

# The Bicyclists

## Short Synopsis

A twenty-something Conrad Miller leaves a small town in Wisconsin, promising himself sixty days to make lasting memories before he returns home to take over his parent's cheese factory. Conrad journeys to Portland, attracted to its vibrant urban bike culture and beautiful scenery. Conrad makes valuable friendships and has a decidedly modern love affair with Steve Jones. The friends learn to love and live like never before, but this simple story reveals unexpected turns and darker elements as the sixty-day timeline counts down.

## Long Synopsis

A twenty-something Conrad Miller leaves a small town in Wisconsin, promising himself sixty days to make lasting memories before he returns home to take over his parent's cheese factory. Conrad journeys to Portland, attracted to its vibrant urban bike culture and beautiful scenery. He has little money, an unused English degree, 10 years experience as a bike mechanic and his beloved bike.

We start off with Conrad's parents. They appear to be everyone's parents. As the story progresses they will experience a wide range of parental experience. They have the Midwestern lightly comical charm but become very real when faced with life changing challenges.

Conrad's summer of love and adventure makes him valuable friendships. But not before he fails in his attempts win favor with the beer-loving Schwinn bike club.

Starting over again he meets Lissa. Lissa has everything in all the right places and she puts a lot of effort into polishing her look with just the right alternative style, distracting you from what is really going on. You would think that this accomplished young woman wouldn't have a care in the world. Always chasing after far away places, her unsettled nature hints at deeper disturbances. Conrad easy going natural allows Lissa to feel comfortable revealing her secrets. She tries to help her new friend out by telling him about a job opening. This is where he meets Lissa's best friend Steve.

Steve's the prettiest bike mechanic Conrad has ever seen. Independent and smart she needs no man to complete her. She just wants to have a little fun and ride her Scwhinn around town — no complications. The problem is she's more complicated than that. She wants a modern, sophisticated; mature relationship but there's a little girl inside of her that wants something a little closer to home. They eventually do have the modern love affair Steve Jones wants.

Zack rounds off the foursome of friends, being both Lissa's boyfriend and Steve's co-worker. Zack's a cocky bike mechanic and a game programmer with a sick bicyclist chase game. He rides a fixie and knows all the tricks to get where he's going. Lissa emotional problems and his tough guy attitude clash to make a pretty explosive relationship.

Zack's Bicyclist video game beeps and crashes in and out of the story, sometimes mirroring and sometimes foreshadowing what going on in the story.

There is also Nadine, Steve's roommate. She plays games with Steve's vulnerabilities and twists her motivations. She is sassy, irresponsible and superficial and a real irritant to Steve, but mostly harmless.

There's also a sub-story, with an unreal quality between two young children. The story could be a metaphor or mirroring the main story. It is not clear how those children are related to the story until the very end.

The movie is rich in its cinematic style and is enhanced with hip local music.

This simple summer-of-love story reveals unexpected turns and darker elements as the sixty-day timeline counts down. There's a twist that takes the typical Hollywood good-bye where love is declared, rejected and later returned and turns it on its head.

**Note to the press:** There are important parts of the story that are not in these synopses. Contact us if you are wanting more details.

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