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Movie Club

Fantastic Mr. Fox (2009)

1. The viewer sees Mr. Fox as a father and a family man, however, the viewer also sees him indulge in his animal instincts. Discuss the differing ways Mr. Fox is portrayed and how this affects our understanding of his character.

2. For an animated PG film, the storyline is mature and adult themes are prevalent:

“Children, especially, will find things they don't understand, and things that scare them. Excellent. A good story for children should suggest a hidden dimension, and that dimension of course is the lifetime still ahead of them.” Roger Ebert, <https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/fantastic-mr-fox-2009>

What effect does this juxtaposition between the style and the content have?

3. The stop-motion animation was filmed at a rate of 12 frames per second, compared to the usual 24 frames per second. What effect does this have on the visual quality of the film? How does this visual style contribute to the storyline? For instance, is the viewers' attention drawn to specific points because of the slower pace?

“There are weird times where characters are stopped with spiral-eyed expressions to indicate confusion (Kylie), or other times where the frame-to-frame jumps are exaggerated into humorously choppy sequences of movement.” Kofi Outlaw, <https://screenrant.com/fantastic-mr-fox-reviews/>

4. There is a subplot surrounding Kristofferson and Ash. What do you think is the purpose of this subplot and how does it fit into the broader themes of the story?