



Sophie's Choice

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STŘEDNÍ ZDRAVOTNICKÁ ŠKOLA KROMĚŘÍŽ





Basic Information

Release year

- 1982

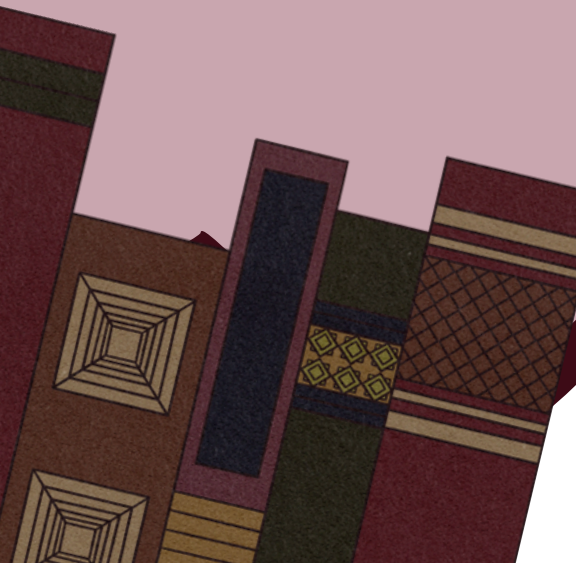
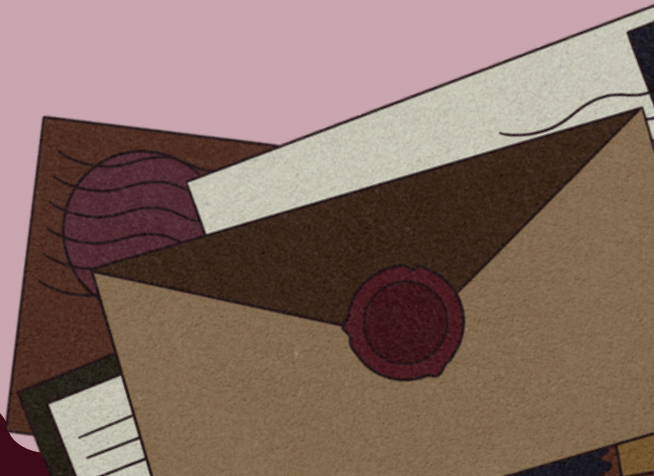
Director

- Alan J. Pakula

Based on

- The novel Sophie's Choice (1979) by William Styron

Main Cast

- Meryl Streep as Sophie Zawistowski
Kevin Kline as Nathan Landau
Peter MacNicol as Stingo
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Plot Summary

The film *Sophie's Choice* tells the story of Sophie, a Polish woman who survived a concentration camp. After the war, she lives in the USA with her boyfriend Nathan, who is intelligent but struggles with mental illness. She befriends a young writer, Stingo, who becomes curious about her past. Sophie slowly reveals a dark secret—at Auschwitz, the Nazis forced her to choose which of her two children would survive. This terrible choice haunts her forever. The film explores love, pain, and psychological suffering. In the end, Sophie and Nathan commit suicide. Stingo is left alone, forever changed by their story.



Main roles and their characteristics



Sofia (Meryl Streep) – A Polish immigrant who survived the Holocaust. She is traumatized by a choice she had to make in a concentration camp, and her past haunts her.



Nathan (Kevin Kline) – Sofia's lover, a charismatic, but mentally unstable man. His relationship with Sofia is complicated by outbursts of jealousy and emotion.



Stingo (Peter MacNicol) – A young writer from the USA who becomes Sofia's friend and confidant. He is sensitive and helps Sofia deal with her trauma.

Awards and Critical Reception

Awards and Nominations

- Academy Awards (Oscars) 1983 Best Actress – Meryl Streep (Winner)
- Meryl Streep's performance in *Sophie's Choice* is widely considered one of the greatest in film history. Her portrayal of Sophie, with her perfect Polish accent and deeply emotional delivery, earned her the Oscar for Best Actress.
- Roger Ebert (Chicago Sun-Times) gave the film 4/4 stars, calling it "a film of enormous emotional power, with a performance by Meryl Streep that transcends acting—it is haunting."
- The New York Times praised the film's sensitive handling of trauma and its deep and strong story.

The
New York
Times



Resources

- https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/sophies-choice-1982#google_vignette
 - <https://chatgpt.com/>
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/1982/12/10/movies/styron-s-sophie-s-choice.html>
 - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sophie%27s_Choice_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sophie%27s_Choice_(film))
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