

EL ORDEN DE LAS COSAS

El orden de las cosas is a film directed by Cesar and Jose Esteban Alenda, it was created in 2010 in Spain. The cast is established by Manuela Vellés as Julia, Javier Gutiérrez, Mariano Venancio, Biel Durán. This drama film portrays gender violence through some scenes which make us think about this important issue. This film was also nominated in 2010 for the Goya awards for the best fiction film of the year.

The film tells the story of a young couple, Julia and Marcos. They both live in an apartment and since the first scene we can see how she is suffering gender violence. Throughout all the film, Julia is in the bathtub naked and always with the bathroom door open, which



symbolizes her vulnerability in front of her husband. She's always hiding what her husband is doing to her, so that their son, Marquitos, doesn't know anything. Marcos is always looking for the belt. As Marcos says, the belt has belonged all his ancestors, so it symbolizes tradition and authority. As time goes by, they're more and more drops into the bathtub, that's why we can suppose that they symbolize the evil cycle. When the bath is full, it means that it is closer to the explosion and when it's empty, it is closer to the honeymoon phase. However, she's always the same age due to the fact that it symbolizes the hell that she's living every day. One day it appears his son Marquitos, who starts looking for the belt. Moreover, Marquitos realizes what is really happening in his home, and it's at this moment when he drops his toy, breaking it. His toy must represent the end of his innocence. Furthermore, the story repeats itself, becoming a



cycle from which it's impossible to get out. At the end, the bathroom floods and Marcos drowns in it. Nevertheless, Julia manages to escape, and suddenly we can see how she's on a beach full of bathtubs and belts. This could mean that she finally has escaped from that prison.

El orden de las cosas is a well-directed and produced film. It is indeed thought-provoking, as it is full of dramatic and enigmatic scenes. In my opinion, the interpretation of Manuela Vellés's (Julia) is the key piece of the film, without her magnificent interpretation, they couldn't have created such a poignant atmosphere. She doesn't say a word, but her gripping performance is

the one that helps the spectators to understand better what she's living. In addition, the soundtrack underlines a down in the dump's mood, but at the end, when the plot has a twist, it conveys a feeling of hope and relief. They're only two different settings: the first is the bathroom, where almost all the story takes place, and the second one is the beach. Besides, there are completely different, which makes the spectator see a huge contrast.

As far as I am concerned, this film brought up different feelings on me. I had felt grief, impotence and sadness. What I really liked, was the enigmatic ending, that make the spectators think about what is going to happen now with Julia, Has she survived? Is she finally free, or she's in heaven? It's good that the directors have left an open ending, since everyone can imagine the ending that they want. All in all, the film is a must-see. This film should be watched from the age of sixteen, because at this age is when, like Marquitos, mostly of teenagers begin to lose their innocence and see how things really work.