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USSY 227 - Ehrlich

Travel Writing on Screen

22 November 2016

Final Writing Preview:

Travel and Gender as Presented in Class

I would like to continue studying gender's influence on travel and travel's influence on gender as presented in class through the road movie genre. I will be providing an analysis of three film scenes that depict an overarching theme relating gender and travel. From an analysis of these three film scenes and the readings done in or outside of class, I will attempt to create a conclusion by comparing and contrasting my analysis to other road movies viewed in class. I will be relating the commentary and analysis to my own embellished ideas of future travel to South Africa. I will then contrast my imaginary travel narrative against my parents' to reflect on ideas of travel and gender as depicted in film.

**Scene 1**

*Grapes of Wrath* - Grandma Joad's Death

Ma Joad shows an incredible ability to focus on "the everyday" by protecting her family in a variety of ways. Ma Joad often protects the family from emotional anguish (Grandma Joad's death, an untidy home) and physical pain (starvation), so she may continue her very active role as an "everyday" mother. In contrast, we see the men of the family make the hasty and FINAL decision to move westward for tales of riches.

**Scene 2**

*Mystery Train*- Foreign Japanese Couple

The couple shows a dichotomy on attitudes towards travel. Whereas the man seems very detached from his travel experiences, the woman seems overly engaged and much more affected by her displacement from "the everyday."

**Scene 3**

*Wizard of Oz* - Debunking the Emerald City's Wizard

The wizard, a man, embellishes his own existence while Dorothy, a woman, throughout the entire film has one purpose. Dorothy wishes to go home. She rejects self-dramatization as depicted in this scene. She denounces the wizard for his unjust attitude in pretending to be something greater than himself.