

PV Log: (circle one) Poem / **Movie** / Picture / LyricDate 12/31/13Title The Secret Life of Walter MittyAuthor / Director / Ben Stiller

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

Viewed in theaters in Lake Tahoe with my family

Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? "Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc? )

This movie is about a man and his dreams, as well as making dreams become reality. Walter Mitty is a negative assets manager for Life magazine, and when the negative for the cover of the very last edition of Life goes missing, he must stop daydreaming and go out on a real adventure to find it. He goes everywhere from Iceland to the Himalayas in order to find the photographer. When he finally finds him, he realizes the negative was in his wallet given to him as a gift the whole time. He learns a lot, and in the process, he gets the girl. As it turns out, the last cover of Life magazine is a photograph of Walter Mitty himself, sitting on a bench examining negatives, the caption being to the effect of "Life. Dedicated to the people that made it."

Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?

The theme of this movie is adventure and getting out of one's comfort zone. Here is this guy who daydreams constantly and can't hold a conversation because he will undoubtedly zone out, yet he finally finds a real adventure that urges him to go out into the world and explore. He flies to Greenland, jumps into a helicopter about to take off, jumps out of the same helicopter into the ocean, gets attacked by a shark, and bikes to an active volcano, all in the same day. He also learns to talk to women, and he even ends up going out with his crush from his office. This movie is about going out and making change, whether it's little or big, affects a lot of people or just one.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

This movie is set up to emphasize the adventures of Walter's dreams, and then his actual adventures. They are all to the same extreme, and his real adventures are just as daring as his daydreams. Walter's dreams are symbols of our dreams and our hopes. This movie pushes us to go out and achieve our dreams.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?

This movie is poetic because it describes a man transforming to live a poetic life filled with poetic adventures and poetic people. He shows up his arrogant, bully boss and learns to live to the best of his abilities. He finally starts a conversation with his crush and they eventually get along and go out. I thought it was interesting how the movie emphasized Walter's transformation. At the beginning, he can't send a "wink" on a dating website because his profile is empty. He starts a phone conversation with a worker from the website, and they keep in contact throughout the movie, adding stuff to his resume to put on his profile. It is an interesting, original, and definitely funny way of showing this change.

**over (do not mix logs; e.g., no poem log in front, and movie log on back)**