

Your responses to the following assignment:

3. Now imagine yourself at a science-fiction movie or a Hong Kong martial arts movie, something like Star Wars or Lord of the Rings or Matrix or Spider-Man. One of the characters is hurtling through space. How do you react? Write a description of your reaction using at least 15 words.

I was interested here in your reactions to issues of probability and verisimilitude.

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3. I am **excited and feel a vicarious thrill** and adrenaline rush as I watch the action. I am concerned about that happens to the character even though I know how unrealistic the events are.

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3. When I watch Bruce Lee gracefully hurdle through space, **I can feel my inertia acted upon. During the ensuing fight, my body will, often, involuntarily simulate fighting motions.** A state of mind similar to lucid dreaming is triggered.

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3) I am thrilled. **I can almost feel the sensation of hurling through space- my stomach may lurch as Spider-Man hurls himself off of a building. I want, more than anything, to feel the complete experience (that is, to perform these feat in ?real life?).**

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3. I am engrossed in the visual aspect of the movie if it is on a big screen. A good special effects scene can be very exciting. **If it is too impressive, however, it takes away from the movie, as I sit there wondering: How did they do that?**

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3. **I react as if I am hurtling through space alongside the movie character.** My heart starts to race, beating faster and louder as the journey continues to escalate with each passing moment. **Now I am experiencing everything—actions, emotions, thoughts—the character is experiencing. I no longer differentiate between the character and myself.** The plot deepens, and I am increasingly apprehensive of what obstacle the character, and thus myself, may encounter next. **Subtle beads of perspiration begin to form on my forehead, and I even begin to wince at each close encounter with the opposition.**

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Answer: In this case I am already aware that it's a science-fiction and hence when I see a body hurtling through the space **I start thinking Wow! How they would have filmed it?** Frankly I don't enjoy horror and science-fiction, but still I liked Matrix. I liked Matrix for its take on perceived reality and how it can be altered by changing the charge in the neurons in our brain.

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Depending on the quality of the movie and the special effects, **I either react with disbelief and a bit of an eye roll at this unrealistic site or, if I'm enjoying the movie and captured by it, I react with awe. My jaw sometimes actually drops and my eyes widen.**

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3. **I would most likely cover my eyes in fear.** Although I am fully aware that this type of scene seems real due to special effects, my first reaction is to immediately look away. **In order to view such a scene, I must consciously remind myself that movies are fiction,** because sometimes it is easy to forget.

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3) **My initial reaction is, invariably, "they should have cast me in that role," but that's because it's my ideal career.** As a film student and child of a postmodern society, **I'm not easily dazzled by the visual effects of motion-through-space, but I'm easily awed by \_thinking\_ about the decisions and programming work that went into these things.** Sadly, the movements themselves often leave something to be desired... I'm quickly let down by too much background glitz.

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3: If I'm watching a movie and a character is hurtling through space, **I may have physiological reactions. My pulse rate might increase, my breathing may quicken,** but other than that, I mostly sit still and watch. If someone was actually hurtling through space, maybe towards me... I'd probably get out of the way. In the movie, **I understand that I'm not in any danger, and I don't have any physical reactions.**

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3. My reaction would likely be **a feeling of exhilaration or possibly dread,** depending on the the context of the character's flight through the air. **I may feel the reaction more in my stomach, per se, than in my head.**

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3. **I feel a sense of movement** the first moment that the 'hurtling' begins, **as though it were about to actually happen to myself.** However, shortly thereafter the sensation stops and my heart rate returns to normal. I do usually think that it is quite exciting and tantalizing to watch the effect, nevertheless, and **I am never sure how much the soundtrack is playing into the creation of the sensations I have when watching such a sight.**

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3. When ever I am watching an intense movie and a character goes hurdling through the air, **I find myself suspending my natural breathing patterns untill that charcter lands safely. If the landing is no so graceful, I gasp and flinch in discomfort untill all is resolved.** Those types of movies are dreadfully uncomfortable for me because I am easily enchanted and at the movie's end I feel as if I've just gotten off of the HULK and have to fight to regain composure. But the rush is great.

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There is a second of **weightlessness, or slight inertia. I feel free, boundless; but that never lasts for very long.** Especially when they do over and over and over again.

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3. When I am watching an action movie and something spectacular is happening, **I often react physically, jumping up or gesticulating or grabbing my fiancée's hand.** Sometimes the intensity is too much for me, and I stop watching until something less tense is happening. **Other times I make noises,** reacting in excitement or disbelief or amazement.

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Depends on the movie and what I have going on when I saw it. If I am taken in, I'm taken in, and things go like I said in the first situation. **if the movie is bad, or if for some reason or another I can't let go of my world for a little bit then my mind will focus more on why it is bad, or why it's not working for me, or on different elements of film making, which I like to thinking about.** I focus on the execution, the form during the experience rather than looking back on it afterwards.

As far as the science fiction character hurtling through the air (I've just realized that I didn't really answer the question) I react like I would to any other action of the plot. **If I liked what that moment in the story did for the plot or the character's I will praise and appreciate it, and if I didn't I will criticize it.** That's the beauty of science-fiction; anything goes. The reader, or at least **I am not pressured to bring it back to reality** to cross-reference it.

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Actually I usually don't really enjoy sci-fi and end up regretting paying for the movie at these points, **which usually leads me to think of the actor jumping around in front of a green or blue screen.** Make no mistake though, my belief is still somewhat suspended; it's always a little hobbit or Yoda that I envision in front of this screen

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Themes:

1) For several people, they move with the character. There is theory for this: in general, watching someone else move seems to activate the same neurons in the watcher as in the mover. Look at all the statements above about one another physical action.

2) Pay attention to unreality (=screen tricks) for defensive purposes, to escape from the film. "How did they do that?"