

Harold and Maude essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

The reason I feel that the director put his combination together is because he wanted to do something different, something that really is not displayed on the silver screen during that era, and that is suicide. I also feel that the reason Hal Shabby did this combination was to remind people who might commit suicide is that to keep your head up high and that it will get better no matter what you think. Another possibility is that Hal Shabby wanted to take advantage of the new Hollywood and do something daring.

2 The musical score by Cat Stevens (who makes a cameo appearance in the film) is crucial to this film's success.

Please give two reasons why this is true - using the match of scene and score to defend your answer. I believe that the reason why Cat Stevens music made this film so successful is because if you actually wanted to hear these songs that were probably not released on cassettes yet, so fans of Cat Stevens had to purchase tickets to see this movie just to hear parts of his songs. Another reason that I think why the musical score helped this film with its success is because during this time Vietnam was happening and my guess is that the music helped people be appear and it also helped everyone cheer up about the war. Please do a little research on the term " absurdist theater or " dark comedy. " How does this differ from a traditional comedy such as Some Like It Hot? (Please list web sites used.

) After doing some research I learned that dark comedy means that it's a comedy having gloomy or disturbing elements, especially one in which a character suffers an irreparable loss and also it is a comedy characterized by

morbid or grimly satiric humor. The definition of comedy is that a comedy film is a genre of film in which the main emphasis is on humor.

These films are designed to entertain the audience through amusement, and often work by exaggerating characteristics of real life for humorous effect. So after learning that, I can tell that a dark comedy is supposed to have tragedy and sad equations but will try to make people look on the bright side of that event through a comedic lens/ point of view.

All in all dark comedy just views things differently than regular comedy. 4

What are odoriferous?

What important narrative turn do they allow for in the film? In the film odoriferous are tubes of a certain scent and once you put on a certain mask, you can smell that smell. In the film it changed everything because it was when we actually see Harold smile for the first time without having it death related. Before that scene it was also more gloomy and more depressing, but after that scene Harold started to see everything in a whole new light and Maude was the whole new light. In the article by Susan King, "Hal Shabby, turbulent genius of the '80s" she refers to Hal Shabby as a "supernova" - please explain what she means and what signs of this you can discern in Harold and Maude. In the article by Susan King it said that one of the reasons he is like a supernova is because Hal sees things differently, like in Harold and Maude, it is about a suicidal teenager and a very feisty senior being together and that is something that is not normally found in society and something that is normally used for comedy.

It's this kind of life-affirming connection that finds beauty in tragedy and dark humor. " Another reason was because Hal Shabby had such a huge range as filmmaker because he could go from the superficial world of Beverly Hills' hairdressers and their sexual high jinks in ' Shampoo' or the really serious emotional dysfunction among Vietnam War vets and the tragedy that AR visited on people who survived it in ' Coming Home. 6 Where in the film does director Hal Shabby break the fourth wall? Why does he choose these spots to do so?

Discuss two of them and be sure to explain what the reason is for placing them in these scenes at these points in the film. The director Hal Shabby breaks the fourth wall throughout the film Of " Harold and Maude". One place where the fourth wall is broken is when Harold meets Candy for the first time.

Harold pretends to light himself on fire and then appears inside of the living room and obviously Candy runs out scared. As Candy runs away Harold looks at the camera and makes a connection with the audience.

I believe that the director did this was to not only make a connection but also to tell the audience that it would be appropriate to laugh at that point. Another part in the film where we see the fourth wall being broken is when Harold is about to shoot himself he looks at the camera. I think that Hal Shabby did this because he was trying to say something like he wanted to escape the life that he was living in.

7 What is the representation of us vs.. Them in this film? Remember, you don't want to think characters as much as you want themes on which the film focuses. Hint that for the class theme of us vs..

Them is represented by the beauty of life vs.. Death. The reason I say this is because in the beginning of the film Harold only thinks about death and Maude only thinks about life, so right off the bat we can tell that they are opposites.

We also see that the only time that Harold smiled was when he tried to kill himself but with Maude, she was happy throughout the whole movie. 8 What is Amadeus backstops? How does this contribute to her heartache in major ways?

In the film when Harold and Maude are looking at the seagulls we see Amadeus wince for a quick second and what we see is numbers like a banded. I believe that this contributes to Amadeus character because after surviving the concentration camps she now tries to see all the beauty in all of life every single day after being through something so horrible and destructive.

1 . Black comedy: A black comedy (or dark comedy) is a comic work that employs Blackmore, which, in its most basic definition, is humor that makes light of otherwise serious subject matter.

Black humor corresponds to the earlier concept of gallows humor. 2. Cult film: The mise en scene is so sparsely distributed within the confines of the framed image that the people photographed have considerable freedom of movement. 3.

Loose framing: The mise en scene is so sparsely distributed within the confines of the framed image that the people photographed have considerable freedom of movement. 4. Social commentary: Social commentary is the act of using rhetorical means to provide information on issues in a society.

This is often done with the idea of implementing or promoting change by informing the general populace about a given problem and appealing to people's sense of justice. 5.

High angle long shot: a shot in which the subject or scene is filmed from above and the camera points down on the action, often to make the subject(s) small, weak and vulnerable; contrast to low-angle shot 6. Breaking the 4th wall: when any character looks straight at the camera/ audience and makes connection with the audience 7. Cinephile: a person who loves cinema 8. Post-modernism: refers to a return to tradition, in reaction to more 'modernist' styles .

Off-camera space: refers to action or dialogue off the visible stage, or beyond the boundaries of the camera's field of vision or depicted frame; aka off-screen 10. Tilt shot: a camera tilted up or down on a diagonal along a vertical axis; a vertical camera movement from a fixed position often used to suggest an imbalance, or strangeness, or to emphasize size, power or menace; also known as tilt pan, tilt up or tilt down (or reveal), or vertical pan, although not technically the same as "pan up" or "pan down", similar to a moving close-up; a Dutch angle is filmed at an extreme diagonal tilt 1 .