smile :) 
a film by Kelsey Hodge 
cinematography by Hobbes Reynolds
Smile is a drama about a young woman who returns home after a traumatic event and has to figure out her relationship with her family, her friends, and her future.

No one ever talks about what life is like after you try to kill yourself. Smile is a drama that follows Jules (19) during the summer after returning home from the lowest point in her life. Clouded by her denial, Jules navigates a web of lies as she tries to figure out her relationship with her family, her friends, and her future. Jules must decide if she is going to take the steps she needs to save herself or fall back into a consuming pit of darkness where not only her relationships are at stake, but so is her life. Smile is an exploration of how we respond to trauma through the relationships that shape us, the memories that haunt us, and the choices we make that can impact our lives forever.
The sense of reality should be present in the coloring as well - mimicking its reality while staying true to the characters' troubles and experiences.

Dark tones fit this emotional story very well - it also matches the low key natural / tungsten lighting and compliments dark skin tones.

Somewhat desaturated look to emphasize the bleak reality of it.
Overall Film Style / Lens

★ Jules gives off the impression of being smothered and cornered throughout the story by both the people trying to help her and the thoughts that plague her

★ Placing her in tight locations emits this feeling very well
  ○ Ex: Dressing room (Jules being bombarded by questions from her mother and the employee)
  ○ In the car conversations / Engulfed by water / During her rape

★ Bringing the camera in close to her during dialogue scenes will allow the audience to connect strongly with her emotions
  ○ At times of loss and distraught - a very wide lens with a high aperture, put close to her face will allow for the emotion to flow while the world around her blurs out only emphasizing her loneliness

★ Wider shots will give the audience time to breath and can be used at time of warmth and relief in the story
Overall Film Lighting

★ Vital to keep the reality of the story present throughout
★ Natural lighting / In scene lighting placements (lamps, wall lights etc)
  ○ Gives contrast and depth to the image while mimicking its reality
  ○ Tungsten light gives a nice glow to wooden material and brown, dark skin - as well as gives of warmth in a cold color environment

★ Reality vs Past
  ○ The happy flashbacks should be brighter in both color and lighting to emphasize the fact that it’s in the past / alert the audience of a better time in Jules’ life
from script...to screen
selected scene breakdown

description:
Unexpectedly confronted with a moment where her lies may be exposed, Jules convinces her friends to participate in a “chase” to avoid her mother, Carolyn.

purpose:
While this exaggerated “chase” scene provides some comedic relief and change of pace to the film, it also serves to raise the tension amongst Jules and those around her.
film inspirations

- Lady Bird
- The Perks of Being a Wallflower
- Moonlight
- Booksmart

scene inspirations

- Books
- Editing
- Relationships
Car Chase Storyboards / Shot List

Medium Wide shot - Front windshield shot of all 3 friends in car

Medium shot of Cole in passenger seat - through front windshield

Medium shot of Jules in back seat - through front windshield

Medium shot of Ferris steering car - through front windshield

Medium of Carolyn in her car - through front windshield

Wide shot of car speeding through intersection
Car Chase Storyboards / Shot List cont.

Medium / Medium Close Up - Seeing Carolyn’s car from the mirror

Medium Close Up of Cole holding hand outside of window

Close Up of Cole’s hand outside of side window

Close Up of Cole turning the music up

Close Up of Ferris stomping on the gas pedal

Close up of Ferris Checking the mirror
Car Chase Filming Mechanics Breakdown

The car mount being put on the hood of the car will be used for the front windshield, medium / medium wide shots of all four of the characters (Jules, Ferris, Cole and Carolyn)

The close up shots from within the car space will be done on a shoulder mount / hand held to provide a close up experience for the viewer

The suction cup mount will be used to provide side view, medium shots of the characters to provide a variation of angles during the chase scene