Example Sentences using Glossary

Comparison Invasion of the Body Snatchers and ET The Extra-Terrestrial



Aesthetics

Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1956) utilises a stark black-and-white aesthetic, creating a sense of paranoia and tension through its high-contrast visuals and shadowy, eerie settings. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial (1982) contrasts this with a warm, nostalgic aesthetic, using a rich colour palette and soft lighting to evoke a sense of wonder and childhood innocence.

Auteur

Don Siegel, the auteur of Invasion of the Body Snatchers, imprints the film with his signature style of tight pacing and a pervasive sense of dread, reflecting the era's anxieties. Steven Spielberg's authorial stamp on E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial is evident in the film's emotive storytelling, seamless blend of practical effects and heartfelt moments, showcasing his ability to create profound connections between characters and audiences.

Cinematography

Invasion of the Body Snatchers employs close-up shots and low-angle perspectives to enhance the feeling of claustrophobia and fear, with its use of shadow and light playing a crucial role in building suspense. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial features sweeping, wide-angle shots, particularly in the bikeflying scenes, to convey a sense of freedom and adventure, alongside warm, natural lighting that underscores the film's emotional core.

Context

Invasion of the Body Snatchers was made in the 1950s, a time of McCarthyism and Cold War paranoia, and this context is reflected in the film's themes of invasion and loss of identity. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, created in the early 1980s, reflects a period of technological optimism and cultural shifts towards family-oriented storytelling, highlighting themes of friendship and acceptance amidst the backdrop of suburban America.

Generic Conventions

Invasion of the Body Snatchers follows the conventions of 1950s sci-fi horror, with its focus on alien invasion, societal fear, and a sense of impending doom. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial incorporates the conventions of a family sci-fi adventure, featuring an alien visitor, a suburban setting, and a heart warming narrative that centres on the bond between the extra terrestrial and a young boy.

Diegetic/Non-Diegetic Sound

Invasion of the Body Snatchers uses diegetic sounds such as the rustling of leaves and the eerie silence of deserted streets to heighten the tension, while its non-diegetic score amplifies the sense of dread and urgency. In E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, diegetic sounds include the playful chatter of children and the otherworldly noises made by E.T., with John Williams' iconic non-diegetic score enhancing the film's emotional and magical moments.

Genre

Invasion of the Body Snatchers is a classic sci-fi horror film, using the concept of alien infiltration to explore themes of paranoia and conformity. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial is a family sci-fi adventure, blending elements of science fiction with heart warming drama and the adventures of childhood.

Iconography

The iconography of Invasion of the Body Snatchers includes the alien pods, the vacant expressions of the 'snatched' individuals, and the small-town American setting, all symbols of the era's fear of infiltration and loss of individuality. In E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, the glowing fingertip of E.T., the flying bicycles, and the suburban neighbourhood are iconic images that evoke the film's themes of wonder, friendship, and the extraordinary within the ordinary.

Indie/Independent

Invasion of the Body Snatchers, although produced by a major studio, shares traits with independent films through its relatively low budget and focus on social commentary. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, despite being a mainstream blockbuster, retains a personal, intimate feel that characterises some independent films, largely due to Spielberg's direction and storytelling approach.

Key Lighting (High and Low)

Invasion of the Body Snatchers often uses low-key lighting to create deep shadows and a sense of unease, enhancing the film's suspenseful and ominous atmosphere. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, in contrast, uses high-key lighting to create a bright, warm, and inviting world, particularly in scenes depicting the children's interactions and the fantastical moments with E.T.

Mainstream

Both Invasion of the Body Snatchers and E.T. the

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Extra-Terrestrial are mainstream films, produced by major studios and designed for broad audience appeal. However, E.T.'s overwhelming success and cultural impact solidify its status as a quintessential blockbuster of its era.

Mise-en-scène

Invasion of the Body Snatchers' mise-en-scène includes the quaint, idyllic small-town setting that contrasts sharply with the growing horror of alien infiltration, along with the use of ordinary domestic spaces turned sinister. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial's mise-en-scène features the suburban home, the forest, and the moonlit sky, creating a backdrop that blends the familiar with the fantastical, enhancing the film's magical realism.

Motif

A recurring motif in Invasion of the Body Snatchers is the transformation and replication of humans, symbolising the loss of identity and autonomy, reflecting societal fears of the time. In E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, the motif of connection and communication, such as E.T.'s attempts to 'phone home,' underscores the themes of friendship, understanding, and the desire to return to one's roots.

Plot

Invasion of the Body Snatchers follows the story of a small-town doctor uncovering a secret alien invasion where humans are being replaced by emotionless duplicates. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial centres on a young boy who befriends an alien stranded on Earth, helping him evade government capture and return home, highlighting themes of friendship and loyalty.

Representation

Invasion of the Body Snatchers represents the pervasive fear of the 'other' and the threat of losing individual identity, mirroring 1950s societal anxieties. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial represents themes of empathy, acceptance, and the innocence of childhood,

showcasing a positive relationship between a human and an alien being.

Screenplay

The screenplay for Invasion of the Body Snatchers, written by Daniel Mainwaring, is tightly paced and filled with dialogue that heightens the tension and paranoia of the unfolding invasion. The screenplay for E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, written by Melissa Mathison, is known for its emotional depth, memorable lines, and the seamless blend of humour, adventure, and heartwarming moments.

Story

Invasion of the Body Snatchers tells the story of a community's gradual and terrifying takeover by alien beings who replace humans with emotionless replicas, exploring themes of identity and trust. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial tells the story of a young boy who discovers and befriends an alien, embarking on a journey to help him return home, highlighting themes of friendship, courage, and the wonder of the unknown.

Shooting Script

The shooting script for Invasion of the Body Snatchers would focus on capturing the film's tense and suspenseful moments, detailing the use of shadows and the gradual reveal of the alien threat. The shooting script for E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial would emphasise the film's emotional beats and the interplay between the characters, planning the iconic scenes that blend special effects with heartfelt storytelling.

Spectator

Spectators of Invasion of the Body Snatchers might feel a sense of mounting dread and paranoia, reflecting the film's intense atmosphere and the era's anxieties about conformity and invasion. Spectators of E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial are likely to experience a wide range of emotions, from wonder and joy to sadness and hope, as they become immersed in the touching story of a boy and his alien friend.

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