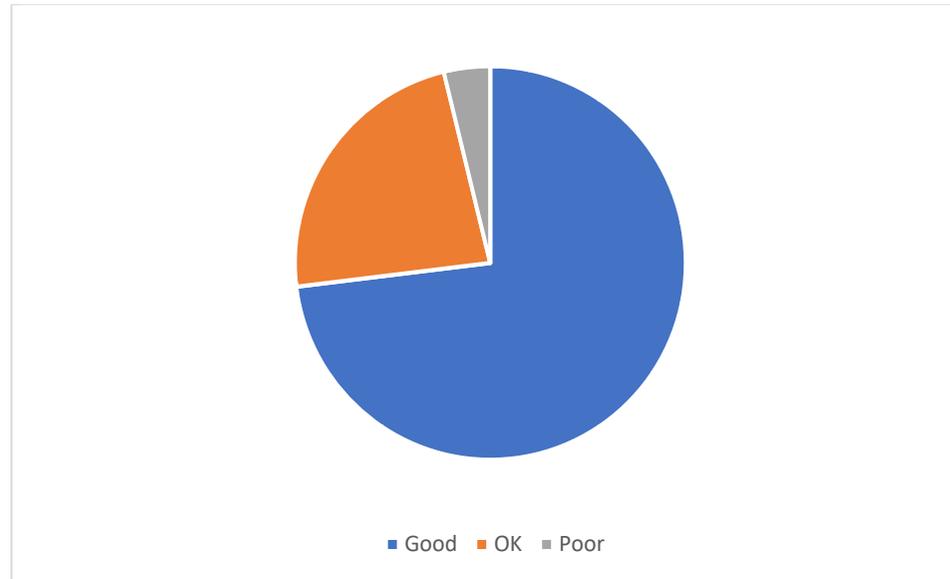


### Review – The Last Tree



Good – 19	OK – 6	Poor – 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A thought provoking film which we enjoyed very much. Both women loved him but in the ways of their cultures. He realises what his birth mother had had to endure when he meets his appalling father. You know he will take the right path in life.</li> <li>• A hard watch, but very thought-provoking. It movingly portrayed the difficulties faced by teenagers growing up today. Femi's problems were amplified by his feeling of not totally belonging anywhere. Some very strong</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you, committee, for surprising us yet again.</li> <li>• I don't know whether it was just me but I felt subtitles were needed in some places. I just couldn't understand what was being said in parts of it. What a pity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very difficult to tune in to the dialogue and far too much violence.</li> </ul>

performances. A film that will stay in the memory for some time.

- It conveyed effectively the mixed emotions that are provoked by an unsettled childhood with no real sense of belonging until the final scene. The lack of dialogue reflected that of a typical young male adolescent and added to an understanding of his bewilderment at his own life's circumstances.
- I thought it was a wonderfully uplifting film. Although parts of the storyline were familiar/predictable, the main character was nevertheless very engaging. I particularly empathised with the stropky teenage years, when the character just was not at all comfortable with himself. Thanks to the committee for this choice.
- I was not sure during and immediately after the screening that this film worked for me. However, time to reflect and think about the journey of Femi leads me to the conclusion that I would rate this film as 'Good'. The stark contrast between Femi's early years in Lincolnshire compared with teenage years in London was quite powerful and challenging to watch at times. The final phase of the story set in Nigeria sees Femi reconciled with his mother and returning to the emotional joy of his early years in Lincolnshire. A happy ending!!
- I was glad to have seen the film which did illustrate the culture and identity difficulties for a Nigerian boy growing up in the UK rather well. London came across as a nasty menacing place, especially for the black community. However some of the gimmicky camera techniques I found distracting. Also the message seemed to be that he really finally felt at home in Lagos; I wasn't convinced by that, but it makes good cinema.

for a young lad to leave an idealistic childhood in rural Lincolnshire and go to such a different life in London.

- It was hard to hear some of the birth mother's dialogue and she seemed to stay the same age throughout, whilst 'Femi' seemed to age quickly and appeared to be much older than the schoolboy character he played. Didn't really enjoy it and thought it went on for too long.
- Not exactly a feel good film, but an interesting insight into gang culture etc. Thankfully the conclusion was fairly optimistic!

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I was totally absorbed in the film so would give it 'Good'. The limited dialogue gave time to focus on the characters' expressions and reflect on the thoughts and feelings of the people they were portraying.</li><li>• Raised interesting questions about adolescence, though the film focused more strongly on creating a sensory experience for the viewer.</li><li>• An interesting portrayal of the 3 contrasting places depicted and how easy it is for teenagers with disrupted lives to get duped into crime.</li><li>• We all thought it was a very interesting film about a world totally outside our own experience. Very moving performances by the two actors as Femi, and also Femi's mother. The sudden wrench away from Lincolnshire and the awful alienation of his life in London were heart breaking. In Lagos meeting his father was a total revelation about his mother and how much she had given up to help him.</li></ul>		
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