

[MUSIC IN]

WELCOME TO CINEMA SOUNDTRACKS, I'M YOUR HOST EVE ELLIOTT. FOR THIS EPISODE I'M GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT THE SOUNDTRACK TO WES ANDERSON'S SECOND FILM, RUSHMORE.

[MUSIC OUT]

RUSHMORE IS ABOUT AN ECCENTRIC TEENAGER NAMED MAX FISCHER, PLAYED BY JASON SCHWARTZMAN, WHO IS PASSIONATE ABOUT HIS SCHOOL, RUSHMORE ACADEMY.

[MOVIE CLIP #1]

NEAR THE BEGINNING OF THE MOVIE HE MEETS AND BEFRIENDS HERMAN BLUME, PLAYED BY BILL MURRAY, WHO IS THE FATHER OF ONE OF HIS CLASSMATES.

[MUSIC IN]

AS THEIR FRIENDSHIP BEGINS, THEY DISCOVER THAT THEY ARE BOTH FALLING IN LOVE WITH A FIRST GRADE TEACHER NAMED ROSEMARY CROSS. HERMAN AND ROSEMARY GROW CLOSER, LEAVING MAX TO STRUGGLE WITH THE REALITY THAT SHE IS NOT INTERESTED IN HIM AND HE IS EVENTUALLY EXPELLED FROM RUSHMORE AND ENROLLED AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL. HOWEVER, BY THE END OF THE MOVIE HE REALIZES THAT HE DOESN'T NEED ROSEMARY OR RUSHMORE TO BE HAPPY AND THE MOVIE TURNS INTO A WONDERFUL COMING-OF-AGE STORY.

[MUSIC OUT]

THE FIRST SONG I'M GOING TO PLAY FOR YOU IS "MAKING TIME" BY THE CREATION. THIS SCENE IS SET UP BY THIS CONVERSATION BETWEEN HERMAN BLUME AND THE HEADMASTER OF RUSHMORE ACADEMY.

[MOVIE CLIP #2]

[MAKING TIME IN]

AS THE MUSIC COMES IN, WE SEE A MONTAGE OF ALL OF THE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES THAT MAX IS INVOLVED IN AT SCHOOL. SOME OF THESE INCLUDE FRENCH CLUB PRESIDENT, DEBATE TEAM CAPTAIN, ASTRONOMY SOCIETY FOUNDER, RUSHMORE BEEKEEPERS PRESIDENT, AND MAX FISCHER PLAYERS DIRECTOR. THIS SONG CREATES AN UPBEAT AND ENERGETIC MOOD THAT MATCHES THE AMOUNT OF EXCITEMENT MAX FEELS ABOUT BEING AT RUSHMORE.

[MAKING TIME OUT]

DESPITE BEING EXTREMELY INVOLVED AND VERY CREATIVE, MAX DOES NOT HAVE THE GRADES TO BE AT RUSHMORE AND INSTEAD RELIES ON HIS SCHOLARSHIP TO KEEP HIM THERE. THIS INFORMATION SETS UP THE REASONING FOR HIS EXPULSION LATER ON IN THE MOVIE.

SHORTLY AFTER THAT SCENE, WE ARE INTRODUCED TO HERMAN BLUME.

[NOTHIN' IN THE WORLD IN]

HERMAN IS ATTENDING HIS TWIN SONS BIRTHDAY PARTY BUT IS SITTING ALONE AT A TABLE OPPOSITE THE REST OF THE GROUP, INCLUDING HIS EX-WIFE AND HER NEW HUSBAND. HE IS SHOWN SMOKING, DRINKING, AND ABSENTMINDEDLY THROWING GOLF BALLS INTO THE POOL. THE SONG BY

THE KINKS TITLED “NOTHIN’ IN THE WORLD CAN STOP ME WORRYIN’ ‘BOUT THAT GIRL” PLAYS IN THE BACKGROUND. AT THE END OF THIS SCENE, HERMAN JUMPS OFF THE DIVING BOARD AND JUST SITS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE POOL FOR A MOMENT.

[SPLASH SFX]

THE SONG AND THE SCENE ARE USED TO SHOW A CONTRAST BETWEEN HERMAN AND MAX. WHILE MAX’S SONG IS LOUD AND ENERGETIC, THIS SONG IS MUCH QUIETER AND MORE MELANCHOLY, ILLUSTRATING HERMAN’S DEPRESSION.

[NOTHIN’ IN THE WORLD OUT]

UP NEXT IS A NINE MINUTE SONG BY THE WHO CALLED “A QUICK ONE WHILE HE’S AWAY”. I WOULD RECOMMEND LISTENING TO THE WHOLE SONG, BUT FOR OUR PURPOSES I’LL PLAY YOU THE SHORT PART OF THE SONG THAT IS USED IN THE MOVIE.

[A QUICK ONE IN]

THIS SCENE IS ONE OF THE LIGHTEST AND MOST HUMOROUS IN THE WHOLE MOVIE. IT SHOWS A MONTAGE OF HERMAN AND MAX GETTING BACK AT EACH OTHER AFTER THEY REALIZE THEY ARE BOTH IN LOVE WITH ROSEMARY. MAX RELEASES A SWARM OF BEES INTO HERMAN’S HOTEL ROOM, HERMAN RUNS OVER MAX’S BIKE WITH HIS CAR, AND MAX TAKES THE BRAKES OUT OF HERMAN’S CAR. THE SCENE ENDS WITH MAX GETTING ARRESTED AND HIS DAD HAVING TO BAIL HIM OUT OF JAIL. THE SONG DOES A GOOD JOB OF

GIVING THIS SCENE A LIGHTER TONE EVEN THOUGH THE CHARACTERS HATE EACH OTHER.

[A QUICK ONE OUT]

THIS NEXT SCENE IS THE LOWEST POINT IN THE MOVIE FOR MAX. IT BEGINS WITH HERMAN SAYING THIS ICONIC LINE AS THE MUSIC STARTS TO COME IN.

[MOVIE CLIP #3]

[I AM WAITING IN]

THE SONG IS CALLED "I AM WAITING" BY THE ROLLING STONES. THE SCENE FEATURES MULTIPLE CLIPS OF HOW MAX'S LIFE IS GOING AFTER HE GIVES UP ON TRYING TO WIN OVER ROSEMARY.

[I AM WAITING OUT]

HE HAS GIVEN UP HIS PASSION FOR PLAYWRITING AND IS INSTEAD WORKING AT HIS DAD'S BARBER SHOP. HE STOPS TALKING TO MARGARET YANG, A GIRL HE MET AT PUBLIC SCHOOL, AS WELL AS HIS BEST FRIEND FROM RUSHMORE.

[I AM WAITING IN]

THE SONG FITS PERFECTLY AND ILLUSTRATES HOW MAX FEELS KIND OF STUCK AFTER LOSING THE PASSION FOR LIFE THAT HE USED TO POSSESS.

[I AM WAITING OUT]

[OOH LA LA IN]

HOWEVER, SHORTLY AFTER THIS DULL PERIOD IN MAX'S LIFE, HE REUNITES WITH HERMAN AND, WITH SOME ENCOURAGEMENT FROM HIS DAD, HE BEGINS TO WRITE ONE MORE PLAY. ON THE OPENING NIGHT OF THE PLAY, MAX SEATS ROSEMARY AND HERMAN NEXT TO EACH OTHER. MAX HAS

FINALLY ACCEPTED THAT HE WILL NEVER BE WITH ROSEMARY, SO HE ATTEMPTS TO HELP HEAL THE RELATIONSHIP SHE HAD WITH HERMAN. THE PLAY IS A SUCCESS AND ALL OF THE CHARACTERS HAVE BECOME FRIENDS AGAIN BY THE TIME THE RECEPTION STARTS.

[OOH LA LA OUT]

THE MOVIE ENDS WITH ALL OF THE CHARACTERS DANCING WHILE THE DJ PLAYS THE SONG “OOH LA LA” BY FACES.

[OOH LA LA IN]

AS THE SONG PLAYS, THE CURTAINS CLOSE ON THE CHARACTERS AND THE CREDITS START TO ROLL.

[OOH LA LA OUT]

THIS SONG LEAVES THE VIEWER IN A CALM AND BITTERSWEET MOOD, SUMMING UP THE MOVIE PERFECTLY.

[MUSIC IN]

THAT’S ALL I HAVE FOR THIS EPISODE. WES ANDERSON IS MY FAVORITE DIRECTOR AND RUSHMORE IS CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF HIS BEST MOVIES WITH ONE OF THE BEST MOVIE SOUNDTRACKS OF ALL TIME, SO I WOULD DEFINITELY RECOMMEND CHECKING IT OUT. FOR WHJE, THIS HAS BEEN EVE ELLIOTT, AND I’LL BE BACK NEXT TIME WITH A NEW SOUNDTRACK TO DISCUSS. FOR MORE PODCASTS LIKE THIS ONE, GO TO WHJE.COM.

[MUSIC OUT]