

PV Log: (circle one) Poem / **Movie** / Picture / LyricDate 1/18/14Title Pay it ForwardAuthor / Director / Mimi Leder

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

Viewed at my house; on the required list of movies for Poetic Vision

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

Pay it Forward is the story of a young boy named Trevor who was inspired by his English teacher, Mr. Simonet, to change the world. He comes up with the idea of "paying it forward," where you do a good deed to 3 people who need it, but it has to be something big that they can't do on their own, and then they pass it on to 3 more people, starting a chain reaction. He deals with a recovering alcoholic mother, and abusive alcoholic father, but an inspiring English teacher whom he tries to set up with his mom, and is decently successful.

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

The theme of this movie is generosity and kindness. You never know when you're going to need help or when you or someone you love will be in trouble, and in those situations, you hope that people will come to their aid. The idea of paying it forward is instead of paying something back for something they gave you, pay it forward to someone else who needs it more and will be more grateful. It was created by an innocent boy who truly wanted to change the world, and that is certainly poetic.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

This movie is set up using two concurrent plots. The first plot we see is a newspaper reporter who has his car extremely damaged during a robbery get away. A random man gives him a brand new Jaguar, and the guy thinks it's too good to be true, and there must be a bomb or something. The first story follows him as he tracks down the inventor of "pay it forward" showing how many people it has touched. The second storyline is Trevor's school life and the relationship between he and his mother, and Mr. Simonet and his mother.

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

When I watched this movie, I sincerely thought it was one of the best movies I've ever seen, mostly because of the very emotional scene where Kevin Spacey reveals the cause of his burns and how he doesn't want something like that to happen to Trevor. Everyone can relate to pay it forward because everyone needs help at some point or another, and if they receive help or not they should still pay it forward and give back ahead of time. We need to give things back before we take them. The movie is poetic because it shows a movement that travelled from Las Vegas to Los Angeles in a very short amount of time, and children can change the world because sometimes the most obvious answers are the best.

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