

Ganiah Bracy & Halle Griffin

Ms. Giknis

Reel Reading

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Transcript

Spoiler Warning

Halle:

This scene immediately follows the first degree murder the parents committed on Sam. Sam was the father of Brittney, Kayla's best friend. The scene starts out with the parents waking up on the couch with the diegetic sound of Kayla cooking breakfast. The non-diegetic sound was to deliver the shock and tenseness of their reality to the audience. The parents just committed first degree murder and don't now what steps to take at this point. The cuddling was to show the closeness between the parents. They are bonding through this lie and bad decisions in order to protect Kayla. The blue tones mixed with the dull grays of the furniture of the movie truly pop in this scene putting lots of emphasis on this depressing time for the parents. The overhead shot gives a looming effect showing how little and

powerless they now feel in their current situation and all they can really do now is wait for the inevitable.

As the mother gets up and goes to the window. The focus is not on her but on the blind closest to the camera and in a loading screen manner the focus slowly begins to move closer until it reaches her. This represents how delayed her actions and thoughts are. She continues to open windows in the kitchen where her family is now sitting. This stands out because in previous scenes she can be seen always shutting the blinds out of fear that her daughter would get caught for the murder of her friend - Brittney. She would go out of her way to conceal the family and now opening them was an interesting easteregg to spot. It's as if the Mother thinks the family is finally in the clear and won't have to deal with the situation any more.

As we now enter the kitchen, we see a silver table and chairs as the camera is now pointed at the family and only diegetic sounds from the clanking of dishes can be heard. After Rebecca had taken a seat, we see her in an uncomfortably long close-up. Rebecca can be seen quivering, in shock, about to cry. Then we cut to a close up of Jay where he is frozen. This shows how they are settling into their reality and now must reflect on their actions. The huge windows and light entering creates a halo effect on everyone at the table and flooding the entire scene with light.

Ganiah:

There's an unnerving silence mixed with the distressed faces of the parents. While Kayla nonchalantly eats breakfast. This fully demonstrates how the parents knowledge of the murder is weighing on the family. The camera does a great job of communicating this to the audience by panning from parent to parent and Kayla in close ups. The sound of bacon cooking is simultaneous just as Jay, is in frame with a faded out background and light emitting on the side of his face. The cooking sounds from Kayla, and the slow zoom closeup on Jay, further promote the idea of her forcing a normal life on her family despite the crime her parents just committed. As well as the lie she conspired in. Her dad while physically present for this scene is not mentally present as he is lost in a frozen state thinking about the murder. In a sense the cooking represents white noise or the ideal reality his daughter wants to place him in but he currently, can't be part of it.

Later in the movie it is revealed Kayla kept going along with the lie about killing her friend after seeing her parents getting along just like they were before they separated. Thinking back to the unnerving silence at breakfast, kayla is so nonchalant and happy because she only knows of the lie and her intentions. Nothing of what her parents have done to protect her.

Jay's close up, shows a bruise on his cheek and a cut on his lip. The closeup pans down to his shaky hands as he is spreading jam on bread. The camera focused on his nails filled with dirt is another hiccup in the reality Kayla hopes to create. This was the cost of her dream family.

Previously in the scenes Jay hasn't really had any reactions to his surroundings unlike his wife. In this part the loud clank of Kayla's dishes makes him flinch, possibly reminding him of the sound made when his wife hit Sam with the car. After traumatizing events it further shows how on edge he is since the prior night. Small things are startling him.

By creating the scene with the ideal image of how she wanted her family to be again but with her parents clearly devastated it shows the cost of the world Kayla was trying to force on her parents. A cinematic example of this is the high angle shot on Kayla as she exits the house and says "I love you", versus the low angle wide shot on the parents. It shows the extreme disconnect between both parties. The question is was all this it worth it.