

No director entices me into a story more than Quentin Tarantino. In my opinion he is one of those directors that people either hate or love, and I seem to be the latter. The film *Inglorious Bastards* (2009) is one of my most favorite movies of his. It also is a great example for understanding film literacy as explained by Lacey. He uses many interesting techniques, such as camera angles, language and dialogue, all designed to further the story as well as to push more meaning into his film; more than just the story on the surface.

The first aspect of reading this film was my first sensual and immediate response. Just like a book, a piece of artwork or a picture, images, moving or not, can create feelings, good or bad. They can draw you in like Tom Gunning suggested or they could simply leave you bored and uninterested. This film from the first scene drew me in. It made me curious. The first scene showed a French villager working his day to day job, no music and quite quaint. Suddenly music started as a car drove up. There was a disruption very early on to the normality of life in this scene. It set me on edge and immediately got me drawn in. I hated the Colonel Hans Landa from the very start, with his fake politeness and subtle arrogance and dominance. Many of these initial responses continued throughout the film. This kept me in the story. But there is more to this film. This is what makes this film great.

In that first scene when Colonel Hans Landa is talking with the French farmer, the discussion goes from seeming to be a routine check to a shake down. Colonel Hans Landa gets very serious and seemingly knows that the farmer is hiding Jews. The camera suddenly starts to move spinning around the two while they are discussing. At the surface this seems interesting. What is the point of moving the camera around, circling the characters? I believe this to be symbolizing the mindset of the farmer as well as the situation. The farmer is realizing that he might have been caught. He doesn't know what to think as it seems to be all falling apart. His life or his family and most definitely his Jewish friends' lives are spinning down the drain. This is why the use of camera is so important in this instance. It gives more meaning to a scene subtly. The use of a close up was also employed in this scene. As Colonel Hans Landa got closer to the truth, the camera got closer and closer to their faces. This could signify everything coming down in on the farmer, but it also makes the audience feel more at unease being so close. This makes the audience feel the perspective of the farmer. In this case the camera angle was used for inciting certain emotions and feelings but also for portraying a deeper meaning.

While camera angles were adequately described by Lacey, language was left out. This was most likely due to Lacey referencing more to photos, however, in film where there is sound and dialogue, these too can be interpreted. Lacey explained the importance of looking socio-critical critique to the understanding of images. I think this could be brought to this film with the use of language in this film. From the get go, whenever characters spoke, they spoke in their native languages. It was not implied that they were speaking in their languages, it was shown. Initially I thought this was just to make the audience feel apart of the story. I thought this was grasping what Tom Gunning referred to about suspending disbelief. While I still believe this is a reason why it was used, I also do feel that there was a deeper meaning. This meaning becomes clearer as the film goes on. There was a line of dialogue by Bridgette Von Hammersmark that referenced Americans lack of being able to understand foreign languages. This was after a scene when the job went bad after language gave up the undercover agents in the basement tavern. Later, Lt. Aldo Raine, Pcf Omar Ulmer and St. Donnawitz are undercover as Italians. Once again, their inability and the ability of Colonel Hans Landa to speak many languages results in blown job. I believe that Tarantino used language and the meaning across that Americans weakness in the world is their inability to speak many languages.

It's with the use of language, dialogue and camera that Tarantino is able to add more depth and meaning to his films. While he is able to initially entice audiences with drawing them in and forcing them to interact with the scenes, he also hides deeper meanings. Tarantino shows that film is like any novel, it has a story but it also has a deeper meaning, one that lies beneath the surface and must be analyzed to see.