

Media Writing Adv: Feature Film MART 521B

Analysis of Mulan

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What is the "problem" the protagonists have to grapple with?

Mulan must fight in the war so she can protect her dad. However, the society Mulan lives in forbids women from fighting in war.

What were the main characters' GOALS?

Mulan wants to be herself and to honor her family.

How did the main character clash?

Mulan disguised herself as a man and fought in the war.

What purpose in the story did any or a couple of side characters serve? [foils often talk a lot and speak about the lead character].

Mushu's purpose was to guide Mulan so that Mulan survives the war. Mushu was given this task by Mulan's ancestors.

What was the protagonist's arc in the story?

Mulan starts by attempting to be what her society wants her to be and fails. Then, Mulan attempts to be what she wants to be and succeeds.

How did events help them achieve that character change?

There were a few events that helped Mulan achieve this character change:

- Mulan's dad stating that Mulan dishonors him. This showed Mulan that she should try to be herself because she had nothing to lose.
- When Mulan climbs to the top of the wooden post with the weights. This showed Mulan that she is strong enough to be herself.
- Mulan "defeats" the Huns by causing an avalanche. This shows that Mulan has embraced herself and can use that to win the fight.

How did the great endings make these movies memorable? ENDINGS ARE SO IMPORTANT!

The ending was memorable to this story because the emperor showed that Mulan was still honorable.

What were some of her “setbacks”

The biggest setback was Mulan being a woman in their society. This meant that in order to save her father she would have to disguise herself to appear like a man. Her attempts to fit in kept her from being herself.

What about B-Plot (emotional growth) ... how did it intertwine with the A (action

The B-Plot of this story was Mushu attempting to become a Guardian of the family again according to the ancestors. This intertwined with the A-Plot because the task was to protect Mulan. The A-Plot and the B-Plot were centered around the characters becoming worthy again.