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Toute une nuit (All Night Long)

Directed by Chantal Akerman

France/Belgium 1982, 35mm, color, 90 min.

With Aurore Clément, Tchéky Karyo,

Jan Decorte

French with English subtitles

ON A SULTRY SUMMER NIGHT in Brussels, various bodies in search of love collide: some succeed, others do not. Fashioned from the shards of two dozen pulverized melodramas, Akerman's urban nocturne foregrounds small gestures as it captures the shape of solitude itself. Locations criss-cross as characters meet and embrace, dance and split up, yank one another into cabs, or merely watch the action from doorways and stairwells. The choreography of indoors and out, upstairs and down, attraction and rejection distills the complex machinations of urban romance into a sweetly rhythmic dance.

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