

PHI315 : Nov 27 | Melancholia

There are things we need to discuss and then we will discuss the film.

1. **Existential Dread in “Melancholia”:** How does “Melancholia” portray existential dread, and in what ways does this portrayal align with or challenge existentialist thought?
2. **Freedom and Choice:** Considering existentialism’s emphasis on individual freedom and choice, how do the characters in “Melancholia” exercise their freedom in the face of inevitable doom?
3. **Absurdity and the Cosmos:** How does the film’s cosmic catastrophe reflect the existentialist concept of the absurd, and what does it say about humanity’s place in the universe?
4. **Isolation and Connection:** In what ways does “Melancholia” explore the existential themes of isolation and the human desire for connection?
5. **Existential Anxiety and Nature:** How does the movie use the natural world and cosmic events to symbolize or evoke existential anxiety?
6. **Authenticity and Inauthenticity:** Analyze the characters’ behaviors in “Melancholia” through the lens of existentialist ideas of authenticity and inauthenticity. How do these concepts manifest in their actions and choices?
7. **Nihilism and Meaning:** How does “Melancholia” address existential nihilism, particularly in its exploration of finding or losing meaning in life?
8. **Facing Death:** How do the characters in “Melancholia” embody or reject existentialist attitudes toward death and mortality?
9. **Existentialism and Mental Health:** Explore the intersection of existentialism and mental health as depicted in “Melancholia.” How does the film portray the existential crisis in the context of psychological disorders?
10. **Artistic Representation of Existential Themes:** How does “Melancholia” as a work of science fiction uniquely contribute to the understanding or expression of existentialist philosophy?