

Tutorial 2

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- Cold war
 - Sontag was writing during 1950s, the fear of the US of the cold war
 - (Welles, 1930 War of the Worlds. A broadcast of the film. It was famous, and people took it real.)
 - H.G.Welles
 - Criticism of British smugness, imperialism, national pride
 - Prediction of mechanized war (just off the heels of the Boer war despite being just before WWI)
 - Disaster as expanded consciousness
 - Restricted vs. unrestricted narration (one character's pov and the breaking away from the main character.)
 - Film(the one we watched) uses montages as the gimmick.
- War of the Worlds
 - Novum
 - Main distinction between SF and horror
 - There has to have a novum in the SF
 - A new thing not in our world, but in the world of the film
 - A scientific explanation of the novum in the film.
 - In the film: (the Martian and the spaceship)--the technological advancement--alien and its technological eye
 - Pseudo-science in real science, Mars is the closest planet to Earth, the real science, and the Martian is the pseudo-science
- Susan Sontag, 'The Imagination of Disaster'
 - Aesthetics of disaster
 - SF are not about science, but about disaster
 - Why focus on the aesthetics of destruction(41)
 - To differentiate the novum from the world
 - Film needed to compete with the television at the time
 - High budget SF films, the ability to create the disaster scenes.
 - 'sensuous elaboration'
 - Main attraction of the film--surround sound and the spaceship shooting laser
 - Verisimilitude
 - The SF Sontag was saying eventually changes
 - They were similar but they have to change at some point

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 - What's going on in the history technologically.--catch up the tech.
 - One point in a SF, people were using ipad...
 - The newer SF films should include more realistic facts than only just the visual attraction.(1960s)
 - Verisimilitude is one of the reason that SF had to change
- Design
 - Weird gimmicky/silly SF films
 - Not traditional pleasing
 - Design of the novum
 - Martian and spaceship's design, and why are they designed in a certain way
 - ◆ Seemingly believable
- Monstrosity
 - Monster are the novum, and function a particular way
 - Huge political metaphor/in ways the SF world works in its own political way. Allegorical
- Extreme moral simplification
 - Monsters are shown disgusting and bad
 - Science being linked to evil
 - Alien are more advanced, so are more close to god, but it is to the contrary
 - The end of people get protected by the god...
- Scientist character
 - Main character in the film
 - They always are given a wife, kid, girlfriend and etc.
 - He is really close to the monster
 - To show a fear of having science getting evil
- Depersonalization)brainwashing, takeover of people by aliens
 - The fear of taking over
 - Another fear which are Politically, socially driven
 - 'there is absolutely no social criticism, of even the most implicit kind, in SF films' (46)
 - SF at time was largely about entertainment, connecting to the aesthetic of disaster
 - SF as a popular genre
 - Things repeated in the film, and it wiped out the original criticism, (the idea of repetition)
 - Motivation of the quote--SF worked as an ideological influence and embodied the (national) fear
 - 1950s the theme is repeated over and over again. To prohibit the

- 1950s, the theme is repeated over and over again. To prohibit the criticizing from the society (play with prohibited things through a certain way, in this case, the repetition)
- Militarization
- Cold war context
- Totalitarian regimes