

A NIGHT  
AT PASCAL'S

An original  
Carlie\_macbe idea  
for a movie

## A NIGHT AT PASCAL'S (MOVIE)

GENRE: Huis-clos comedy, buddy movie and drama

WHO: Ten friends or remote relatives

WHERE: Pascal's flat

WHEN: Now

WHAT: Friends gather for a dinner + party and spend one night under the spell of alcohol, drugs and electronic music –

Pascal (45) invites eight people to party at his. The programme is ratchet, booze, drugs and dance. The guests are:

Maud (42): One of Pascal's best friend. She is a funny, extrovert, energetic woman, working 9-to-5 on boring weekdays and hanging on because she targets week-ends to party. She keeps switching boy-friends. The one she has now is:

Robert (67): Successful yet depressy lawyer, rather mute and cold. 2 children, divorced. He sees Maud as her life-savior and praises her. Their relationship is obviously asymmetric. Not at ease at the party but he is clingy and follows Maud like a dog.

Clara (43): Maud's best friend from France. Outgoing and enthusiastic. Enjoys everything she encounters. Doesn't speak English, only French.

Danilo (45): An old friend of Pascal's. Long time no see. Now a nervous conspiracy theorist who rants about Freemasons. Doesn't speak English, only Italian.

Philip aka DJ ZonX (65): Used to be a successful underground DJ in Berlin and most European capitals. Very good musical taste but very quickly high as he constantly do drugs (coke and ketamine). Once high, he never stops talking sophisticated bullshit and hardly listens to other people. He plays the first music set.

DJ Aimin' (46): Used to be a star millionaire DJ playing in Miami or Ibiza's best clubs. Now broke because, once hype over, he spent all his money on drugs and luxury stuff. Lives at his mother's. Never talks but drinks alcohol until he gets violent and breaks everything and then vomits and then falls asleep. He plays the second music set.

DJ Sonya (38): Chill, happy DJ still playing in clubs. Very sensitive and smart too. Needs to have serious conversations. Will be sorely disappointed in that respect as time passes at Pascal's. She plays the third music set.

Slug (33): Sonya's boy-friend. A cool, ex-football star dude who never stops smoking reefers, therefore always high and slack. Never says a word, sits in a comfortable sofa all the time and blissfully smiles.

Tina (25): Pascal's recent girl-friend. Ex-drug addict on rehab. Quite helpless yet she wants to be the perfect helpful host. Nobody really cares about her personal life problems she keeps talking about.

The theme of the movie is an obvious lack of communication as all the characters speak up their crazy, not mastered mind and at the same time can't pay attention to what the others say and mean. However, due to the unifying impact of music in the backdrop (and drugs and alcohol for some), they are all convinced that they spend the best of time in a community spirit. So, despite various dramas and sufferings being experienced during the film, they all gather on Pascal's balcony and merrily behold the sun rising at the end.

Therefore, we can see *A Night at Pascal's* either as a superficially optimistic movie about a deeply sad contemporary social issue (lack of communication) or a sad social issue saved by art (unifying music).

Cinematographic references: *A Night at Pascal's* is a mix of rather joyful *The Big Chill* (Kasdan, 1983) and more serious *Trainspotting* (Boyle, 1996) with the mood of *Living into Oblivion* (DiCillo, 1995)



William Hurt, Meg Tilly, Jeff Goldblum and JoBeth Williams in *The Big Chill*



Jonny Lee Miller, Ewan McGregor, Kevin McKidd and Ewen Bremner in *Trainspotting*

***A Night at Pascal's* – assets for a movie adaptation:**

- Unity of action, place and time.
- Because it is a huis-clos: low-cost.
- The very definition of independant movie.
- Highly psychological, favors subtle acting.
- Great soundtrack (electro, house, dub, downtempo, minimal).



Peter Dinklage and Steve Buscemi in *Living into Oblivion*

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