

= Naomi (Skins) =

" Naomi " is the sixth episode of the third series of the British teen drama Skins , which first aired on 26 February 2009 on E4 in both Ireland and the United Kingdom . The episode was written by Atiha Sen Gupta and Jack Thorne , and was directed by Simon Massey . The episode focuses on the character of Naomi Campbell (Lily Loveless) as she competes against James Cook (Jack O 'Connell) in their college 's elections for Student President . She enters a romantic relationship with her classmate Emily Fitch (Kathryn Prescott) while also receiving affection from her teacher Kieran (Ardal O 'Hanlon) .

The episode was filmed in October 2008 . The weather was so cold during filming that one scene taking place in a lake had to be shortened when Prescott was taken to a standby ambulance with suspected hypothermia . " Naomi " brought in 957 @, @ 000 viewers and was E4 's highest @-@ rated programme of the week . Critical reviews of the episode were generally positive .

= = Plot = =

Naomi lives with her hippy mother Gina (Olivia Colman) and fifteen other people in a communal living arrangement . This is a source of annoyance to Naomi , whose privacy is invaded when she wakes up one morning , naked , to discover that a male hippy is sleeping in her bed . At college , she avoids Emily to meet with her politics teacher Kieran instead . In the students ' common room , they are informed of the upcoming elections for Student President . Emily encourages Naomi to run for president , but Naomi refuses . She later comes across Cook , who tries to persuade her to have sex with him . She jokingly tells him that he has a better chance of winning the student elections , which he sees as a challenge and decides to register . Kieran walks her home at the end of the day and urges her to run in the elections , giving her a registration form . When she arrives at her house , she finds Emily waiting in her bedroom with another registration form . Emily starts to leave when Naomi is rude and standoffish to her ? despite taking Emily 's advice to enter the elections ? but returns and confronts her . She coldly tells her that she is not obsessed with pursuing a sexual relationship with her , and Naomi suggests she stay the night with her .

The next morning , Naomi wakes up , with Emily asleep next to her . She is tempted to stroke her hair , but instead gets dressed and goes to college , leaving Emily in her bed . At college , she sees the massive presidential campaign staged by Cook and JJ (Ollie Barbieri) . She launches her own campaign to rival Cook , but finds that most of her classmates ' support is for Cook 's anarchist ideas . She is doubly humiliated in front of the form when Cook ridicules her and Emily subsequently stands up for her . She flees to Kieran for comfort but leaves him , shocked and disgusted , when he kisses her . She goes home and , after finding a note from Emily in her bed , cries herself to sleep .

Naomi and Emily escape to the countryside later that evening and cycle to one of Emily 's favourite places by a lake before sunset . After swimming in the lake , they light a campfire , and share a cannabis joint . An act of blowbacking the joint leads the two to share a kiss and they proceed to make love . Emily wakes up the following morning to find Naomi preparing to leave . She pleads with Naomi not to leave her a second time and tells her that she should accept that she needs to be loved . Naomi goes home to find Kieran in bed with her mother , and leaves for college , devastated . She sees her teachers rigging the election to prevent Cook from winning , and reveals this to the form when she is announced the winner . As his first presidential act , Cook starts a riot . In the ensuing chaos , Naomi forgives Kieran , encouraging him that if he likes her mother , he should tell her so . Naomi begins to have sex with Cook before she realises that it " isn 't right " . Surprisingly , Cook doesn 't seem to mind , as he says that she must have a good reason not to follow through because she 's clever . Naomi leaves , with her and Cook now sharing a better understanding of each other . That night , she visits Emily 's house , but Emily refuses to open the door , not wanting Naomi to see her after she had been crying . They sit on opposite sides of the door , and Naomi admits that she does need somebody to love her . Emily offers her hand through the door 's cat flap to Naomi , who finally reciprocates Emily 's feelings .

= = Production = =

" Naomi " was filmed in October 2008 , in the same production block as the series ' fourth episode , " Pandora " , and the series ' opening title sequence . The riot scene in front of the college was filmed with 100 extras ; Cook 's petrol @-@ bombing of the car was described by costume assistant Ros Marshall as " probably the most hi @-@ tech special effect we 've had while filming Skins " . The students ' college common room was filmed in the show 's production canteen . Originally , an entire scene was supposed to be filmed with Naomi and Emily in the lake , but the water was so cold that the actors were unable to stay in the water , and Kathryn Prescott was taken to a standby ambulance with suspected hypothermia . Director Simon Massey choreographed Naomi and Emily 's sex scene prior to filming so that , on the set , the actions would come instinctively to the actors and they would be able to complete the scene in a limited number of takes . While Lily Loveless enjoyed filming those scenes because " stuff like that gives you experience " , Prescott said that it concerned her , though she said that she was not pressured to do anything in the script that made her uncomfortable .

Stylist Kirstie Stanway began to differentiate between Emily and her twin sister Katie 's hair and makeup with this episode to show that the twins are starting to " move along their own paths " . She re @-@ styled Katie 's character in particular to illustrate that she is now " desperate not to be lumped with her sister as she really doesn 't approve of the new girl in her life " . Ardal O 'Hanlon grew a beard for his role as Kieran and was given a scar under one eye to give his character a " more rugged look " . Ros Marshall said that Cook 's mock @-@ presentation of himself as " Cook Guevara " paid homage to The Clash 's Joe Strummer and " the youth cultures of days gone by " , and that his Dr. Martens brogues were a reference to skinheads of the 1980s . Marshall made Cook and JJ 's campaign rosettes by hand from Rizla rolling papers .

= = Reception = =

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Sarah Warn , editor @-@ in @-@ chief of lesbian @-@ based website AfterEllen.com wrote that the episode 's focus on Naomi and Emily " was one of the best @-@ developed and most honest depictions of a lesbian teenage relationship that I 've ever seen on TV . " A critic for PopSugar.com thought both Naomi and Cook to be more likable after the episode and enjoyed the development of their friendship throughout . They found Emily 's plea to Naomi as Naomi left the campsite " heartbreaking " and called Kieran " one of my favourite recurring characters this series " . Digital Spy 's Dan French gave the episode a positive review , describing it as " chaotic " and " full of lady @-@ lovin ' " . He praised Naomi 's relationship with Kieran , which he saw as a reference to the affair between Chris Miles , a first generation character from Skins ' first and second series , and his teacher Angie . The entertainment editor for eurOut.org , a website for European lesbians , thought that Naomi and Emily 's storyline was " definitely one of the best portrayals of teenage lesbians I 've ever seen " , writing that " when the focus is more on cute girls falling for each other , this show isn 't half bad " . Another eurOut.org writer , Cate O 'Neil , said that " Naomi " was " probably the best individual lesbian episode I have seen on TV . Ever . " In response to O 'Hanlon 's nude scene as Kieran , Sara Nathan of The Sun said , " If seeing [him] clad in lycra as Thermoman in My Hero wasn 't bad enough , now he 's leaving nothing to the imagination . "