

Blue velvet



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Editing and Blue Velvet This paper encompasses an examination of the editing in David Lynch's 1986 film Blue Velvet. The theme and editing techniques of Lynch will be discussed and contemplated in the essay. The thematic montage of this film is significant to this discussion and the editing of this theme by Lynch in the movie is even more important. David Lynch mixed film noir with horror film in Blue Velvet (1986) because of this to the novice, identifying the film's theme may prove difficult. However, the theme of Blue Velvet, no matter how difficult to identify at first, after perusal of the film and further consideration I have determined that the theme of Blue Velvet is an intellectual horror film.

The premise of the film being a horror fits into the niche of film noir. According to Dancynger film noir " highlights the world of the nightmare, it tends to rely less on movement and pace.' (Technique of film and Video Editing (p 175) I chose to use the word intellectual as part of the theme because film noir has an abstract side to it which encompasses my intellectual basis regarding the film. and considering the theme to be one of intellectual horror. The foundation of the movie revolves around the dark side of human nature, which combines both horror and intellect. To be more specific regarding the film and its theme if the theme is an intellectual horror which theme certainly includes the dark side of human nature and that is the main reason I have identified the theme of Blue Velvet to be an intellectual horror. The thematic montage is one of angst and the dark side of human nature that it stems from. The recurring image of the home is Lynch's way of introducing the theme each time the image of the home appears. Many objects are discovered out of sequence during the film. Here is a list of images Used by Lynch to emphasize the theme. These images are presented <https://assignbuster.com/blue-velvet/>

in a dreamy fashion however when considering the intellectual horror aspect of the film and its theme it becomes apparent that the horror lies in the everyday, the mundane and when this is disrupted, for example by the discovery of a severed ear, the mundane can become compels and horrible, thus the theme I have arrived at.

2. Here is a list of the shots that compose the and how they are displayed. He images in Lynch's direction and how they are presented lends credence to my premise for the theme of the film. These images are presented in a dreamy like fashion in the opening montage.

1. Tilt down from perfectly blue sky to red roses in Medium close-up against white fence. DISSOLVE to

2. Long shot: fire truck passing by slowly on tree-shaded small-town street, with fireman on it waving in slow motion. DISSOLVE to

3. Yellow tulips against white fence, close-up as at the end of shot 1. DISSOLVE to

4. Long shot, small-town residential street: traffic guard beckoning for schoolchildren to cross, again in slow motion. DISSOLVE to

5. Long shot: white Cape Cod house and yard. CUT to

6. Medium shot: Middle-aged man with hose, watering yard. CUT to

7. Long shot, interior: Middle-aged woman inside, sitting with cup of coffee on couch, watching tv, which displays black-and-white shot of man crossing screen, gun in hand, and from which

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issues sinister noirish music. CUT to

8. Close-up of hand holding gun on TV screen. CUT to

9. Man with hose, as in shot 6, but now off-center at screen left. (Dancynger p 175)

In conclusion, it can be said that the theme is one of horror, the horror of the normal and the everyday. Lynch presents his images out of sequence, displaying to the audience that when things are out of sequence is when they are experienced as horrible.

Works Cited

Dancynger, Ken. (2004)Blue Velvet - a mixed genre film with horror film sound. Technique of film and Video Editing (p 175 - 176)

Lynch, David. (Director) 1986. Blue Velvet. Sanctuary Visual Entertainment.