

Birthday's and Other Trauma's Discussion Questions

1. Rate the film on our 5 Star scale for entertainment value.
2. A plot point is a significant event within a plot that digs into the action and spins it around in another direction. Summarize the main plot point(s) of this film short.
3. There is a real focus on production design in this film short. Production design is the overall look of a film that illustrates the setting and visual style of the story. Discuss the visual style and how it supports the main plot point(s) of the film.
4. There is a significant focus on colour in this film. What is the primary colour used and provide why you think that colour was used.
5. The colour in the film changes twice in this film. Why? What is this colour(s) and how does this change help this film short?
6. What is the significance of all of the pets being toys and not real?
7. Discuss the performance of the main actor Oscar. How does his look and performance support the plot in the film?
8. The mother is a major supporting cast member. Discuss her character and why she is so important to the theme of this film.
9. What is the theme of this film short?
10. What genre would this film belong to? How do you know? Provide an example that demonstrates this film's membership to that genre.
11. Oscar makes a significant choice at the end of this film. What was it? How does this support the theme?
12. What is the significance of the clown in this film? What does it represent?
13. The chorus lyrics of the music (Kenny MacLean) that ends the film has significant value to the meaning of this film. What is the important lyric and how does it support the film's theme?
14. Katie Yu is the director of this film short. Find her on IMDB and find out what she does now. Provide her main job title and list a few shows/films she's worked on.

BONUS: Find 3 short films on Youtube (3 minutes or less) that feature excellent dialogue. Provide the links and a sentence on why you thought they were excellent examples of dialogue in film.