Beasts Of The Southern Wild DVD cover analysis



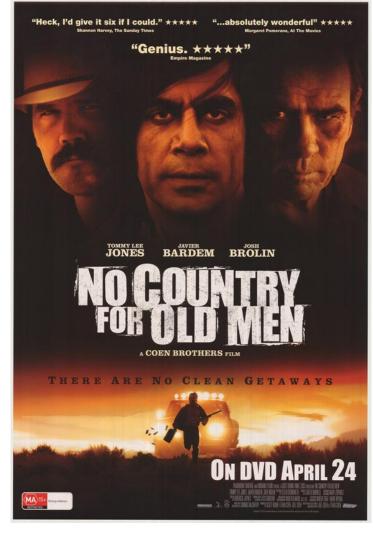
The correlation between the title and the cover image shows that this is a story of liberation, this is readable by the way by the way the main character is running with fireworks at a long shot which is quite a freeing way of celebration and the way the light comes out of the fireworks is a metaphor for this. The title links to this by they way the character is wearing rags and the personae of the title is named a 'beast', through this we can tell that the humans that represent 'beasts' in this film go through a venture of freedom.

As this is an indie film there aren't any cast members that attract attention through famosity but there are five star reviews from large newspapers and magazines such as 'The Times', 'Rolling Stone' and 'Daily Telegraph', these large names don't only attract their readers but also common dvd users as they are the names that are put on successful mainstream movies. Not only does this attract a mainstream audience, but viewers insensitive to genre and open to watching Indie films. It doesn't seem to be targeted at an aspiresers audience because it appears to represent a political message.

At the bottom of the cover there are numerous winning awards from well respected film festivals. Not only the title but the background both heavily suggest that this film is set in quite the opposite of most American films. This is especially emphasized by the second half of the title 'the southern wild' which is a direct example of how this motion picture's setting is going to be diverse especially because this is an American film, the purple background signifies independence in addition to its differentiated location. The covers colour palette creates heavy stylisation not only because of the firework effect (which could be indicating unorganised culture because the sparks being fabricated by the effect) but because green (which signifies greed and the environment) is opposing with purple (which signifies independence) on the colour wheel which represents the opposing forces of the film (which is set in the environment) where people must fight for their independence because of another's greed.



This back cover opens the film up to a wider audience by simply including the photo of the main character who is a child. This gives more accessibility and relatability for a younger audience. The manner in which this is medium close up gives space for the background which is a forest or jungle which would iconically represent an adventure film but as this is not high budget and indie, it may appeal to adventure fans but not be primarily of the adventure genre. The medium close up also captures a classic childish charm due to the character looking upwards with three point lighting with the light on her face, this suggests that the film is not only from the point of view of an infant but will have more of a psychological perspective. The costume the character is wearing (essentially rags) strongly implies that this film deals with poverty and the third world. This may be trying to show that this isn't just a movie but a political statement that is emotionally impactful. The positive reviews on the top of the back cover would majorly appeal to readers of those magazines/newspapers regardless of genre preference. It looks as though it may be watched for information and learning due to the way it appears to be a political message.



This dvd poster presents the film's dynamics, character oddities and the grim tale of progression within its own world. To start off with we know this film is most likely going to achieve the same or more critical acclaim as past Coen brothers films (except from The Ladykillers and Intolerable Cruelty which were made from the influence of other films). Because of their previous films we can presume that the characters in this film are ones that have a level depth that you feel like even though you will never meet someone like them, you know that somewhere in the world people like them exist. In the main three roles there is the academy award winning Tommy Lee Jones as well as Javier Bardem who won his oscar from this film and Josh Brolin who went on to work with the Coen brothers after this being his first partnership with them. This cast will attract audiences who have seen their forgoing films (The Goonies, The Sea Inside and The Fugitive which all came out before No Country For Old Men).

The marketing (five star ratings) would appeal to the readers of those selected magazines/newspapers but the five stars alone just being on a dvd cover tends to enthral most viewerships. The tagline 'There are no clean getaways' not only suggests that there will be at least one chase scene but there is havoc within the world of which the film is set in that thrives from the flaws of humanity. This substantiates the grimness of this film and how it doesn't hold back on the brutality of what people will do to each other, this notion is usually because of money in films meaning the film most likely involves a large sum of money that causes one man to go after another. The individual who journeys after the person with the money would most likely be Javier Bardem due to his ultimately terrifying look (as 'the bad guy'), Josh Brolin is most likely to be the person with the money as Tommy Lee Jones is older than his co-stars and with the title being No Country For Old Men, it may being discretely referring to his involvement with the main plot/chase. The main picture (an extreme long shot from in the film) further enforces that there will be a chases within the film. The three heads of the characters at the top of the cover is commonly used within films and blatantly advocates that there will be major crossovers with the characters. However, as Tommy Lee Jones is older and the title shows the disinvolvement of his character. This could mean that he only trails behind the main collision between the other two characters meaning his character could be a policeman as that is usually a trailing position (especially within films). The person running away from the truck at the bottom of the cover (most likely Josh Brolin because of the western grass and his cowboy hat at the top of the cover) includes the idea of overwhelment but with the overall representation of the film (being dark and grim) it could mean the characters death. Since the shot for the picture is an extreme long shot it may be signifying that what is happening with the characters has space to move meaning multiple location changes within the film but the colour of the sky in the bottom and the smooth hill in the background along with the western themed grass in the photo could mean that a lot of the film is in a desert setting. Alternatively the close up three shot of the characters represents the intensity between the characters and how physically close they get to each other within the milieu of the film because of how near they are to the camera. There being chase scenes means that the film amongst other genres will be an action film, action films are one of if not the most watched genre of film due to the sheer escapism and visual excitement they provide. This movie will not only attract Coen Brothers fans but also a mainstream audience. It would likely be watched for escapism, this is because of the plot and unrealisticness that it represents. The ethnicity and gender of the main characters aren't varied and are all white males. This may not appeal to aspirers as there isn't a range of characters to aspire to.



The in film images being used on this back cover draw in its mainstream audience by the choice of 'mise en scene', it sets a thrilling atmosphere with its three point lighting especially its use of blood within it (the medium close up at the higher part of the cover). This film may appeal to an older audience who grew up on Westerns due to the way its seems to be set in the same location type as a western as seen in the middle bottom medium close ups in which the photo's surrounds presents itself to be the eye catcher. The high key lighting in those photos is what reveals the environment and by the characters NVC which is them not exposing their face to the camera. The rolling stone quote "The Coens at the peak of their powers" not only attracts their audience but as it is a mainstream magazine, it would also entice a fair share more than its reader base. This would definitely be seen for escapism due to it being an "action-thriller" however, the way the Coens write their stories may cause it to be watched for 'Social relationships' as there may be perspectives of this film causing opinions to be shared.

Film plan. (WIP)

Title: Streaked Paranoia

Plot: A lonely chef is cutting meat and he finds that there is cat ear stuffed inside of the unspecified meat. The chef goes to the butchers to get a refund when he walks through the chain curtain door entrance but no-one is by the counter. The Chef smells smoke and coughs, he then leans over the counter and sees a dead cat with a missing ear hanging through the open freezer room door. He climbs over the counter with the cat ear in his hand. He walks into the freezer room and makes some noise. Whilst he is looking at the cat, a young man with a butcher's uniform walks behind him freezes and stares with a cigarette in his left hand. The chef (still wearing an apron) turns around and says "why would you do this" (first line in the film). The man shakes his head slowly but constantly and starts slowly walking back, "wha... why would you do that" says the man. And the Chef starts to panic and his narrative voice says "This man, he must be lying, I wouldn't do that to an animal, I don't remember doing this, No it was just him, this is his fault". The Chef looks down, his feet are moving slowly towards the backing away man. The man says "stay back, listen man i don't cut the meat around here". The chef looks at his hand and he is holding a meat cleaver, (narrative voice) "When did I pick this up". The man says in a panicking voice "Stay Back, i'm calling the police". He tries to pick up the phone but the Chef swings at him with the cleaver. The stops it with his hand but it sinks into his flesh, the man kicks his knees and grabs the cleaver off him and cuts the chefs chest with it.

(The Chef has paranoia and tries to stay away from getting in trouble at all costs)

Matrix-Interrogation analysis

Right from the start, this scene gives the sensation of an abnormal presence due to the sickly green colour that is filtered throughout the shots, this vibe is also presented by the strange zoom in. There is an overpowering ambience from the characters who are obviously the 'bad guys', this is due to the main character sitting down whilst the antagonists are standing with the camera at a high angle. Furthermore there is more of the abnormal atmosphere with the character looking nervous and uneasy but this stands out even though it would be a normal reaction in the situation the protagonist is in. A creepy tension is built up with the intensity of the antagonist deliberately completing the action of putting down something in an eerily gradual way. Following this there are plenty of shot reverse shots which is constantly switching back to the protagonists face where he is obviously trying to 'keep his cool', this is delineated by his low posture and permitting his chin down. The tone of the antagonists voice acts as a equally reversing metaphor for how the scene is being shot which is accompanied by extremely slowly spoken speech. There is a clash of possibilities for what the main character as with his unheard voice you can infer that he is panicked beyond the confidence of speech. On the other hand the main character's face is masqueraded a more confident in comparison to his previous expression. On the whole the scene is building up to what would most likely be a tense unearthly event.

The effectiveness of shot types and editing techniques in doctor who video

Within the first few seconds the very first shot type is a close up which (and with the cutting to black and back) gives a claustrophobic feel but it also acts a a solid opening with the camera slowly moving away from the subject/focus. Shortly after there is a eyeline match along with the characters troubled look which gives a sly feeling that something is wrong, this is followed by a long canted hot in quite a tight space which not only brings back the claustrophobic from the opening shot but adds the expression of disorientation. This ensues with an action match as the character enters through a doorway. There is then an over the shoulder shot of the character completing an action which subsequents with a seamlessly shot eyeline match (with the canted effect of every shot still being used for the effect of sinisterness). Shortly after there a close medium shot which is used to show the peculiar slightly horrific commotion that is taking place which consequently has a close up of the character's confused reaction, this is seamlessly interrupted by a noise in the background which attracts the character's attention. All while still being canted, with a couple of action matches through doorways the character finds the source of noise which is filmed at a high angle with the character being below and giving a strong feeling of impotence and makes it feel like the character is losing authority of what is going on around her (which could be seen as foreshadowed due to the idiosyncratic action that previously caused the character's confusion). This succeeds in a build up in the characters panic which may also affect the audience in a similar way as it is a by-product of the lack of knowledge around the situation that is unfolding.

Media editing lesson

Before editing the actual video on the software, I uploaded the footage from the previous lesson which was a re-shooting as the the previous film needed more polish so it would've been more efficient to restart. The footage consisted of various shot types, some examples would be close ups, over the shoulder and longshots. There were also a few film editing techniques that only required the camera to do such as the 180 degree rule, shot reverse shot and action match. After filming I uploaded the footage using image capture which led me to then upload onto premiere. Once on premiere i selected new project and then browsed to find the appropriate frame rate (25fps) in the 1080p section and then uploaded the recorded videos onto the new sequence. From there, I previewed the different videos and decided which ones would be in the final edit. After eliminating the clips down to the best ones available, I dragged them into the area that would let me do the digital editing. After that I then put all the clips in chronological order according to when they were filmed as the film was recorded that way. As there were some videos that needed cutting I cropped them by using the cursor to drag the video to a smaller size. But before doing that I made sure to render all of it as to avoid any frame issues when cropping a shot. At this point I was out of time but later on I will do more such as adding a sound effects or music which may be a nice addition to the work. I will also continue to crop some of the clips if they appear blocky or unsmooth but if that doesn't work I may have to resort to the program's default transitions which will not look at professional unless used in specific circumstances. Even though it wouldn't be used in the final cut, it may be useful for future reference to experiment with the special effects.

Shot Types



An extreme long shot is in place so that the characters location and surroundings are apparent. It gives the audience knowledge of where or what a setting is/is like.



Close ups are designed to give the audience information about how the character is feeling-his facial expressions show his emotions, it is commonly used in the horror genre.

Medium shots are commonly used in combination with other shot type but are used to do slower paced scenes like conversations, driving(which can be fast paced) and calmer activities



POV(point of view) shots are used to give a perspective from the character's eyes, it is commonly used to give a claustrophobic feel or a sickly feel.

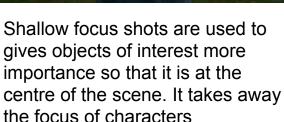


High angled shots are created to give a falling feeling as it is looking down for example in action films it is used when someone jumps out a widow and is falling down, makes the person less superior-vulnerable.



Over the shoulder shot are used for things like fighting, conversation and approaching scenes that will almost always involve more than one character, it is commonly used in gangster film.







Establishing shots are landscapes, they inform the audience that something is starting and gives breathing room for other shots as it usually lasts and fades out unto the start of something.



Long shots are all used to show off a character's actions and what he is doing, it can vary from fast to slow paced things and can fit with a lot of things.



Medium long shots are used to either show the movement of characters or dialogue.



Canted shots are tilted so that they can give a sickly or uneasy feeling, it gives the feeling of claustrophobia and unsettlement. It is commonly used in horror game.



Low angle shots are designed around giving characters an element of power and superiority. It is used in things like superhero movies as to give them the essence of power.



Two shots are used to show two characters together most likely having a physical or verbal interaction.



A full focus shot is to transfer the attention of something to a character making them the centre of attention.