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When surfing on the net I came across a quote that said â€˜When it hurts to look back and youâ€™re scared to look ahead you can look beside you and your best friend will be thereâ€™. Very true! You always turn towards your friends when you want to share your happiness or when you are in distress. Spending time with a group of friends cheers up the mood as there will be a lot of stories, jokes, and laughter to share. A new atmosphere is created, with new ideas and unexpected pleasant jokes flowing in.

Not all the time you feel like being in a loud group and sometimes you would prefer tranquility and quietness. A few minutes of personal communication with your close friend can totally release all your worries. The ones with whom you can confide intimate feeling and thoughts will be your close buddies.

We are a bunch of four friends living in the same vicinity right through our childhood days. Last week, after my yoga class, we all caught up for lunch at one of our friendsâ€™ place. We had endless talking and shopping plans and even planned for vacation destination during Christmas. It is so refreshing and electrifying to meet up with buddies. We shared our moments of happiness and sadness with each other. The feeling of sympathy and empathy held us close together and it was more than a family feeling that no one could explain what it was. This is what friends do!

After lunch, we settled down in front of the TV to watch our favorite show. Incidentally, when surfing through the channels of Dish TV Packages, we happened to catch a glimpse of a movie that we never knew about previously. The scene, shot in what looked like a beauty parlor, was a conversation between two friends. It looked interesting and we watched the rest of the movie and got to know that it was the famous Steel Magnolias â€“ set in the late 1980â€™s, an American comedy-drama flick directed by Herbert Ross. It was one great movie, and we regretted missing the initial part. Later, once we retired to our homes to get engaged in our routine lives, fascinated by the filmâ€™s theme that related to our real world, I dug out for more details on Steel Magnolias. It is partially based on a true story written by Robert Harling's experience during his sister's death. The off-Broadway play was made into a movie with the cast of Sally Field, Shirley MacLaine, Olympia Dukakis, Dolly Parton, Daryl Hannah and Julia Roberts. The film revolves among a group six women from a parish in the Natchitoches, whose lives interconnect in a beauty parlor in a small Louisiana town.

The story is about a close-knit circle of friends whose lives come together in Truvy's beauty parlor. The film starts with Drum Eatentonâ€™s shooting birds in his backyard in preparation for his daughter, Shelbyâ€™s wedding reception. Shortly thereafter, M'Lynn and Shelby (Drum's wife and daughter) arrive at Truvyâ€™s to get their hair done for the wedding. Annelle Dupuy, an aspiring beautician, hired by Truvy because of her skills is introduced to Truvy's customers. Truvy's other customers in the parlor are the wealthy widow Clairee Belch, and the sour-tempered Ouiser Boudreaux who irks the group with her digs. The only other person that understands Ouiser is Clairee who is looking for a diversion in life. Filled with humor and grief, these â€˜Steel Magnoliasâ€™ make us laugh and cry, as the crude reality unfolds in that tiny town. The movie name suggests the main female characters can be as delicate as magnolias, but in real are as tough as steel and face the challenges of life.

With its witty script, fantastic story on friendship and zesty characters, this movie is entertaining and emotional and a must watch movie for friends.

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