# Assignment 2: Part II: Movie 11: 2046

1. **Who is the protagonist of the story?**

Mr. Chow

1. **What is the conflict that drives the narrative?**

The relationships we have in our lives, how we fall or don’t fall in love with different people.

1. **What is the theme of the film?**

The romantic love in relationships.

1. **Are the characters relatable? Why and why not?**

Love, or the lack thereof, is what turns the world around, sound these characters are definitely relatable.

1. **What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?**

To emphasize the universality of the human condition such as love and other emotions, if using different lives in different times, have the stories be the same and run parallel to each other, thus, linking across different times to make it more realistic.

At times, blocking the face of someone who is talking increases the tension of the scene e.g. when the characters talk on the phone in the movie, the audience cannot see their faces.

To begin the movie towards the end of the story, or to make it non-linear, provides tension to the audience as they try and figure out what is going on.

Repeating quotes between the different times emphasize the point the story is trying to make e.g. the quote about telling the secret to the tree occurs in the 2046 futuristic story as well as in the times set in the 1960s.

Wong Kar Wai uses beautiful jewel / glass / mirror like transitions between the conversations of two people e.g. Mr. Chow at Christmas dinner and the lady who is in love with the Japanese man.

The use of changing light on an actor conveys different emotions e.g. with the androids on the train, dark and then light when they are crying.

At the end, with Mr Chow in Singapore, he is sitting and gambling at a table, he is sitting very still while everyone else around him is a blur all the while with everything in slow motion, it conveys emotions and someone in a bad way very effectively.

This movie highlights the fact that the actors need not over-act, they do not need to show so much emotion, the dialogue and the cuts will provide the emotional impact.

The idea of repeating the same dialogue as voice overs for emotional effect e.g. “Why can’t we be together” was said during a conversation and while Mr. Chow is walking away, it is also said in a voice over.

Wong Kar Wai used the futuristic story as an analogy for the resolution of Mr. Chow’s story gave the audience a more entertaining movie, even though the scenes in the 1960s were visually beautiful, it was good for the eyes to see a totally different time and lives.