

### **S3020 SCENT OF A WOMAN (USA, 1992)**

(Other titles: Duft der Frauen; Escencia de mujer; Temps d'un week-end)

**Credits:** director, Martin Brest ; writer, Bo Goldman.

**Cast:** Al Pacino, Chris O'Donnell, James Redhorn, Gabrielle Anwar.

**Summary:** Coming-of-age melodrama set in contemporary New Hampshire and New York City. Charlie Simms (O'Donnell) is a scholarship student at a New Hampshire prep school. He witnesses an elaborate practical joke played on the Dean, but refuses to identify the culprits despite the Dean's threat of expulsion and the loss of his chance to attend Harvard. He is given till after the Thanksgiving break to reconsider. Over the holidays, Charlie, lacking the funds to go home to Oregon, takes a job as a companion for Frank Slade (Pacino), a blind retired Army colonel, whose family goes on vacation. Slade, a highly decorated officer and former aide to Lyndon Johnson, decides to take a trip to New York over Charlie's meek protests. Slade intends to have one last fling and then kill himself. The pair has a number of adventures, and Slade takes a liking to Charlie. Ultimately, Charlie prevents Slade from committing suicide, convincing him that life is still worth living. Back at school, Slade turns up as Charlie's surrogate parent and effectively pleads his case, sparing the boy from expulsion.

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