Diversity in *Under the Same Moon*

How movies that depict other cultures have been more accurate over the years.

Imagine it’s 2008, and your family is heading to the movies to see the latest new movie coming out. You saw in the review that it was a well-developed movie and it touched many people. The movie is under the same moon under Fox. Under seen the movie you wonder about the plot and how the story came too.

Under the same moon was made in 2008, it's a story about a young boy who want to see his mother. Carlos (Adrián Alonso) was a 9-year-old kid whose mother cross the border into the United States to get a job to send money back to him. Rosario (Kate del Castillo) left Carlos for years to go to United States to get a job because she couldn't find work in Mexico. Carlos how to live with his grandma who ran a shop, he hasn't seen his mother in years. One day his grandma died during her sleep and Carlos didn’t have anywhere to go. With the money that he saved up he contacted a smuggler to get him inside the US. While they were crossing the border the car God told and he was forced to find another path. after an incident a Mexican woman saved him and brought him to her house. There her husband decided that he can take Carlos to Los Angeles where his mother was living in, but they had to work a job the next day. The next day the job was to pick tomatoes in a plantation the owner hired illegal immigrants to work in his plantation. During the work hours, immigration raided the plantation and captured many immigrants. The husband got to his Truck in in time to leave but he had to leave Carlos. Carlos and another worker hided from the police until they went away.

Enrique (Eugenio Derbez) was an immigrant who also wanted to go to Los Angeles. With no ride he started to walk to the city. Cars with no one to help him decide to follow in Enrique down the road. With no one stopping to pick them up a band (Los Tigres del Norte) decided to help Enrique and Carlos further on their trip. During this time Rosario found out that her mother was dead, and Carlos was missing. She began to worry where was Carlos and her boss decide to fire her from her job leaving her with no job or income. This in mind she was debating if returning to Mexico was a good idea. The band left both in Tucson, Carlos found out that this was the location where his father is working at. Carlos decide to meet his father and ask for help leaving Enrique all to himself. Carlos dad did agree to help him but didn't show up at all. Enrique seeing this decide to continue helping Carlos reach Los Angeles. Carlos got a restaurant owner to agree to help other than by giving them a job and a place to sleep for the night. Getting enough money from the restaurant owner they both bought a bus ticket to Los Angeles. The location of the address die Brazoria gave to Carlos was a PO Box meaning that Carlos couldn't find his mom right away.

Rosario isn't that certain need to try to find Carlos but also trying to stay in the United States. She decided to marry Oscar, who is a friend of hers, to get papers to stay in The United States. she couldn't marry him because she was worried about Carlos on the same day as their wedding. They decided that was all you should head back to Mexico to see if Carlos has returned but she had a feeling that she should stay because it's was Saturday and Sunday was when she called Carlos at the same phone booth every Sunday at 10:00 AM. Enrique and Carlos had decided to try to find the phone booth that his mom described to him every single Sunday. Not finding it that they decided to sleep in a park and to try to find it again tomorrow. The next day Enrique woke up early inside to go get breakfast for Carlos. When he was coming back he saw that 2 police officers was heading to Carlos and was asking him questions and taking him into their vehicle. Enrique sacrificed himself by throwing coffees at police officers and running away to let Carlos run away. When Carlos stopped after he got tired, he noticed that the area that he was in was the same description that his mom gave him. Looking around he saw a woman on the other side of the street calling out mother to the woman he found out that it was indeed his mother. It had to wait till the light those red so they can cross the street. Before they meet the screen turns black.

As you know under the same moon is about a Mexican child wine to see his mother who is on the other side of the border. the story shows the delegation someone will go through to see someone that they love. Not just what the child goes through when not seen their mother for years we also see what the mother goes through. Now in 2019 we hear many stories like this from the news 2 actual books. Some movies had also portrayed the struggles that people go through, but I want to point something now to the reader about under the same moon. As we know in the film industry many directors our Caucasian not many are different in the ethnicities. Under the same moon has someone different. The director of under the same moon is Patricia Riggen a woman of Hispanic heritage. Now most people probably think that doesn't make a difference in film, but this is the thing that I want to point out. Yes, someone can direct the same type of film, but it makes a difference when you know people a friend who have stories and experience as what you trying to film. Yes, directors can read stories an interview people on how they feel or what they went through, but they never would know how that effects their friends and family. Riggen Showed the emotional side in that struggle while many people just show the statistics or the extreme version of either the good side and the bad side of people who immigrated into the country. In the same day of the release of the movie New York Times publish an article saying

***““Under the Same Moon” is too busy sanctifying its protagonists and prodding our tear ducts to say anything remotely novel about immigration policies or their helpless victims.”-New York Times***

New York Times is saying that the movie doesn't show the full impact of immigrant's social issue. That the movie was to focus too much on Carlos journey then the overall picture. This social issue is being talk to more now then over the past few years so much so that high school students will learn about this topic in their English class. A book called Enrique's journey is also talks about the struggles of boys not having their mothers in their childhood lives. And how not just 1 child trying to go see their mother but many overall. So, book shows the true hardship that children are willing to go through just to see their mothers again.

This is what the movie is trying to show. Not just the journey of which one would take, but the struggles of immigrant families. Not just an everyday life but the impact that family has on both the parent and the child. The director use not just stories people can read but experience well others truly felt. This direction that the film industries is letting happen letting people of ethnicity take control a film based on their history. I want to point out another great example is the movie Black Panther. Ryan Coogler directed Black Panther he himself is an African American, so he knows the history of African Americans and the experience the African American have in the United States another culture. This new wave of ethnic directors being let todicrected movies that talks about their history will make a huge change.