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Movie Review: Just Like a Woman

She Stole His Heart, He Stole Her Clothes

by Janelle

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The story is about a married transvestite banker with two small children living in London. The wife and children go on a holiday to the United States and unbeknown to Gerald (Geraldine) come home from holidays a week early.

Gerald has not cleaned up the family home and Geraldine's clothes and make-up have been left lying about the home. When Gerald's wife walks in on this she becomes most upset and throws all of Gerald's and Geraldine's clothes from the balcony. Gerald is seen collecting all of Geraldine's clothes from the street.

Personally, I found this quite funny as it related to my own position before I was found out to be cross-dressing, and like Gerald I was eventually forced from the family home to seek other accommodation.

Gerald finds other accommodation with a divorcee in a typical London home. He settles in quickly and Geraldine starts to surface of a night, when she thinks that the rest of the house is asleep, to go out to transvestite clubs.

He then becomes romantically involved with his landlady and eventually tells her of Geraldine's existence. The landlady takes the news a lot better than he had anticipated and begins to take Geraldine on outings such as shopping on a busy weekend. I found this really amusing as I could relate to myself being among throngs of people for the first time.

The two have a stormy love affair which includes Geraldine. Both the affair and Gerald's job hit low points but the rest of the storyline follows the landlady, Gerald and Geraldine working towards a classic fairy tale ending.

I enjoyed the film because in many ways I could relate to it in a personal way; wife, two children, family home, looking for my own personal niche in life etc. I thought it was well worth seeing, although from my own experiences I would say it was a touch over the top.

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Just Like a Woman

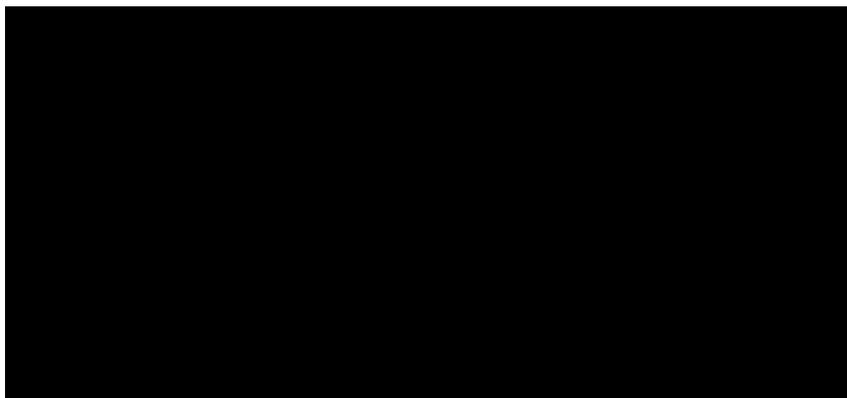
Directed by: Christopher Monger

Starring: Julie Walters, Adrian Pasdar, Paul Freeman

Producer(s): Nick Evans

Released: 1992

Just Like a Woman is based on an autobiographical account of transvestism and transsexualism which was written by Monica Jay and published in 1992. Monica Jay, a middle-aged mother of three grown-up children, divorced her husband after a long and bitter marriage and had to take in paying guests to fill her large and crumbling home. One of her lodgers, a young businessman, confessed to her that he was a transvestite, and after her initial reaction of shock and amusement, she tried to understand his condition and to help him. Introduced to the underworld of drag queens, bisexuals and transsexuals, she came to enjoy a triangular relationship with the lodger, Gerald, and his alter ego, "Geraldine", before facing reality again. Monica Jay has since been registered with Birmingham Social Services as a counsellor for transvestites and their families, and also counsels for the Beaumont Trust and the Transvestite/Transsexual Support Group of London.





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The Gender Centre is committed to developing and providing services and activities, which enhance the ability of people with gender issues to make informed choices. We offer a wide range of services to people with gender issues, their partners, family members and friends in New South Wales. We are an accommodation service and also act as an education, support, training and referral resource centre to other organisations and service providers. The Gender Centre is committed to educating the public and service providers about the needs of people with gender issues. We specifically aim to provide a high quality service, which acknowledges human rights and ensures respect and confidentiality.