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12-6-2022

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Recommended Citation

Ganiere, Patrick and Cox, Steven, "Letting Go: How Movie Elements in Rouge (1987) Portray Ruhua's Process of Letting Go of Her Broken Relationship" (2022). *Fall Student Research Symposium 2022*. 54. <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fsrs2022/54>

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Letting Go: How *Movie Elements in Rouge* (1987) Portray Ruhua's Process of Letting Go of Her Broken Relationship

Patrick Ganiere, Steven Cox



In the last five minutes of *Rouge*, through the use of camerawork, lighting and music, we see the process of how Ruhua moves on from her bad relationship with an ex-lover.

Intro



Camerawork: The shock of Realization

- In this scene when Fleur finds where Chan has been all this time, the camera performs a Dolly Zoom to show her shock.
- The effect of the background growing larger around her portrays the emotions that are welling up inside her



Camerawork: A broken relationship

- The top photo is using a close up to show the emotions on Fleur's face as she comes to terms with her situation
- The bottom shot where she wakes Chan up is through a broken guardrail, representing how their relationship is broken



The lighting contrast to show what was possible

- The contrast between the lighting helps us understand the feelings of the two characters.
- As they go through this conflict they understand what could've been possible, he realizes what mistake he made.
- The flashbacks help them remember the good times and how now there will be no more because they won't be together.



Moving on from the pain even if it is hard.



Music: Silence and emotions

- Almost all of the last five minutes of the film are silent. This silence lets the expressions and actions of the characters speak, and highlight their emotions.
- The end song is about being let down by a lover, and the tone and pacing reflect a sadness and ending, but also resolve



Wrap up

- Through the use of camerawork, lighting, and music, Rouge(1987) demonstrates Fleur's process of letting go of the past and moving on.
- Understanding how these elements underline her process can help us better appreciate her journey and what she is going through.

