# Assignment 2: Part II: Movie 7: The Foundation

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

There is one protagonist which plays three different characters across three different stories. The first story identifies the protagonist as Tomas who is a Conquistador (Captain) in a Spanish army. The second story identifies Tommy as a doctor who is trying to heal his wife’s brain tumor using a specimen of a tree from South America. The third story identifies a Buddhist type character accompanying a tree in a sphere traveling through space.

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

The conflict that drives the first story with Tomas is that the Queen is surrounded by enemies and needs to find the Tree of Life to defeat them. The 2nd story deals with Tommy trying to find a cure for his wife’s brain tumor where he is running out of time. The 3rd story deals with the protagonist trying to keep the tree in the sphere alive until he can get to the dying star to cure the dying tree.

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

All three stories deal with trying to find a cure for death, to find immortality through the tree of life.

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

Tomas, the conquistador is a patriot who is trying to save his country and his queen. He is also in love with his queen and will do anything such as kill his countrymen and go on explorations to other parts of the world to help save her. This is relatable as being human, we all would do anything for the people we love.

The same goes for the 2nd story with Tommy trying to do anything to save his life and at times, we forget our humanity and the need for the other person to be with us as we can be so focused on helping them that we might forget what they really need.

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

* The Fountain links all these stories through books (The Fountain written by Tommy’s dying wife), through sayings e.g. the death is the road to awe which is used in the 1st story by the Mayan defender and in the other stories, through physical objects such as the pen and ink which is given to Tommy by his dying wife and he uses it in the 3rd story or the wedding ring.
* By linking the stories by books which tell the story of the other lives, it keeps the audience guessing which story is real and the other just a legend but in fact all three lives are real e.g. Izzie from the 2nd story writes a book called The Fountain which tells the 1st story.
* To grab the audience’s attention, the stories can be told in a non-linear fashion, not chronologically e.g. the fight between Tomas, the conquistador and the Mayan starts the story off but actually resolves towards the end.
* The theme itself of immortality is the reason to have three different stories to show life after death e.g. when the Spanish Queen tells Tomas that they will live together forever.
* In my movie, I would likely not have the same two actors in the different lives, too obvious and would like to try and do something new.