

Billy Elliot

Billy Elliot is about an 11-year-old boy living as a coal miner's son in Northern England. Billy Elliot is a moving and uplifting film about overcoming the prejudices of his father and his brother. The composer Stephen Daldry explores the themes of the struggle with adversity, the pursuit of dreams and the search for identity in the film Billy Elliot.

There are many times in Billy Elliot that he struggles with adversity, the most obvious is the struggle with poverty. Such as the scenes with Jackie destroys the piano. The scenes clearly show Jackie aggressively destroying the piano and talking to Billy in an angry way. The technique used is the camera angle above them slowly going down that shows sadness. The music gives a feeling of sadness when Jackie is crying. They are affected by this because they must get rid of something valuable so they can just survive. The poverty they are experiencing is also shown by Billy being wrapped up in the blanket shaking, showing they can't afford warm clothes.

Daldry explores the pursuit of dreams through Billy when he discovers his love of ballet. However his father does not want his son to do ballet. Billy continues to dance in secret sneaking to ballet lessons and dancing in the bathroom. By this he is pursuing his dreams by practicing alone and trying not to wreck his future. The techniques that they used was camera angles, music and editing. When Billy was in the bathroom, the director allows the camera was facing towards him in a small confined space, which means that he is confined and hidden. When they edited the scenes, they made both scenes flicker between them as the music played, as Billy danced and as he fell over. It affected him in the future by practicing he gets better at dancing.

Billy performs for Jackie is a good example of the search for identity because Billy shows Jackie his love for ballet by dancing right in front of Jackie, face to face. The techniques that was used in this scene are camera movement and music. When Jackie first walks in to the boxing gym, the camera is following Billy and Michal until Billy see's Jackie and the camera sees both together, that shows Jackie trying to find out who really is Billy when he dances. The music shows Billy scared from showing Jackie who he really is. The effect of this scene is Jackie's perception of Billy is different than it really it is.

In conclusion Billy Elliot has lots of examples of adversity, pursuit of dreams and search for identity. When Jackie was upset when he destroyed the piano, Billy Elliot dancing in private Billy dancing in font of Jackie showing him who he really is. Billy Elliot is a feel-good family film.