

P16 Honeyland Feedback

It was a heart-warming and unpretentious film that showed a hitherto never seen slice of life. It sharply put into focus how simply and resiliently people live in other parts of the world. Hatidze had an amazing capacity to give and never let any regrets she may have had for marriage or family get in the way of how hard she worked or the pride she had in her honey. Her genuine pleasure in little things like colouring her hair or singing along to the radio displayed a simple contentment. Her deep understanding of her surroundings and her lack of greed (take half, leave half) sharply contrasted with the businessman and the family's father, who wanted more and more without a care for the bees. The film and her character stayed with me long after the show.

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Very interesting film and a fascinating area. Good choice.

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I enjoyed the pace of this film and the simplicity of the beekeeper's life. I also liked how the impact of the family, on the beekeeper's life, was portrayed. This film stayed with me.

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Films like this make you realise why you joined RFS! I found it surprisingly absorbing. It was astonishing to learn how many hours of filming were distilled into what we saw and how oblivious the protagonists were to the camera. It also made me grateful for the dental care we get in this country!

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Enjoyed the film

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An excellent film indeed, very moving. Beautiful photography, wonderful acting, and should be a warning to all of us!!

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An excellent and terrifying glimpse into other people's lives. The child protection issues raised within this film made my hair curl!

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Really interesting, well shot story.

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My husband, I think he found it rather long with nothing happening. I thought it was ok.

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The most beautifully poignant film I have seen in a long while. Loved it. In terms of filmmaking, it was excellent, so much so that the main character's sufferings became hard to watch, but I did and she and they will stay with me for a long time.

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A sheer joy to watch, if a little uncomfortable at times. Certainly, one to recommend to my friends and family.

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My enjoyment of this film surpassed all my expectations. It was a wonderful portrayal of a vanishing way of life as epitomised by the beekeeper and her interactions with her beloved mother, the chaotic, itinerant family who arrived to occupy 'her' territory, and above all, her bees. More outstanding documentaries like this next year, please!

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A truly interesting film even if flirted with a certain amount of callous intrusion into a life of complete stoicism. I was pleased to read they looked after the beekeeper, to a certain extent, after filming finished.

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Not my cup of tea. Very well shot and interesting but sadly I felt we were watching all 400 hours of footage shot.

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A totally engrossing documentary that informed, entertained and tugged at my heart. It showed a Europe I barely knew still existed. Haditze's simple way of life was gentle but precarious. She lived in harmony with her environment tending to her wild beehives until uncaring travellers moved into her abandoned village and threatened her very existence. This film seemed a microcosm of the world today where greed exploits both people and the environment leaving behind trail of destruction. I worried about Haditze long after the film ended.

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A wonderful film, a well-deserved Excellent. Tradition versus the new world of greed and speed. What luck that the family arrived but for the filmmakers not the beekeeper. Thanks for selecting it.

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Thought it excellent. Main character a brilliant find. Environmental message loud and clear. And those children being kicked around by the cattle!! Wow!

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This film definitely gets an Excellent from me, I thoroughly enjoyed it. The real-life characters absolutely intrigued me and I really felt transported to that wilderness and the way of life.

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It was great. Brilliant piece of subtle, sensitive filming. In these greedy grasping times, lessons for us all in there.

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Really enjoyed this. A thoughtful exploration of human nature at its sweetest and most bitter.

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Another great choice. It was so interesting with universal themes of caring for an aged parent, the neighbours from hell who through their greed almost ruined Hatidze's livelihood and the very existence of the bees. It was beautifully filmed and worth the awards that it won.

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We'd give it Excellent (1 really.) It was a charming film with many strands. Fundamentally it showed the struggle for existence of humankind, our precarious inter-relationship with nature and the ever-present danger of greed, wilfulness or deliberate ignorance destroying what sustains our lives. The potential loss, too, of centuries (millennia?) - old techniques for accessing food sources and guarding and maintaining them surely can be applied to all sorts of ancient wisdom. At a human level, the life of the beekeeper and her elderly mother were not without satisfaction, contentment and even fun. Their basic peasants' life in an unforgiving landscape seemed far from, and so different from, our pampered city existence. Even in Europe, such lives are lived in this 21st century. The sudden arrival of the family who pitched themselves next door and did the bidding of their occasionally visiting gangmaster, changed everything. The poor beekeeper had no defence against them. Her fondness for the one sympathetic boy, who seemed to her like the son she never had, made this episode all the sadder. Very thought-provoking and sad.

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Not always easy viewing, but an interesting depiction of life at the end of the scale.

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I found the film quite interesting, but I thought that it was too long and a bit slow and aimless!

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I love the rhythm of this film although the end was sad

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A fascinating and soulful film. It provided a moral focus juxtaposing values of - give and take; working in harmony with nature and ravaging of resources; sustainability and exploitation. Beautifully shot film and excellent characterisation. Memorable.

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I'd give this extraordinary film 'EXCELLENT' It was very sensitively filmed and beautifully constructed. A wonderful film!

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An engrossing film, with a striking juxtaposition between Haditze and her ancient beekeeping traditions and the new 'noisy neighbours.'

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An astounding film. Deserves a wider audience. Thank you.

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I thought it was a really interesting film with such good, well drawn characters and brilliant acting, especially for the lead bee-keeper woman, who showed such kindness and resilience. Nice gentle humour too. Many thanks for a great choice.