

WELCOME TO 2020 AND WELCOME TO ANOTHER EPISODE OF REALLY LACY FILMMAKING, AS ALWAYS I'M CALLAHAN LACY. TODAY WE DON'T ESSENTIALLY HAVE ONE TOPIC. MORE LIKE 5. NOW DON'T WORRY! THIS IS NOT AN HOUR LONG EPISODE. I'M SPENDING ONLY ABOUT 5 MINUTES ON EACH TOPIC. LET'S BEGIN.

FIRST UP WE HAVE SOMETHING THAT IS A QUESTION IN SUPERHERO MOVIES. FOR EXAMPLE CLARK KENT ALSO KNOWN AS SUPERMAN WEARS GLASSES AS HIS ONLY DISGUISE TO PROTECT HIS IDENTITY. HOW WOULD SOMEONE NOT SEE A PICTURE OF SUPERMAN IN AN ARTICLE WRITTEN BY CLARK KENT AND NOT SEE A SIMILARITY? IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! BUT HERE'S THE THING RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK IN ENGLAND HAVE SHOWN THAT SMALL ALTERATIONS TO A PERSON'S APPEARANCE, SUCH AS WEARING GLASSES, CAN SIGNIFICANTLY HINDER FACIAL RECOGNITION. PSYCHOLOGISTS SHOWED PARTICIPANTS A NUMBER OF FACES AND ASKED IF THE TWO FACES WERE THE SAME. IN SOME CASES IF THE PERSON IN THE PHOTO WORE GLASSES, THEY ALSO HAVE A PICTURE OF THEM WITHOUT GLASSES AND ONLY ABOUT 80% OF THE PARTICIPANTS SAID THAT THEY WERE THE SAME PERSON. I HAVE EVEN TESTED THIS MYSELF BECAUSE I WEAR GLASSES AND ON MY IPHONE I HAVE FACEID WITH MY GLASSES ON. I TOOK MY GLASSES OFF, AND MY PHONE WOULDN'T OPEN. SO I GUESS THAT GLASSES AS A DISGUISE IS ACTUALLY PRETTY SMART.

ANOTHER SOMEWHAT COMMON THING IN ACTION MOVIES IS THE VILLAIN IS PLAYED BY A BRITISH ACTOR: TOM HIDDLESTON AS LOKI IN MARVEL CINEMATIC UNIVERSE [PLAY CLIP] , IAN MCKELLEN AS ERIK LEHNSHERR/MAGNETO IN THE ORIGINAL X-MEN MOVIES [PLAY CLIP], AND JONATHAN PRYCE AS ELLIOT CARVER IN JAMES BOND'S TOMORROW NEVER DIES [PLAY CLIP]. WHY IS IT ALWAYS THE BRITISH? IS IT THE ACCENT? WELL YES. LINGUIST CHI LUU SAID THAT FILMMAKERS LIKE BRITISH ACCENT BECAUSE THE BRITISH ACCENT – ALSO KNOWN AS THE QUEEN'S ENGLISH – MAKES PEOPLE APPEAR “MORE EDUCATED, INTELLIGENT, COMPETENT, AND GENERALLY OF A HIGHER SOCIOECONOMIC CLASS. SO THAT MAKES THE CHARACTER POSH AND SMART, BUT EVIL? WELL LUU ALSO SAID THAT THE ACCENT HAS A DARK SIDE, WITH PEOPLE WHO SPEAK IT SEEM “LESS TRUSTWORTHY, KIND, AND FRIENDLY” CREATING THE PERFECT STORM OF EVILNESS. ONE OF THE MOST RECOGNIZABLE BRITISH ACTORS PLAYING A VILLAIN ROLE IS ALAN RICKMAN. HE FAMOUSLY PLAYED SEVERUS SNAPE IN THE HARRY POTTER SERIES [PLAY CLIP] AND HANS GRUBER IN DIE HARD. [PLAY CLIP]

THE NEXT TWO TOPICS CONNECT UNDER THE IDEA OF REALISM IN MOVIES. EVERYONE CAN THINK OF SOME SITUATION IN MOVIES WHERE THERE IS SOME EVENT THAT DOES NOT SEEM REALISTIC IN THE REAL WORLD. THE THREE EXAMPLES I CAN THINK OF ARE SLOW-MOTION EXPLOSIONS, THE TIMERS ON EXPLOSIVES, AND IT'S ALWAYS RAINING AT FUNERALS.

SO SLOW MOTION EXPLOSIONS. YES, IT LOOKS EXTREMELY COOL WITH THE PROTAGONIST WALKING AWAY FROM THE EXPLODING OBJECT WITHOUT TURNING AROUND OR GETTING DOWN. IN THE REAL WORLD THE PROTAGONIST SHOULD EITHER BE DEAD OR HAVE MANY BROKEN BONES AND DEAF. MOVIES DON'T TAKE INTO ACCOUNT SHOCKWAVES AND FLYING DEBRIS CREATED BY THE EXPLOSION. THERE IS A CHANCE THAT THE CHARACTER COULD SURVIVE, IT JUST DEPENDS ON HOW FAR AWAY THEY ARE FROM THE EXPLOSION AND HOW FAST YOU CAN RUN. FOR EXAMPLE A C-4 EXPLOSION IS VIRTUALLY INSTANT. GASSES ARE RELEASED AT A RIDICULOUSLY FAST RATE OF 26,400 FEET PER SECOND, SO YOU HAVE TO BE AT LEAST 5 MILES AWAY TO NOT BE HIT BY THE SHOCKWAVE WITHIN ONE SECOND OF EXPLOSION.

ANOTHER TROPE THAT CAUSES THE WORLD TO BE SAVED AT THE LITERAL LAST SECOND POSSIBLE IS A CLEAR VISUAL TIMER ON A BOMB THE VILLAIN HAS PLACED. THE HERO WOULD DISCOVER THE BOMB WITH 1:00 LEFT BUT THE MOVIE TAKES 3 MINUTES AND THEN THE HERO STOPS THE TIMER AT 0:01. THE CHARACTER SHOULD BE DEAD. YES YOU COULD SAY THAT THE MOVIE IS STALLING FOR SUSPENSE BUT LIKE IN REALITY IT WOULD BE AN EXTREMELY STRESSFUL SITUATION THE JAMES BOND SERIES IS VERY FAMILIAR WITH THIS TROPE WITH BOND DEFUSING THE BOMB AT 0:07 GOING WITH THE FRANCHISE.

FINALLY, THE LAST THING THAT ISN'T REALISTIC IS THAT IN ALMOST EVERY FUNERAL SCENE IN MOVIES, IT IS RAINING. NOW HERE IN WONDERFUL INDIANA, WE HAVE AN AVERAGE OF 179 DAYS A YEAR WHERE PRECIPITATION FALLS. IT'S NOT 100% GUARANTEED THAT IT WILL ALWAYS BE RAINING. MOVIE STUDIOS HAVE TO USE RAIN MACHINES TO SIMULATE RAIN SHOWERS DURING FILMING TO GET THE AESTHETIC.

FROM GLASSES AS A DISGUISE TO RAINING AT FUNERALS, I HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED THIS CLUSTER OF CLICHES ON REALLY LACY FILMMAKING. NEXT TIME WE ARE FOCUSING ON EVERYONE'S FAVORITE GLOBAL EMPIRE DISNEY! THIS HAS BEEN CALLAHAN LACY, AND I'LL SEE YOU NEXT TIME.