

CLASS DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: 4th grade

COURSE: Croatian language

TEACHING AREA: Culture and media

TEACHING UNIT: *Bagged*

CLASS TYPE: Analysis of a short fiction film

DURATION OF A TEACHING UNIT: 45 minutes

BAGGED (Vasile Berde Luca Stefan, Romania, 2021.)

MOTIVATION

Conversation with the students

1. How can jealousy manifest itself?
2. Have you ever done something illegal at school? Were you found out? Did you face the consequences?

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FILM

You will watch a short film *Bagged* by Vasile Berde Luca Stefan from Romania.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WATCHING

1. Pay attention to the music in the film. What is achieved by this music choice?
2. How is humor achieved in the film?
3. Pay attention to the shots of the protagonist and their function.
4. Pay attention to the set design and cinematography in the film.

WATCHING OF THE FILM

EXPRESSION OF STUDENT IMPRESSIONS

Did you like the film? Why?

Did you find the film funny? What parts did you find particularly funny?

Could you identify with the protagonist of the film? Why?

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FILM

1. How does the film start? What do we see and hear?

The film begins with a logo of its production company. This is followed by a blank shot. Then in the foreground we see fingers arranging a deck of cards and in the background, out of focus, we see a close-up of a girl. We can hear non-diegetic music.

2. Which editing transition is used to show the parrot in a cage?

A cut.

3. What kind of shot is the protagonist in when she answers the phone?

She's in a medium close-up.

4. How does non-diegetic music affect the characterization of the protagonist in the scene in her room?

The non-diegetic music adds to her psychological characterization, the music speeds up according to the protagonist's growing anger.

5. Which meta-cinema elements are present in the set design?

We can see film posters on the wall.

6. Which films are on the posters? Which poster stands out the most?

Psycho, *Vertigo* and *Pulp Fiction*. The *Psycho* poster stands out in particular, because it subtly hints at the protagonist's character, but also shows her interests.

7. What do we call the shots that appear before the name of the film, and which usually introduce the viewer into the film?

Pre-credits.

8. From which angle was the murder in the bathroom filmed? What is achieved by using that perspective?

The murder was filmed from a high angle, which gives the impression of a cramped space, the inability to escape and the protagonist's control.

9. What kind of shot is the protagonist in when someone enters the bathroom? How is dynamism achieved in that scene?

Dynamism is achieved by a rapid exchange of shots and using abrupt cuts. First we see a medium shot of the protagonist, then a medium close-up and finally a close-up. This is achieved with a quick zoom, the close-up of the protagonist showing her astonishment. This is followed by a cut and a full shot of the protagonist entering the cabin where she killed her boyfriend. The drama and dynamism of the scene are also contributed to by non-diegetic music.

10. How does the protagonist get rid of her boyfriend's body?

She decides to cut him into pieces with a giant saw. Then she throws bagged parts of his body through the window. The body parts fall into a trash can.

11. Which film element suggests that the protagonist got rid of the body completely and that it's no longer in the trash can?

The noise of a garbage truck and the following shot of her smiling face looking out the window.

12. Describe the smoking scene.

After the garbage men empty the trash can, the protagonist lights a cigarette. She smokes the cigarette calmly, in a medium full shot, and then we hear the noise of the fire alarm. A shot of the alarm follows, which is actually her subjective shot.

13. Is there another subjective shot in that scene?

Yes, when the protagonist is trying to get out of the bathroom, but she can't. She turns abruptly and her subjective shot of the sprinkler on the ceiling follows.

14. How do we find out what the protagonist's mother does?

Through an extreme close-up of the mother's uniform with a firemen's sign on it.

15. How does the protagonist react at the end of the scene in the living room?

She's in a close-up and she smiles slyly.

16. Which shot follows?

After a cut we see a close-up of the protagonist laughing in her bed.

17. How is the protagonist dressed in that scene in her room?

She is wearing a black sweater with snowflakes that she wore at the beginning of the film.

18. What's her makeup like? What does that suggest?

Her makeup is smudged around the eyes, which suggests that she has been crying. After that, she says “If only it were so simple”. This suggests that the murder of the boyfriend was actually a figment of her imagination.

19. What is the last shot of the film?

The film ends with a medium full shot of the protagonist. It is shot from a high angle, which indicates her weakness.

20. What is the film's composition like?

It has a circular composition.

21. What do we learn from the end credits? How?

We find out that the film is dedicated to the parrot from the film, thanks to a black and white photo and a caption.

22. How is humor achieved in the film?

Humor is achieved through props, non-diegetic music, acting and the script, according to which the protagonist is a cunning, manipulative and vengeful psychopath who commits the perfect crime in her imagination, and at the same time she is reckless because she creates problems for herself in that fantasy (for example, smoking in the bathroom).

EVALUATION

- monitoring student activities while watching a film
- checking the understanding of the film by asking directed questions
- teaching sheet (quiz)

THE TEACHING SHEET (QUIZ) is available on the Film EDUcation website.