

**SherryBaby**  
Written & Directed by Laurie Collyer

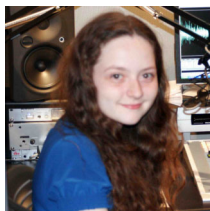
Realistic. This is the only true way to describe the movie **SherryBaby** starring Maggie Gyllenhaal in the title role. **SherryBaby** is the story of a woman who has struggled against a drug-addicted past that lead her to jail and caused her to lose her daughter "Alexis" (Ryan Simpkins).

The movie starts just after Sherry has been paroled. The only thing she seems certain of is that she wants to take care of her daughter who has been staying with Sherry's brother "Bobby" (Brad William Henke) and Bobby's wife "Lynette" (Bridget Barkan). The movie follows Sherry as she tries to reconnect with Alexis—a young child torn between her mother and the family that has taken care of her while her mother was incarcerated.

Despite Gyllenhaal's spectacular performance, Sherry cannot be characterized as a heroine. Sherry has to face her past and her flaws; her personality and actions are not always logical, sane, or respectable. While this doesn't make her very likeable, she is a realistic character. Every flaw Sherry has contributes to her believability both as a character in the movie and as a real person that the audience can connect with.

This movie doesn't call for amazing cinematography, but Collyer does put a lot of detail put into every shot. Each frame has clearly been planned out and has beautiful yet subtle symbols. These symbols just make the movie that much more interesting.

**SherryBaby** contains no extravagant plot twists, just raw human emotion. You won't leave in love with all of the characters, and you won't leave ecstatic about a perfect ending, but you will leave feeling you have experienced of a true sense of reality.



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