

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING FILM TEXT NOTES

Director: James Marsh

Production & Story Elements employed in this text.

- Lighting
- Sound
- Acting
- Camera Technique and Angle
- Setting
- Open / Development & Resolution
- Point of View

Opening:

Non Chronological Timing (10 seconds) – Set in the future

Out of focus camera composition

Reference to things going around (wheelchair doing circles, sounds goes round, bike tyre)

Foreshadow conversation about religion.

Lighting – Glow – golden reflector. Highlights faces. Creates a prestigious effect for the audience. Demonstrates the era.

First kiss – Panning backwards and overhead camera shot. Trumpet sound. This signifies the closing of the opening sequence. From here on the lighting and sound changes. This get darker for the audience.

Development:

Music changes – volume increases with emotion. Music fast, upbeat, dramatic.

Walking and acting begins to shift. Hand begins to fail him. Chalkboard scene.

Close-ups are employed. This conveys expression and helplessness to the audience.

Fade to black – This editing technique is often used to create a dramatic effect between life stages for the characters.

Lighting shifts to grey blue tones and filters and colour graded in post production editing added.

The golden glow has left the narrative. Hope seems lost for the love.

Sound – Music is frequently employed without lyrics. Instruments employed to reflect the emotional shift for the audience.

Golden glow lighting returns when the audience are invited to the wedding between Jane & Stephen. High-key artificial glow. Reflects internal emotions of the characters to the audience.

Editing – Montage of happy events take place. Beach scene when Jane asks for help. This foreshadows the affair.

Jane is constantly wearing blue – why?

Setting –

- University of Cambridge
- House – Stairs important
- Stephens dorm room

Why are these crucial to the narrative.

Camera & Acting are combined to reveal the disease debilitating Stephen's limbs. Low angle, close-ups of the legs are shown to the audience to reveal the limp and pigeon-like looseness of his walk.

Low key lighting is often employed in Stephen's dorm room to enhance the shadows and medieval nature of this debilitating illness.

Point of View –

You could discuss that the narrative is presented from Jane's Point of View. Think about how the audience know this.

Why are no lyrics used only melodies via musical instrument? Non-Diegetic sound is heavily used through the film. Projecting emotions of the highs and lows to the audience.

Music is often employed before each scene break. It prepares the audience for upcoming emotions within the scene.

Lighting reveals –

- Prestige
- Elites
- Science
- Wealth
- Love

Fade to black is often used to break scene intensity.

Lighting and sound are the two most powerful production elements employed in this narrative.

The colours blue and yellow and frequently shown through the text. Why?

Resolution –
The relationship comes to an end.

Stephen - "I have asked Elaine to come to America with me"
Jane – "I did my best – I have loved you".

Jane begins to wear cream and brown.
Piano sounds depressing and sad. However, slightly uplifting.

Jane finds happiness again. Piano in the chapel. This time it is diegetic
played by Jane's love interest.

Why the flashback to being able to walk and pick up the girl's pen?

Stephen - "Where there is life there is hope". (This comes back the
circle reference at the beginning of the narrative)

Golden glow light returns when Stephen meets the queen.

Circle fountain – children running around it.

Fast flashback in reverse. Stephen's Point of view.

Freeze frame on Stephen looking at Jane across the room.