Conclusion of Rear Window

The Rear Window was directed by Hitchcock in 1954. This is the highest ranking of his many films in IMDB. The most common association with this film is “voyeurism”. The Rear Window is like the relationship between the audience and the movie. Jeff peeks through the window at his neighbor’s life, the audience peeks at the film through the screen，and the voyeur peeks at the dreams and expressions of the filmmakers. All the perspectives in the film come from the unethical “peeping” of the photographer on the wheelchair by the window, so a lot of the shots are taken from the angle of the Jeff，the camera looks like the eyes of the Jeff, and takes the role of peeping from the audience. By looking for the life behind each window, it is not just about voyeurism. I argument that Rear Window is a metaphor for a story about family, responsibility, and love. The shooting techniques used in this film are mise-en-scene, camera proximity, and long shots.

First of all, this film uses the mise-en-scene that contains many love factors. The frame of the movie is the people living in the apartment. The director used the design composition, assigned scenes, and selected frames that constructing the Jeff’s psychological activities in the film. For example, we can see that Jeff’s line of sight has been following this salesman who livers opposite him. Jeff rarely observes the neighbors who live closest to him, whenever Jeff’s perspective looks at the couple, the couple is always quarreling, it expresses an implicit meaning. The regional space within this distribution scene shows Jeff’s view of love in the beginning. Jeff thinks marriage is like a prison for him, and family responsibility is also very heavy. Jeff doesn’t want to face marriage, so he naturally ignores the neighbors who live closest to him. The director showed the Jeff’s view of marriage through the mise-en-scene.

Every window is like a mirror that reflects a variety of lives. This visual arrangement gives the audience a clear view of the story. The director used the props and scenes very cleverly to show the story behind each window. The most impressed thing is to show a single woman living alone and a lonely musician through the piano, table, and other props in the film. We can see the changes and developments of the two people in the story through the mise-en-scene. For example, the director assigns each of these two individuals to a different set of scence frames, at the end of the story, the director arranged for them in the same scene. The musician was **playing the disc machine,** and the single woman was by his side. Also, there is a newlywed couple in the apartment, the director matches the different clothes according to the timeline of the story. The changes in these costumes explain the emotional changes of the newlyweds, such as from passion to quarrel. This film is from the perspective of Jeff that peek into the lives of neighbors, and the director used the mise-en-scene very reasonably to convey different views of love to the audience. At the same time, after experiencing these events, Jeff has a new perspective on love.

Secondly, the film shows the emotional changes of the protagonists through the camera proximity. In the second half of the film, when Lisa is gradually attracted and involved by the salesman’s wife-killing event, the lens is also changing quietly. For example, Lisa and Jeff appear more in the same frame, the scene is basically stable in the medium close-up. This means that Lisa has gradually changed from opposing voyeurism to agreeing with Jeff. Also, Jeff cannot move because of a leg injury, so Lisa took the initiative to go to the salesman’s home to find clues. When Lisa goes from the side of the window to the other side of the window, this is an internal montage, and she became a voyeuristic object. At the same time, Jeff’s feelings for her are gradually changing, his appreciation and love for Lisa is also deepening. In the climax of the film, Lisa goes to the salesman’s home to search for evidence, and the salesman suddenly returned home. At this time the lens gives Jeff a close-up, we can clearly see Jeff’s anxious expression, and his voice is stuck in his throat and cannot be called out. This kind of shooting shows Jeff’s concern and love for Lisa.

It is worth noting that the director used long shots to end the film. The camera starts from Jeff’s window that photographed the whole structure of the building and every window. Finally returned to Jeff’s room. When the lens turns to Lisa, she is wearing a simple pair of jeans, and she is reading a magazine about adventure. But when Jeff fell asleep, she picked up the fashion magazine again. From this perspective, the so-called change is only temporary. If they get married, they will be like the newly couple, or more extreme like the salesman’s couple. The end of this kind of shooting technique makes people think.

In conclusion, I think the director wants to express the different lives and the value of love by peeping.。。。