*Blade Runner: The Final Cut* Response

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According to the reading, the most important aspects of mise-en-scene are setting, costume, lighting, and staging. In *Blade Runner,* the detailed setting and lighting stood out as defining aspects of the reality where the film was set. The set pieces were extremely detailed, especially in the opening scene of the flyover of the Tyrell corporation building where the building looked like a circuit board and of The Bradbury building where Sebastian created his “friends.” I enjoy older sci-fi films because they show what people thought the world was going to look like, including technology and human behavior. In this case, the film took place in 2019 and we are far from deep space exploration, let alone planetary colonization and realistic AI. The unending rain is a warning about climate change and our impact on the environment and considering the original film was made in 1982, this shows the research that went into the film to create an accurate version of the future. Deckard’s apartment also had a similar detail with the liquor bottles, pictures and clutter. The lighting was also an extremely helpful tool that helped the audience understand the narrative. Since most scenes were dark, the audience’s attention was directed towards light or lighter objects in the scene. There were many amazing uses of the lighting in this way, but my favorite was when Deckard took a drink of a clear liquid and the shot glass was in the light where the audience could see the cloud of blood drip into the glass from his face injuries. Roy’s character arc and final scene were the most impressive aspects of the entire film. Although he is an AI, he shows empathy when killing his maker and ultimately expresses freewill at the end by choosing to not kill Deckard, even though he is a combat model, meaning he is programmed for violence. The tears in water monologue is extremely profound and it stuck with me after I watched the film and it was improvised. I always do research after watching a film including watching all Youtube videos about it because my favorite movies leave the audience with a question about the ending or the identity about a character and I enjoy reading all of the potential endings that people come up with. Although this film made it very clear that Deckard was a replicant, there are many other theories about the world that Ridley Scott created. Overall, I absolutely loved this film not only because it is my favorite genre, but because it was extremely detailed in its design and overt in its use of mise-en-scene.

I actually just started reading *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep,* so I am excited to continue learning about the world that Ridley Scott took inspiration from.