The book, “Streets of the Lost Footsteps,” by Lyonel Trouillot, talks about the hundreds of years of Haitian revolution, which led up to the riot in Port Au Prince, Haiti. The main narrators, the madame that owns the brothel, a post office worker, and a taxi driver narrates the violence from the troops of prophet, and the deceased forever immortal dictator. The movie, the Agronomist is a documentary of Jean Dominique who ran the first independent Haitian radio station, Radio Haiti-Inter. Both the book and the movie touch upon the numerous coup de tat over the years in Haitian revolution, and how the lives of the people are affected by the violence in the streets. Specifically, the book and film focuses on the fall of the Duvalier dictator and the presidency of Jean Aristide, the prophet.

The taxi driver talks about, “whenever there was political trouble the trip took two days, the great dictator Forever Immortals men would stop us in every dinky town” (19). We see that even after duvalier’s dictatorship was over there were still military opposition to Aristide’s presidency, and this continues the propagation in Haiti. In the film, we see that the radio station had gun shots over the whole building. Haiti has a long history of violence and bloodshed, and how the everyday people would live their life knowing that someone is dying on the streets everyday. The character, Laurence lives in a rich neighborhood, and is described by the narrator as “tragicomic symbols of ignorance” (17). The narrator talks about how Laurence only thought about herself and how she shields herself from the reality of the violence and bloodshed by refusing to acknowledge a world bigger than hers. The film mentions how the radio station brought back free speech of the people. Jean talks about how every garbage on the streets is seen by the power as opposition, and how he can smell the enemy (the macoute) every morning. There was one day where everyone in the radio station was arrested, and the radio station supplies were wrecked. The people of Haiti have to live in fear everyday and we see through Jean and the characters in the book go through the violence from the military.