



Supa Modo (feature)

Director Likarion Wainaina / Kenya, Germany / 2018 / Swahili, English and Kikuyu with English Subtitles / 74 mins / Ages 8+

Obsessed with Jackie Chan and action films, nine-year-old Jo dreams of becoming a superhero. But time is not on her side. When the doctors reveal she is terminally ill, Jo leaves the hospital and returns home to be with her mom and sister. While her mom insists that she stay inside and rest, her sister has different plans, and turns Jo into the superhero they know she is.

SET THE STAGE | WORDS TO KNOW

FILM TERMS:

- **SCRIPT/ SCREENPLAY:** a written story including dialogue
- **SHOTS:** a single uninterrupted section of footage. Shots can be described by how close or far they are from the subject, or by the perspective it shows the audience. Examples include close up, medium shot, and long shot.
- **EDITING:** the selection, manipulation, and combination of shots to create structure and story
- **PLOT:** basic layout or path of the story

For more film terms, refer to the PCFF Film Glossary (pcfri.org/FilmHub)

TALK ABOUT IT | DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR BEFORE...

- If you could choose a superpower, what would it be? How would you use your superpower in your community?
- What makes a hero “super”? How can ordinary people be heroes to others?
- Have you ever known someone young who was very sick? How does it make you feel to see very ill young people? Why?

... & AFTER FILM VIEWING

- Why do you think Jo’s sister cares so much about Jo’s “powers”? How would you describe their relationship?
- How would you describe Jo’s mother? How would you describe their relationship?
- The screenwriter of the film wrote “everyone has a hero living inside of them who they just need to discover.” Do you think this is shown in the film? How is Jo a hero? Are the townspeople heroes? Why or why not?
- What roles do movies play in Jo’s life? What is the importance of movies in her world?
- How does the movie the town makes compare to Jo’s real life? What was the purpose of making that film? Did it succeed?

RESOURCES:

- **Good Night Lights at Hasbro Children’s Hospital** (hasbrochildrenshospital.org/good-night-lights): Program where Providence organizations flash their lights at 8:30pm to say “good night” each evening to patients at Hasbro Children’s Hospital.
- **Make A Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island** (massri.wish.org): Grants life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.
- **Responsibilities of a Superhero Documentary** (youtube.com/watch?v=0rTw95XHS3I): Documentary from Rhode Island Comic Con about the active roles of everyday heroes.