

# Activity Idea

## DECEMBER 2022 LGBTQ+ VIRTUAL FILM FEST:

### Carol Viewer's Guide

Rated: (R)-Restricted

Not suggested for children under 17, contains some adult material.

*Two women from very different backgrounds find themselves in an unexpected love affair in 1950s New York. As conventional norms of the time challenge their undeniable attraction, an honest story emerges to reveal the resilience of the heart in the face of change. A young woman in her twenties, Therese is a clerk working in a Manhattan department store and dreaming of a more fulfilling life when she meets Carol, an alluring woman trapped in a loveless, convenient marriage.*

Stream the film here on Kanopy: <https://www.kanopy.com/en/product/273398?vp=lacounty>

#### MOVIE RESOURCES:

- "Carol review" from *Little White Lies*: <http://tiny.cc/ju21vz>
- "Carol review – Cate Blanchett superb in a five-star tale of forbidden love" from *The Guardian*: <http://tiny.cc/nu21vz>
- "'Carol' Explores the Sweet Science of Magnetism" from *New York Times*: <http://tiny.cc/ou21vz>
- "'Carol' Is Even Better Than You've Heard, Is Maybe The Best Lesbian Movie Ever Made" from *Autostraddle*: <http://tiny.cc/vu21vz>

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why does the film open with the parting scene of Carol and Therese in the restaurant? How did your response to the scene change by the time you saw it again at the film's climax? Did anything about the ending surprise you?
- This film is partly set in New York in the 1950s. When you think about New York, what kind of things come to mind? How different do you think it was in the 1950s?



- How do Carol and Therese meet? Do you think there is an instant and mutual attraction? Why or why not?
- Why are Carol and her husband Harge getting a divorce?
- Why is Tommy Tucker significant to the story?
- If this film was set in 2022, in what ways would Carol and Therese's relationship be differently portrayed? Would the story have the same tension of secrecy?

#### **OTHER FILMS BY TODD HAYNES**

- *Poison* on Kanopy: <http://tiny.cc/zx21vz>
- *I'm not there* on Kanopy: <http://tiny.cc/4y21vz>