

Lesson Plan (High School and College)

*before the screening, make sure to give students a content warning ahead of time and encourage them to take care of themselves throughout the film as needed. Check out our companion zine at www.smile4kime.com/film-companion-guide

1

Screen film: 26 mins

2

Grounding Meditation and break: 5–10 mins

Assure students that its ok to feel what they are feeling. Use the meditation to ground students into the present moment while also acknowledging the emotions. Give students space to take a break and leave the classroom if needed

3

Potential Activities (30–45 mins)

1) Free writing and share-back:

Have the students take 10 minutes to free-write, draw, and reflect on whatever comes to mind. Split students up into groups and have them share their impressions of the film and anything else they feel comfortable sharing about their free writing. Come back together as a class and ask students to share-back general thoughts and impressions

2) Guided writing and share back:

Offer students a few questions to reflect and write about. Some examples are: 1) How did this film make you feel? 2) What elements of the film made you feel that way (think about words, sounds, visuals, and other components)? 3) Why is this an important topic? 4) What social/political issues did the film bring up? How do those issues relate to issues we see in our everyday lives?

3) Altar Offering

*For this activity, the instructor can bring various materials like paper, markers, magazines, and other scrap items for students to create something.

The director of the film often describes it as a living altar to her friend Kim. In many cultures throughout the world, altars are sacred places to remember and honor loved ones who have passed away. People place pictures to remember, water and food to feed the dead, and many other kinds of items that allow us to keep our relationship alive with those who have passed. If we think of this film as an altar, what offering would you give the film? Feel free to create a drawing, a writing, thoughts, your favorite quote, make a paper flower, collage, or anything else that you feel inspired to do. Once students are done creating, ask a few students to share what they created and explain what inspired them. Use the opportunity to talk about the tradition of altars and honoring the dead.

