

Candidate D

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International Baccalaureate Form 6/FPPHCS

Film cover sheet: production portfolio

SUBMIT TO: **MODERATOR** ARRIVAL DATE: **20 APR (20 OCT)** SESSION: ~~APR~~ **MAY 2007**

SCHOOL CODE: SCHOOL NAME:

SUBJECT: Film LEVEL: Higher

CANDIDATE NAME: Candidate D CAND NO:

Technology used: Canon GL2, Audio Technica Boom Mic, Tripod, Final Cut Pro, Soundtrack Pro, DVD Studio Pro

DETAILS OF PRODUCTION

Production Title:

Principal role: (circle one role only) DIRECTOR WRITER <u>CINEMATOGRAPHER</u> SOUND DESIGNER/RECORDIST/MIXER EDITOR	Date of production: <u>September 06-March 07</u>
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FOR COMPLETION BY THE CANDIDATE

Candidate's contribution to film production:

You may wish to mention such issues as analytical, technical, creative, communication/teamwork, interpersonal, organizational and decision-making skills.

I helped to edit the script to make it suit the location for filming and make it seem as plausible as possible. While filming I gave ideas on the different shots to use. As far as the technical work I had to set up the lights and manage all the lights since it was filmed in my house. I also did some of the camera work as we took turns doing this. One of the shots that I filmed was in the bathroom when Kate was talking to Alex.

FORGOTTEN WHISPERS

Name:
Role: Cinematographer
Candidate Number
Film IBH2

Rationale for Trailer:

The trailer was difficult to make because I didn't want to give away the story. What I did to create my trailer was to choose shots in chronological order of them movie. I ensured not to put in any shots that revealed that she was dead. What I wanted to do is just make it seem like she is crazy. My trailer ends with the shot when she pops up behind him but I don't show the car speeding at him so I don't spoil the ending. For sound effects, I just used the effects from the film.

Rationale for Movie:

We decided to use this script because we could easily find actors for it and the story is something that would entertain high school students since they can deal with the relationship problems. Before filming we watched the sixth sense since the idea of Kate realizing that she is dead was based on that movie. Filming this movie took three weeks and editing took a good full two days. Our main aim for this film was to create a suspenseful film using complex shots with a clear story line since we felt that this is a genre of film that is not well done amongst high school students.

Cinematography of *Forgotten Whispers*

Pre Production

The initial stages of this project involved editing the script. The reason for this was because we were required to pick one out of three scripts; therefore, we wanted to ensure that we were all satisfied with the script. Since the setting of the script was originally intended to be in my partner's house, staging and lighting had to be completely rethought of to suit the new location. The first thing that I decided to think about was lighting. Considering the fact that my house contains both yellow and white lighting we decided to experiment with both to see which would have a better effect. The white lighting gave a faint effect and seemed to be dull. This would have required us to use other sources of light as well. The yellow lights on the other hand, lit the room well and accentuated the gold fixtures in the room making it look classier. Since the film is a revolves around a ghost, we decided to make use of the multiple mirrors and glass doors in the house, to give the effect that Kate is watching Alex. Aside from the lighting and staging we didn't plan out anything else thoroughly. As a group we just decided to try out several camera angles and different kinds of shots while filming. This gave me room to be flexible with the types of shots I would use.

Production

For the establishing shot of the movie I decided to film from on top of my roof, to establish the type of neighborhood the characters are in which would definitely hint on what type of lives these characters are living. After this I established the outside and inside of the house. For these shots, only natural lighting was used. This gives the movie a subtle feel which is what we intended to do at the beginning until the part where he realizes that she's dead. The final establishing shot was a rack focus shot of Alex's car collection which was indented to foreshadow his death by a car during the latter part of the film. For the initial shot that involved characters, the bed in my room is facing the computer. This made it easier to film Kate walking across and sitting on the bed to talk to Alex. This also unexpectedly fell under the rule of thirds. The initial plan for this scene was to use some natural light from the window; however, while filming we realized that the sunlight in the afternoon was too bright therefore we had to shut the blinds of the room to avoid getting a glare on the camera. We thought of retaking the shot at a later time of the day but realized that this might hinder the passage of time. Another thought that was considered was to reflect some white light on Kate to make her seem more ghost like. We decided not to use this effect anymore due to the fact that it might give it away

to the audience that she is a ghost. In the following scene when Alex is leaving the house to meet his new found lover I decided to have the lights fade then brighten again just as he is exiting the door. I thought that this would provide a hint that something is not quite right at home. However, to ensure not to give it away that Kate is non-existent, I had him angrily stare up at the spot where she is standing on the staircase. The section where Kate realizes that she is dead is where the movie takes a twist. This shot was challenging to film because it had to be done precisely at sunset. The reason for this was because this scene was meant to take place sometime in the afternoon after Alex left and we were using natural light for it we filmed it from a ladder outside the window. If the afternoon sun was too bright then there would be a strong glare and if it was dark then we would not be able to see her face clearly. Another intention for filming during sunset was to portray the transition of the film from "normal" to "scary mode"

The build up to the climax takes place when Alex returns from his date. The shots taken from this point onwards had to be extremely well thought out so that the cinematography would make the film as scary as possible. The film begins to get scary when Alex is washing his face in the bathroom. I had the lights in the bathroom flicker first to show that something suspenseful is going to happen. Based on many horror films, during these types of scenes, where there is a build up of frightening music, either someone, something, or a sound, comes from behind the actor to scare him or her. Since audiences expect this we didn't give this to them so that the film wouldn't be cliché. Instead, we had the light shut off completely and had the attic door swing open. Initially we planned to film this shot in complete darkness to make it as scary as possible; however, we couldn't see anything. I then decided to use a blue gel in the corner of the room to give a moonlight effect. This was perfect because it provided us with sufficient lighting and maintained the spookiness of the film.

I think the attic scene is definitely one of the scariest scenes of the film. To make this scene as scary as possible I had Justin barely light his face with a weak flashlight while poking his head in the attic. I did this because I wanted the audience to see a bit of Justin's face as he reacts to the whispers. Following his bolt from the room came the scene when he was running down the stairs to the fuse box. While he was running to the kitchen, I wanted to give the feeling that she was watching him. To accomplish this, I decided to film from behind a glass door as if the shot was in Kate's perspective. The house was completely dark except for the light with the blue gel and I didn't use a tripod to add to the feeling that it was a human eye following him across the room. In the kitchen the microwave and strong white lights came to good use. To me, it would have been awkward to have Justin turn around toward the fuse room to discover Kate. This would make it seem like he knew someone was following him, thus making it less scary. Reflecting her image on the microwave for Alex to discover that Kate is behind him was a great shot. This shot gave the effect that he was surprised to see her making it scarier for both him and the audience. The house was well lit as well when he was trying to escape. Although it might have been more frightening if the lights were off it wouldn't make any sense because he has just gone down to the fuse box to restore the power. During the chase scene, I had Kate block his point of exit to add to the suspense. Instead of having several cuts outdoor I had one free flowing shot from on top of my gate

showing Justin run out of the house into the street. Since there was only light coming from a post in the street, we made use of the reflector to reflect light on the characters faces as we filmed the shot when we rotated around Alex. The positioning of the characters in a line made it easier to film the rotating shot because we could have hr duck when the camera could only see Alex's back and then re-appear behind him. The shot when Alex kisses Natasha in the car required all the lights in the car to be on otherwise it would be too dark. During this scene when Natasha drops Justin home I had Kate show herself in front of the car. The one thing that Kate had to do for this scene was ensure that she is pops up when the lovers come together for a kiss so that it is not obvious that she is coming from underneath the car. As far as lighting was concerned, the headlights of the car lit her well.

Post Production

While there was a lot of good footage captured, there was some that did not turn out to be as good as expected. As far as lighting was concerned, there weren't any problems. Most of our problems came from staging and technical difficulties. For example, in the shot when Kate blocked the front door and chased Alex out through the side entrance my reflection was seen in the glass door as I was holding the boom mike. Some of the other problems that I discovered during the editing process were the lack of flowing transitions. Some of our shots cut to another shot with out any logical transisition which made us have to refilm them again. For me the toughest shot of the movie was the last shot when Natasha runs over Justin. The reason why this was difficult was because it was hard to make it look like the car was actually hitting him because of safety issues. Aside from this out other ideas were manageable to do and the filming and editing process was a blast.