tried to leave the time-frame ambiguous, but intended it to be about ten years.

Eventually, Connors enhances his own human understanding which, in return, makes him an appreciated and beloved man in the town. Finally, after professing a true love to Rita, one which she is able to accept, he wakes up on February 3 again to "I Got You Babe", though alert viewers will note at a different point in the song. It is a new day, with Rita beside him on the bed. Phil suggests to Rita that they live in Punxsutawney, though he suggests (in an improvised line) [citation needed] "We'll rent to start." The closing song is "Almost like Being in Love" from *Brigadoon*, a musical which also dealt with a village trapped in time.

## **Dead Poets Society**

*Duration: 2 hrs*

Todd Anderson, who is under pressure because he must live up to his older brother's reputation, arrives with the new semester at the Welton Academy for boys. This semester begins with a speech given by the Headmaster, who states the academy's four pillars: Tradition, Honor, Discipline, and Excellence. Later, in his dorm, Neil Perry is ordered by his father to drop an extracurricular class in order to maintain good grades so the boy may become a doctor. Neil is under pressure from his father's will. Also, his father tells Neil that Mrs. Perry wants him to become a doctor, which further worries the boy.

During their first English class with their new teacher, Mr. Keating, he takes the boys out in the hallway and tells the boys they are powerful individuals, which no teacher in the academy would do. These two actions show his difference from the other teachers because no other teacher would commit the actions he does. Also, he tells the boys they may call him Oh Captain, my Captain, if they dare. These examples of Mr. Keating's teachings show the boys how to think for themselves. Mr. Keating then tells the boys *Carpe Diem*, which means seize the day. Also, the new English teacher has them rip the introduction out of a book, which is one of three ways that he demonstrates freedom of expression and non-conformity. Knox Overstreet is asked to attend a dinner party at the Danburry household. When he arrives, a beautiful girl answers the doorbell and intently captures his attention. Later, he learns that the girl, Chris, has a boyfriend named Chet, but does not give up the hope of dating her.

One day, Neil finds an old yearbook with Mr. Keating in it. After seeing that Mr. Keating listed Dead Poets Society as one of his activities, the boys ask Mr. Keating what this was. He replies that the DPS was dedicated to taking the meaning out of life. To do so, the members would sit in a cave near a certain pond and recite poetry. With this new idea in their head from asking Mr. Keating what the DPS was, Neil and the boys decide to start up the DPS once again. While coming inside after recess, Neil

convinces the boys to join the DPS and meet at midnight by the creek to start their first meeting. As long as he does not have to read any poetry, Todd will come to the DPS meeting. When they arrive at the cave, the boys hold their first meeting. Know Overstreet shows up so that he can build confidence, like learning pretty poetry, to swoon Chris Danburry. During their next poetry class, Mr. Keating makes the boys stand on a table to see the world from a different perspective, which is another way he demonstrates non-conformity and freedom. At the end of class, Mr. Keating assigns the boys a poem for homework which must be made up, and will be read aloud during Monday's class.

Neil attempts to seize the day by trying out for a part in the play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Knox goes to a public High Schools football game and sees Chris in the arms of Chet, who is a football player. Back in English class, Mr. Keating has the boys kick soccer balls while yelling poetry aloud, and is the final way that he demonstrates freedom and non-conformity. Then, Neil receives a letter that says he got the part of Puck in the play. Now he must write a letter of permission to the headmaster and Mr. Perry, along with their signature of approval.

The next day in class, Mr. Keating tells Todd to stand up and recite his poem. When Todd tells his teacher that the student did not write a poem, Mr. Keating tells the boy to make one up. His new poem is about the picture of a madman on the wall, and Mr. Keating seems to have an astounding affect on Todd. By pulling the boy out of his seat in front of the class and create his own poem, Mr. Keating successfully reaches out to Todd and builds his confidence. That night, the boys meet at the cave to hold another DPS meeting, and Knox gets the courage to call Chris, who invites him to a party at her house.

The following day, Mr. Keating teaches tells the boys not to conform, and Todd Anderson gets the same desk from his parents that they got him last year for his birthday. When Knox goes to Chris party that night, he attempts to seize the day by kissing her, but only gets beat up by Chet. The day after the DPS meeting, which is also attended by girls, Dalton writes a letter to the school asking if girls may be admitted to Welton Academy. During a meeting which addresses this letter, Dalton speaks out of line and is paddled by the headmaster. He is asked to tell the man about the DPS meetings, but Dalton refrains from doing so. Thus, the boys begin to abuse the transcendental philosophy by bringing girls to the DPS meetings, drinking freely, smoking freely, attending parties, publish an offensive and profane article, going against the school policy, and kissing other girls. When Keating is lectures by the headmaster about the DPS meetings, Mr. Keating tells the boys to be wise, not stupid.

When Neil's father arrives at Welton on an unexpected visitation, he scolds Neil for joining the play and orders him to quit. Neil tells Mr. Keating about the incident, and that his father won't allow Neil to act. To this, Mr. Keating suggests that Neil tell his father how the boy truly feels. A few days later, Neil lies to Mr. Keating and tells him that Mr. Perry allowed Neil to continue with the play. When Knox goes to Chris High School, he embarrasses her in class by giving her flowers and reciting poetry. Then Chris goes to Welton to tell Knox that his actions embarrassed her and Knox convinces Chris to go to the play with him. After Neil's great performance as the main character in the play receives a standing ovation, but the boy is angrily driven home by his father. While at home, Mr. Perry tells Neil that the boy is being pulled from Welton and will attend military school. To this knowledge, Neil responds by killing himself.

The next day in school, the boys are told of Neil's suicide and each is asked about the DPS after Cameron reveals the clubs secrets to the headmaster. When he will not cooperate, Dalton is expelled from the Welton Academy. Todd Anderson is called into the office for a meeting with the headmaster and the boy's parents. There he is also questioned about the DPS meetings, Mr. Keating's involvement with them, and relationship that Mr. Keating had with the DPS members. Todd Anderson signs the document handed to him by the headmaster, stating that Mr. Keating is responsible for Neil Perry's suicide.

The headmaster becomes the boy's new English teacher after their old teacher is fired for Neil's death. Todd cannot respond when asked what the boys have done in the class so far, so the new teacher asks Cameron. He tells the teacher that the class thoroughly covered poetry, but skipped over realism. The headmaster has the boys read the introduction, but it is ripped out, so he gives Cameron the teacher's book to read from. Just then, Mr. Keating enters the room and a few of the boys stand on their desks for him. As they stand up they say, Oh Captain, my Captain, and remain standing on their desks, despite the headmasters order to sit down. Mr. Keating says thank you, boys, and exits the room. The final message of the film is the transcendentalist ideal that a man should think for himself and be self-reliant. Just like Mr. Keating taught every boy in his English class to be free thinkers, so must all individuals. When faced with conformity that does not distinguish between man and society, it is mans responsibility to himself to stand up for what he believes is right, and not what others tell him is just.

## **The Terminal**

*Duration: 2 hrs*

Viktor (Tom Hanks) plans to visit New York. When he lands in JFK airport, officials tell him that he visa has been cancelled. Apparently, during the time he was flying to the US, his country Krokozia was in the middle of a political coupé. The President and other leaders had been murdered by rebel forces. There was a new government in place and all travelling rights had been suspended by this new government. The US could not let Viktor into New York until his country was reclassified - and a Visa reissued. Since Viktor eligible for any refugee status or had a committed a crime - the airport officials couldn't send him neither home nor let him into New York. He was classified as "unacceptable" and had to stay in the international transit area. He was given food vouchers, but he lost them. He had no food. His English was poor too, so no one really helped him. He studied the airport system and found that if he returned push carts, he would get quarters out of the machine. He was able to feed himself for a while, but then the airport official hired some guy to return all the carts. The airport official was in line for a promotion and didn't want Viktor in his airport during inspection. He told Viktor the times when the guards would be off duty in hopes that Viktor would make a run for the door into New York. He could then call the police and Viktor would no longer be his problem.

Viktor stayed and made a few friends with all the airport staff and the people working in the stores. He lived in the airport for 9 months almost and met Catherine Zeta Jones, an airline stewardess. During those 9 months, Viktor managed to find a construction job with contractors building a new wing to JFK. He and Catherine Zeta

Jones went on a few dates, but Catherine had a boyfriend. The boyfriend was married but they were both on and off.

Viktor always had a can of peanuts with him. The airport official was curious to see if he was smuggling something illegal. They sought the help of Zeta-Jones and found out the can held signed business/name cards. In 1945, his father had met a bunch of people at some sort of gathering. In the next 40 years, he wrote letters to all these different people to have them sign a name card and sent it to him. Before he died he had collected all but one.

Amelia (Zeta-Jones) asks a favor from her boyfriend and gets Viktor a day pass to New York. Unfortunately it needed to be signed by the airport official and he refused. The war in his country was over and the official gave him tickets to return to his own country. Viktor, however, makes a run for the doors leading to American soil. Viktor gets the last signature, he doesn't end up with Amelia (who goes back to her old boyfriend), and goes back to Karkhozia.

## **Cast Away**

*Duration: 2 hrs*

Chuck Nolan (Tom Hanks) is a troubleshooter for Federal Express, and the film begins with him showing their Moscow (Russia) staff how FedEx does business. After returning to Memphis (FedEx home base) and visiting his girlfriend Kelly (Helen Hunt), he is again called away to an Asian destination. He is able to ride in the "jump seats" of a FedEx jumbo jet crossing the Pacific Ocean, and is the only passenger.

During a fierce storm, the plane is blown off-course and ultimately crashes into the ocean. Nolan is the only survivor, and is washed ashore on a small island. Chuck tries to escape from the island, but due to strong waves, he is unable to leave, and injures himself in the process. Chuck explores the island, and soon recovers a number of FedEx packages that wash ashore, as well as the body of one of the pilots. Chuck gives him a proper burial, and then opens the packages. Several of the items he makes use of for other purposes (the sharp end of an ice skate he uses as an axe). One of them, with a painting of angel wings on it, he leaves unopened. While trying to make fire from rubbing wood together, Chuck cuts his hand. In a fury, he grabs a Wilson volleyball that was in one package, and throws it. The bloody handprint left on the ball, he fashions into a type of face, and uses it as a companion in his isolation.

Shortly thereafter, Chuck does learn to make fire, and soon is able to spear fish in the waters off the beach. In a small cave, Chuck sets up his new home. One evening, he plots out the plane's direction, as well as how far it veered off course when they crashed. He estimates that if the search and rescue team did look for the downed cargo plane, they'd search an area the size of Texas...making him doubt he'll be found.

4 years pass on the island, and Chuck continues to survive day to day. His weight has pared down considerably, and his hair has grown out. One day, he comes across 2 plastic walls of a broken port-a-potty. Getting an idea, Chuck decides to build a raft with the port-a-potty's walls acting as a sail. He chops down a number of trees, ties them together with video tape (from one of the packages), as well as other materials.

Biding his time for the proper weather, Chuck also brings Wilson aboard along with the angel-wings package, and due to the sails, is able to make it past the waves,

escaping the island. Chuck sails for some time. During one event, Wilson ends up floating away. When faced with either losing Wilson or losing the raft, Chuck lets Wilson go, but is pained by his decision. Finally, just when it seems all hope is lost, Chuck is rescued by a cargo ship.

After returning home, Chuck is saddened to find that Kelly is married. Eventually, he meets with her, and after a tedious chat, they finally admit how much they still love each other, but admit that they have to let the other go.

Chuck then sets out to start his life anew. Taking the angel wings FedEx package, he goes to Texas to return it. Finding no one at the farm where it came from, he leaves it at the door. Driving down the road, he comes to a 4-way road, unsure where to go. A woman in a pick-up truck stops to give him directions, and as she pulls away, Chuck sees the same angel wings painted on the tail of the truck. Chuck watches her go, and the film ends with him deciding which way to go.

## **Bucket List**

*Duration: 1 hr and 37 mins*

Blue-collar mechanic Carter Chambers (Freeman) and billionaire hospital magnate Edward Cole (Nicholson) meet for the first time in the hospital after both have been diagnosed with cancer. They become friends as they undergo their respective treatments. Carter is a gifted amateur historian and family man who had wanted to become a history professor, but in his youth had been "broke, black, and with a baby on the way" and thus never rose above his job at the McCreath body shop. Edward is a four-times-divorced healthcare tycoon and cultured loner who enjoys nothing more than tormenting his personal valet/servant, Matthew (Hayes), whom he calls Thomas. He makes Matthew serve Carter as well as him and orders his employee and doctor (Morrow) to familiarize himself with Carter's health.

Carter begins writing a "bucket list," or things to do before he "kicks the bucket." After hearing he has less than a year, Carter wads it up and tosses it on the floor. Edward finds it the next morning. He urges Carter to do everything on the list (suggesting he add things like skydiving) and offers to finance the trip. Carter agrees, despite the protests of his wife, Virginia (Todd).

The pair begins an around-the-world vacation, embarking on race car driving, skydiving, climbing the Pyramids, and going on a lion safari in Africa. They discuss a rare coffee and its unusual taste. They also confide about faith and family, revealing that Carter has long been feeling less in love with his wife and that Edward is deeply hurt by his estrangement with his only daughter, who disowned him after he sent some people to "take care of" her abusive husband (hinting at physical assault, but ruling out murder).

In Hong Kong, Edward hires a prostitute (Rowena King) for Carter, who has never had sex with any woman but his wife. Carter declines and asks to return home, and reciprocates by trying to reunite Edward with his daughter. Edward angrily storms off. Carter returns home to his wife, children, and grandchildren.

The family reunion is short-lived. In the preparation for a romantic interlude, Carter suffers a seizure and is rushed to the hospital. The cancer has spread to his brain. Edward, who is now in remission, visits him and they share a few moments, where Carter reveals to great amusement the disgusting origin of the "world's most rare

coffee" (Kopi Luwak), over which Edward obsesses and Carter has refused to drink. Carter crosses off "laugh till I cry" from his bucket list and insists Edward finish the list without him. Carter goes into surgery but the procedure is unsuccessful. He dies on the operating table.

Edward delivers a eulogy at the funeral, explaining that he and Carter had been complete strangers, but the last three months of Carter's life were the best three months of his (Edward's). He crosses off "help a complete stranger for a common good" from the list. We see Edward finally attempt to reconcile with his daughter. She not only accepts him back into her life but also introduces him to the granddaughter he never knew. After greeting the little girl with a kiss on the cheek, Edward crosses "kiss the most beautiful girl in the world" off the list.

In the epilogue, it is revealed that Edward lived until the age of 81, and his ashes are brought to the top of the Himalayas. It turns out to be Matthew who does this, and as he places Edward's ashes alongside a can containing Carter's, he crosses off the last item on the Bucket List ("witness something truly majestic") and places it beside them.

## **With Honors**

*Duration: 1 hr and 43 mins*

Montgomery "Monty" Kessler is an honors student in the Government program at Harvard University in the middle of writing his senior thesis. Monty rooms with art student Courtney Blumenthal, radio DJ and trust fund child Everett Calloway, and neurotic pre-med student Jeff Hawkes, and is the pet project of Professor Pitkannan, a Nobel Laureate and staunch conservative.

One night, while working on his thesis, his computer suffers a hard drive failure and all his data is lost. Paranoid about something happening to his sole printed copy, he leaves in the middle of the night to make copies, with Courtney following to make sure he is OK. While taunting Courtney for falling behind, Monty trips over a bike rack, breaking his ankle and dropping his thesis down a steam vent and into the boiler room of Widener Library.

As Courtney distracts the night security guard, Monty sneaks down into the cellar to retrieve his paper. When he arrives in the boiler room, he sees a disheveled man reading it, then burning the thesis page by page. Shouting for him to stop, he is then attacked by the startled man. Asking only for his thesis back, the homeless man demands compensation for not burning it. Refusing a personal check, he demands donuts and fresh underwear. After returning to his house looking for advice and help from his roommates, he calls the university police on the man. They arrest him and search his belongings, but the thesis is not there.

Following the man to his court appearance, we find his name to be Simon B. Wilder. After convincing the judge to dismiss the charges against him with impressive legal arguments, he is then held on contempt. Monty pays his fine so that he can get his thesis back. Following him outside, he confronts Simon about the paper. Simon then confronts Monty about getting him kicked out of a warm "palace" with "seventeen bathrooms and eight miles of books," telling Monty he sees him only as "a piece of shit"

and not a real person. Monty and Simon work out a deal for the thesis where Simon will give one page for each service Monty provides. Simon then moves in to a broken-down van in the backyard of Monty's house. Confronted by his roommates, Monty assures them he will get Simon out as soon as possible.

Rejecting Monty's idea of Social Security Disability benefits, Simon tries his best to teach Monty humility and humanity. Monty eventually warms up to Simon and the two become friends. During one memorable scene, Monty takes Simon to one of his classes with Professor Pitkannan. After several students, including Monty, are humiliated into submission over a question asked by Pitkannan, Simon gets into an argument with the professor. Pitkannan attempts to humiliate Simon with his status as a homeless man, but Simon answers his question with such wisdom and eloquence that the entire class applauds as he leaves. Monty also tells Simon about how his father left him and his mother when he was five, having only sporadic contact with him until his death. Simon responds by showing him his collection of "memories," a bag of stones. Each stone reminds him of a specific memory like his "last good night of sleep" and a woman who was "the one".

Two of the roommates learn to live with Simon being there. Courtney appreciates the new gentler Monty and Everett makes a deal with Simon to fix the van in exchange for wine, after their former roommate Boz had a nervous breakdown and moved to Bali, defaulting on a personal loan. Jeff, however, is annoyed for paying for extra food and fears the possible reactions of his visiting parents. On a particularly cold night, Jeff rejects Monty's request for Simon to sleep in the cellar, threatening to move out with his share of the rent. Monty lies to Simon, who also asks to sleep in the cellar, but Simon sees through his deception and leaves in the middle of the night.

After Jeff, Courtney, and Everett leave for Christmas break, Simon sends a homeless friend to the house with instructions to get a meal and deliver the rest of the thesis, along with a philosophical message. Delivering both, the friend tells Monty that Simon doesn't want to see him, but gives Monty his location at a church shelter. Monty goes to the church, discovering that the "shelter" is simply an alley filled with homeless people. Finding Simon on the ground wheezing and coughing, Monty brings him home after promising not to take him to a hospital. He puts Simon up in the attic, Boz's old room, and tells him that he can stay there as long as he likes with no deal. He also asks Simon why he is sick. Simon tells him that he has asbestosis from his days building and sailing ships for the Merchant Marines. Simon is touched by his courtesy and agrees to accept government benefits to pay his way in the house. Recuperating over the break, Simon cooks a New Year's meal for the two of them and is shocked to discover Monty has thrown out his old thesis and is writing a new one. Simon then shocks him back by telling Monty that the chicken dinner he cooked is made from the carcass of Gorky, Everett's pet rooster and radio co-star.

As the roommates return home from break, Monty tells them that Simon will be their "new Boz," as he can pay for rent and groceries. Jeff threatens to leave again, but is rebuffed by Courtney, who tells him to go and that Simon can cover his rent. Everett turns out not to care about losing Gorky (the bird bit him a lot, unlike his previous rooster) and only questions why his van isn't fixed yet. Simon then fixes the van after extracting more bottles of wine from the deal. Eventually, Simon reconciles with Jeff,

making him feel better about himself and cooking French toast for him, his favorite meal. Simon then reveals to Monty that he left his own wife and son when he joined the Merchant Marines, as he writes his own obituary, preparing for his coming death. Monty is angry, but forgives him and brings Simon as his "date" to the biggest party of the year on campus. As the two watch Courtney dance with her on-again, off-again boyfriend "The Face", Simon recognizes that Monty loves her and gives Monty a poetic pep talk to not let her be a regret.

As Simon accepts an offer to dance from a beautiful co-ed who loved his poem, Courtney and The Face argue and Courtney walks out. Monty follows her and the two embrace outside, ending up consummating their relationship that night. Waking up to hear Simon struggling to breathe and collapsed in the hallway, Monty acquiesces to take Simon to see his long-lost son, Frank, even though it will mean missing his thesis deadline and thus losing his chance to graduate with honors. As the entire household sets off on a road trip, they arrive. Monty talks to Frank, who initially refuses to meet Simon. Only after Monty tells him about Simon's failing health does he agree. The two talk for a minute, with Frank berating Simon for leaving and telling him he wants nothing to do with him. After his daughter (Simon's granddaughter) approaches, Frank tells her that Simon is nobody and leaves. Simon breaks down, grabs a stone for a "memory," and the roommates begin head home, without a word.

While driving, Simon has another asbestosis attack and leaves the car, intending to die alone in a field. This follows a story Simon has earlier told Monty about a dog of his who had done the same thing. Monty eventually convinces Simon he is not a dog and the friends arrive home. As Simon lies in bed, the roommates take turns reading to Simon from Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*. After Monty finishes reading, Simon passes way. The four friends bury Simon in a cemetery, reading Simon's final obituary. He highlights each roommates personality and especially congratulates Monty on his own personal honor. Monty breaks down and the friends embrace.

Monty then goes to meet with Professor Pitkannan. The professor criticizes Monty for changing his thesis and for naively trusting in people in his new approach to government, but appreciates his beliefs and effort, saying there are few who agree with him either. He regrets that because Monty turned his paper in late, he couldn't graduate summa cum laude like he was supposed to. The pair shake hands and Monty leaves. The next scene is the graduation ceremony. The friends sit together and embrace as they are celebrated as the Class of 1994. They walk out, with Monty grabbing a stone for his own "memory".