

Needing anchor

The love story in *Drift* is not compelling enough for one reality—let alone three **By Michael Giltz**

Drift ■ Written and directed by Quentin Lee ■ Starring R.T. Lee, Greyson Dayne, Jonathon Roessler ■ Margin Films

What if? That's the question that Ryan, a struggling Los Angeles screenwriter, asks himself in the drama *Drift*. What if Ryan (R.T. Lee) ends his stable but unfulfilling relationship with Joel (Greyson Dayne) right before their third anniversary? What if the earnest, virginal college student Leo (an amusing Jonathon Roessler) is actually Ryan's soul mate? What if Ryan's hunky straight best friend would fool around with him to cheer his buddy up?

Quentin Lee's third film—following the shorts compilation *Flow* and the feature *Shopping for Fangs* (codirected with Justin Lin)—has a solid cast

that answers the question "What if?" three times, in three different ways. A la *Sliding Doors*, we keep returning to the moment when Ryan leaves Joel. In one case, he and Leo become ecstatic lovers. In another, Ryan realizes he still loves Joel, who magically turns into a top, making their reunion all the more special. In the third version, everyone ends up alone.

Drift was shot on digital video, and like most such movies, it has a flat, dull look. Just as dull is the prospect of watching several endings to a relationship we don't care about in the first place. Instead of clever spins on the possibility of love, the three roads that *Drift* explores seem like random variations, none of them more likely or more interesting than the next. ■

Giltz also writes for the New York Post and Entertainment Weekly.

Strange bedfellows: R.T. Lee (left) and Jonathon Roessler in one of the movie's triad of endings

