

Lines that touch me

Did you all watched the Avengers? Tony Stark, the Iron Man, sacrifice himself to save all the human. And the sentence that brought us back to the first movie of Iron Man 'I'm iron man.' So heart-stirring. Did you watch Batman? When joker said 'why so serious?', did you feel frightened? And also, besides these, there are some other movies containing beautiful lines. Every movie which was regarded as the classic works in the history must have some lines stand out from all of its script. So here is the question. What makes an outstanding line in a movie? Even more, is there a great movie or a great clip resulted in a great movie?

Foremost, the most important part of a great line is the great script. A good screenplay is about life. A good script comes from life and is easy to remember. Someone thinks that a good line is supposed to include a lot of information. It's even better that Shakespeare is quoted. However, if we search some prestigious lines in the history, most of them are short and clear. Meanwhile, the most important part is the difficulty of remembering. For example, most of you must be aware of <Titanic>. I believe you know what I'm talking about. 'You jump, I jump.' The most famous line in the movie history and the first Hollywood movie that was permitted to be on after the opening and reform. It's so short that some Chinese realize it's the start of Chinglish. But you can't deny that when Leonardo DiCaprio speak it out, this clip is fixed in people's heart. It's short, just as 'I'm iron man'. But it's unforgettable. So in my opinion, what makes a movie stand out is not information in the lines. It's the story behind it that attracts audience.

On the other hand, only great script can't lighten a line out of the script. In addition to the script, the second important factor is the performance of an actor. The same line in a different has different affection. There is a movie I appreciate very much named <Lord of War>. It's starred by Nicolas Cage. Let's watch the video clip of it. This line 'there are over 550 million firearms in worldwide circulation. That's one firearms for every 12 people on the planet. The only question is how do we arm the other 11?' is also used by Chinese movie named <Switch>. Seriously? Is this a real movie? I think it's most shitty movie I have ever seen. Sorry to say that. Whereas, due to the difference of the performance, the same sentences are used in two different movies play totally different roles. Just imagine, Cai Xukun used that tone, you know what I'm talking about, to say 'I 'm iron man'. What would happen? With all these mentioned above, there is one thing left. It is the least one but the most important element of a great line. The connection between the line and the reality. Let's watch a clip of a movie I mentioned last time. It's my favorite Chinese movie. I bet most of you have ever watched this film before. It's the most famous part. Right. <let the bullet fly>. No sentence of the part is unnecessary. Every sentence is closely connected to the reality. So close that we can apply it to different kinds of issue such as the trade war between China and US, the NBA problem and etc. Jiang Wen transport a very important information to us. Not only does the money matter, but also the dignity is important. This is the combination of movie and reality. When you watch a clip or a movie, you can identify with the actor, with the director and with the main role. Through the movie, you can associate it with your own experience and your own life. That is what makes a line stand out.

As a consequence, after all of these, for you, for ordinary people like us, when we judge a movie, when we decide whether it's a great line, we should follow the heart. Does this line make a great difference to me? No matter the script, the performance or the connection, what the line result in matters.

It reminds me that when I was young, the first time I watched the movie <the Shawshank Redemption>, at the end of the movie, Andy write: 'Hope is a good thing, maybe the best of thing. And no good thing ever dies'. I was shocked and touched. I eventually understand the meaning of hope after what happens to Andy Dufresne.

This is the magic of lines. This is the magic of movies.