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The excerpt from the film “Citizen Kane” begins with a “No Trespassing” sign. This makes me begin to wonder what is being hidden. The camera moves and goes from the pattern on one fence to the next fence and the next. There seems to be a zoo because there are monkeys and a sign on a cage saying, “Bengal tiger.” There is then a lake or pond with a boat on it and lot of fog gliding through. There’s a golf course as well that seems it has not been used in a long time. In every scene shown the house is shown in the back. It is large and looks like a mansion or castle. Clearly very wealthy, then there is a man who says the word, “rosebud” and dies. The nurse or maid comes in and covers him with a sheet. Not alarmed or anything about what has just happened. The plot of the film seems to be what happened to this man, and what does his last word mean? The nurse who came in was almost waiting for this to happen and this is where the plot comes in, did someone kill him? The plot is going to revolve around who this man was because he hid himself from the world.

The main character is shown to be in a large house. From what we can see he is older and has lots of money. He has a nurse to take care of him, so he must have been sick. We also learn that the man must be bitter and not nice because he sets up the many fences around trying to keep everyone away. The thoughts the filmmaker is trying to make are in the beginning, hostility. There are shots of suspenseful scenes like the boat with the fog or the fences and “No Trespassing” sign. The filmmaker wants us to understand what this life has resulted in. The man has a lot of money but is isolated and not happy.

There is one word spoken throughout this excerpt from the film. The one word is, “rosebud.” The question revolves around what this means. As for the diction of the word I would describe it as mysterious, but symbolic. There is a reason only that one word is said. Through the first three minutes the one word is said, and the man says it with his dying breath. There are no other clues as for what this word means though.

The music is dramatic. There is a suspense that goes through your body when listening. Since there are not other words or sounds, you are using the music to tell the story. The music has a dissonant tone. Something is about to happen then the music dropped when the lights turned out in the one scene. (2:09) There is a sense of mystery within the music and that helps set the tone for the film. The music is mysterious, so the film is going to involve something mysterious.

The cinematography of the film helps create a dramatic tone. The camera pans through different scenes zooming in and out. In the beginning of the clip the camera focuses in on fences and there are multiple with different patterns this creates the effect of what is beyond this. At the end of the clip when the man is about to drop the snow globe the camera fades from a window into snow, that looks like it is from outside. The camera then zooms out and there is a house in a snow globe. Then the camera zooms to the mouth of the man and all we can see is his mouth. Then he dies and we see the snow globe drop and go down steps and break. These camera angles help establish mystery and the dissonant tone.