

Jada Martinez and Maya Robinson

Ms.Giknis

Reel Reading

05.24.2022

Anatomy of a Scene Script

Both: Hi this is Maya and Jada. The film we watched was Cut Throat City.

M: This movie was about a group of four friends from New Orleans who have to deal with life after hurricane Katrina hit in 2005. They had to make some tough decisions that had major consequences on their lives. While trying to pull it together, they lost more than they could afford.

J: After robbing their last bank to make money for themselves, they were caught by the cops who didn't show any remorse towards them. As they all shoot at each other, you can see that they go down one by one. All of their work and them trying to get themselves out of where they were at came to an end and they all knew it.

M: The scene starts with the three friends shooting at the police which is a reflection of the first robbery they did compared to this one, which is their last. They are wearing bright yellow which matches the background of the FEMA building. Which could mean having a common goal which could mainly be surviving.

M: When Junior gets shot he's standing in the middle of the shot and it's played in slow motion.

This is done to show the own personal story incorporated with each character.

For a split second there's a brief back to back shot of Miracle and Blink. They both realize they don't have a way out of this but they'll keep fighting.

M: They both get up but this time Miracle is killed within the middle of the frame cutting everything else off. Miracle is shot in slow motion multiple times, but he still tries to fight back.

The director probably did this to showcase his resilient personality. Throughout this movie he is always ready to jump into action and fight, even in his last moments he tries to get that across.

J: As you can see in the scene, the camera shakes trying to have the viewer visualize the amount of craziness going on and how much anxiety they have in the present moment. They all try to head for cover while still getting shot at and knowing they aren't going to make it out. As they retreat, They still try to grab the money hoping that somehow they could still escape with at least an ounce of what they came for.

M: Blink then is captured in an off guard type of shot to show him in the frame in the middle, but just enough to show Junior and Miracle. Him being in the middle not only signifies that he's about to die, but also he's the last one standing.

J: After all of them are killed except for Blink, he decides to surrender. He throws his gun, throws the money and puts his hands up to show the police that he is done fighting. For a few seconds,

you see everything is still. Slow motion shots show the tension and you see that there are many more cops than expected in a line aiming right at him. All of them are white.

M: This one shot goes on for what feels like forever, but that shows the long history systemic racism and the deeply rooted issues in America are. It's used to make you feel uncomfortable while watching the scene for an extensive amount of time. Something interesting about this scene is that this broadcasted on the news and it then shows Demyra watching her husband get killed. In a way this choice of directing is broadcasting his death, but is also showing that after death, there is grief.

J: In a dramatic scene by Blink's wife, you see her screaming in misery when she realizes that her husband is the one being murdered by multiple police while someone is calling them to stand down. She lets out an ear wrenching scream and shakes as she lets it out. In a quote from a film review by Matt Zoller Seitz who rated the film and ½ stars, "we can see further through our tears than through the lens of a telescope" It shows an imaginary that is unmatched within this scene.

M: The most complex part of this scene is that it's filmed to look like a flashback. You see Blink at a book signing for his comic, which makes it seem like everything that happened in the movie was just fiction. This part of the movie is still confusing to me and I haven't quite figured it out.

M: On rotten tomatoes the film has a review of 69%. Most give this movie an individual rating 3.4 according to Google. I do somewhat agree with this because I don't believe that this movie

was an over the top good movie, and somewhere within it you see the budget that was put into the movie. I think the message is really important and would advise anyone to watch it.