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The Straight Story

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Chapter 2 Assignment (The Straight Story)

Out of all of the movies I watched in this assignment, the straight story was one of my favorites. It’s a story about a retired farmer, Alvin Straight, who goes on a road trip on his tractor to see his brother Lyle who just had a stroke. Alvin and Lyle had not spoken in years and were not on the best terms, and Alvin was determined to make things right in the end.

Protagonist: The protagonist in this film is absolutely Alvin, he is the main character and over the course of the movie everybody falls in love with him. His simplicity and his determination make him a great character. His only goal was to get to Wiscnonsin to see his brother and he tracked it down wholeheartedly.

Conflict: The conflict in this movie is the massive amount of miles that Alvin needs to go on his tractor. Along the way he catches many snags but also many breaks. His health is also a major issue as Alvin is old himself, but It’s the adventure on the road and the series of conflicts that helps add to one “big picture” conflict.

Genre: I would categorize this film as an adventure drama, the love and symbolism that comes with this film combined with being on the road is what makes this genre.

Theme: The theme of this film is to live your life to the fullest and to never hold a grudge. It’s to always make good with your family and to never take your health for granted.

Are the Characters Relatable: I think that the characters in this film are extremely relateable. The situation with Alvin and his brother Lyle being so distant, and both of their health dwindling is something that many families have to go through. But the way alvin goes through his journey and the people he touches along the way are what make this movie great. Because they are all relatable, and they love Alvin so much because they can relate to his pain and agony.

What can I take away from this film to help me write my story: I loved Alvin and would like to have a lot of his qualities in the character “arthur” in my movie. I loved how simple and kind hearted he was, and much he wanted to see his brother. He was a man that was willing to do whatever it took to fulfill his goal.