

**buffalo 8**

A BONDIT COMPANY

## Summer at Charlotte's

Date Assigned: 06/13/2023

Client: Igor Princ

Qualifier	Answer
Overall (Recommend, Consider, Pass)	Pass
Trailer Link	NA
MPA Rating (Or Suggested Rating, as per MPA Guidelines)	PG
Genre	Romance
Setting (Time Period)	Present Day
Location	Chicago & Grandma's Cottage
Total Run Time (In Minutes)	81 minutes 32 seconds
Format (Film, TV, Documentary)	Film
Market Value	Low
Characterization	The characterization in this film is distinct but somewhat basic and stereotypical. The character's personalities clearly differ through their dialogue and there is evident character development especially with Summer.
Dialogue	The dialogue didn't flow well at times and some lines ended quiet abruptly which left me with a sense of awkwardness and confusion. There are also a lot of cheesy childhood lines like "last one home's a rotten egg" which suite the story but are a bit outdated for a 2023 film.
Story/Plot	The story lacks complete originality as numerous variations of this story already exist. The story itself has an inspirational message, but then again, we've seen it before.
Festival Run	NA
Number of Season & Episodes (If applicable)	NA
Director (Include Previous Works)	Avi Federgreen – <i>Holly Hobbie</i> , <i>Kiss and Cry</i> , <i>One Week</i> , <i>Still Mine</i>
Cast (Include Previous Works)	Patch May - Home and Away Lucy Hill - Baroness Von Sketch Show Jill Frappier - Nurses Deborah Lobban - 11.22.63 Ryland Alexander - Prairie Giant: The Tommy Douglas Story
Key Cast Screen Time	Approx 1 hour



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2-5 Memorable Scenes or Clips (For marketing/promotional purposes) *Please include timestamps	1:50-2:20 Young Dev and Summer 1:14:09-1:15:04 Dev's Return 1:15:18-1:15:36 Dev and Summer Kiss				
Legal Red Flags / Problematic Content (If any)	None				
Language	English				
--	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
Video Quality		x			
Audio Quality		x			
VFX/SFX			x		
--	8K	4K	2K	1080p	720p
Video Size				x	



### **1) Logline**

In this feel-good romantic film, a young woman contemplates the lifestyle she believes she deserves and the love she truly wants while revisiting her grandma's nostalgic cottage.

## **2) High-Level Overview**

*Summer at Charlotte's* is an entertaining romantic film with a soundtrack that perfectly aligns to fit every scene's mood. However, the subpar acting and cheesy lines take away from the film's potential. The overlying message of living with no regrets is inspirational, but as mentioned above, it is overdone. As for the characterization, it is a bit stereotypical but the grandmas provided some much needed comedic relief. The characterization is also a bit surface level which does not allow the audience to connect with the character's on an emotional level.

### **3) Analysis**

The Notebook meets The Summer I Turned Pretty in this thoughtful representation of making a tough decision to gain lifelong happiness. Capitalizing on all that is magical about romantic films without falling prey to the pitfalls, what could be a strong concept has instead been crafted into a somewhat basic premise. Likewise, the comedic, heartfelt execution embodies the highs/lows of love in a stereotypical manner. Both talent and direction ultimately could have used improvement by being more impactful and original.

The concept in Summer at Charlotte's is inspirational but lacks originality. Like I mentioned, numerous variations of this romantic storyline already exist and have been executed far better. With a rewrite, incorporate a bit of suspense and maybe move the first scene toward the second act. Because of this placement, the ending was clear from the start and left me a bit uninterested.

As for the execution, the film has an oversaturated filter which is overwhelming on the eye and decreases the film's market value. To accomplish that sunny summer feeling, simply play with the color wheel exposure, not the saturation. The writing itself serves the story but some scenes fall short and lack significance like the water scene at 55:18.

The script's structure has a moderately good balance between flashbacks and reality which gives the audience greater insight into Summer and Dev's romantic past. Structural tension erupts at multiple points throughout the film but especially when the audience knows Summer called the wedding off and Dev has no idea he is going to be greeted with such happiness soon. There is also a ticking clock when Aren pushes the wedding up to the end of that week and Summer is forced to make a quick, life-changing decision. There is also internal conflict with Summer throughout the entire film as she debates choosing the love she thinks she deserves and what she truly wants.

The characters in Summer at Charlotte's have subpar acting abilities which is distracting and unengaging. Moreover, the bland look and mid acting performance of the lead actress Summer deeply decreases the film's potential. Casting an actress like Suzanna Sun for the role of Summer would have been much more intriguing and still within budget. With the chosen actors, however, the flashback characters had the perfect look despite their lack of talent. As for the supporting characters, both grandmas provide a little comedic relief but there is room for more.

Like I mentioned above, the dialogue doesn't flow well at times and some lines end quiet abruptly which left me with a sense of awkwardness and confusion. There are also a lot of cheesy childhood lines like "last one home's a rotten egg" which suite the story but are a bit outdated for a 2023 film. Moreover, there are some unnecessary pauses in the dialogue which made me question its purpose. The dialogue is also comprised of comical remarks, which could be pushed even more. The tone is youthfully playful, and never too serious for too long.

Summer at Charlotte's was ultimately too generic to begin with and the acting, directing, and editing only contributed to the film's weaknesses. This film would need a lot of work to be improved, so it is a pass.

#### **4) Market Value**

The market value for *Summer at Charlotte's* is low because there is little to no audience that would actively seek out this film. Although there is a large fan base for romantic films, *Summer at Charlotte's* fails to bring a new and exciting concept to the genre. Therefore, this film will not attract a wide audience because it's generic concept has already been beautifully accomplished before. The actors in the film are also not well-known enough to where they wouldn't generate viewers. Since the film does not introduce any notable aspects that set it apart from existing works in the romance genre, *Summer at Charlotte's* has a low market value.