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Movie Review: The Master

The Master is a psychological American film released in 2012 which is written, co-produced and directed by Paul Thomas Anderson. The story surrounds between two characters the navy veteran Freddie's who meets with the religious movement ‘The Cause’ leader Lancaster Dodd after his return from WWII. Freddie joined the religious leader and traveled with his family across the Eastern Coast and spread the religious teachings.

After fighting the war Naval Veteran Freddie came home uncertain and unsure about his future he meets with the religious leader Lancaster Dodd who accepts him and he joined his wing. This film has a relationship with both a belief system and Scientology although Paul Anderson denied that this movie is based on religion. However, the co-producer and writer of the movie said that this movie is inspired partially from Scientology. Although, it is observed in the movie that it features various techniques of religion(*THE MASTER Review. THE MASTER Stars Joaquin Phoenix, Philip Seymour Hoffman, and Amy Adams | Collider*). Freddie was the disturbed sailor he was even not the right person before he left for World War II. His alcohol addiction and violent temper stop him from keeping his job and he ended up in leaving on the ship. On the board, he found the charismatic personality Lancaster Dodd who was the founder of ‘The Cause’ religious movement this movement helps people to free themselves from the past emotional pain. Freddie was inspired by the work of Dodd and accepted him as the mentor although they both have opposite personalities. Dodd calmed the tortured mind of Freddie but both characters scream on each other and occasionally lose their control and become violent.

Paul Anderson criticizes the controversial religion in The Master film, ‘The Cause’ is the gateway to observe people on how they could complement one another and ends up doing more harm rather than good. Dodd and Freddie need one another but their need destroyed both characters.

**Work Cited**

*THE MASTER Review. THE MASTER Stars Joaquin Phoenix, Philip Seymour Hoffman, and Amy Adams | Collider*. https://collider.com/the-master-review/. Accessed 3 Dec. 2019.