* Reality TV is definitely not documentary but it borrows from the documentary genre
  + Cleary exaggerated and performed to the extent that documentary is not
* Documentary has a social purpose, reality TV does not
* Phatic – emphasis not on the meaning of the words but on communicating a certain idea
  + “Stay tuned”, “don’t go away”, etc.

Starts out with sweeping shots of people by the river

* + taking the ferry
* Three Gorges Dam
  + Everyone moved out
  + Flooding
  + Guy tricks other dude into following him
* Young kid smoking a cig
  + Caption – cigarettes
* Same shot from Dong – wall falling down
* Liquor caption when he tries to give liquor to his brother in law
* Conversation with brother Mark
  + Han bought his wife for 3000 yuan
* Other captions
  + Tea
  + Toffee
* Brother mark died
* Shared shots in Dong and Still life
  + Collapsing wall
    - Foreshadows a death
    - Demolition is an everyday event
    - No bystanders, no one looking at it as a spectacle
  + Sprayers and demolition workers
    - Dong you see the sprayers first
    - Still life you see the workers first
    - What exactly are they doing? Why are they wearing suits/masks? Doesn’t make sense
  + The corpse scenes
    - Unclear if the corpse is the same
    - We’re supposed to recognize the similarity b/t the two
    - Not identical scenes, just similar and echoing/reflecting each other
    - Same signifier: blanket, body
  + Sanming by the banister
    - Begins in Dong and continues in Still Life
    - UFO flies across the sky (Still life)
    - Later shot of building space ship taking off
* From Today, Cinema is Dead
  + Page 183 2nd paragraph – talking about photography vs. cinematography
* Record vs. Signification
  + Record – “trace”
  + Signification – the way records are manipulated to confer meaning
* Real 🡪 “Getting real”
  + Unrepresentable
  + Social realism
  + Awareness about mediation
  + Stand in 🡪 Fantasy
  + Real 🡪 Indistinct confusion
  + Awareness about mediation