

My future as a director

PART I

I have made numerous plans for my future up to this point, but I have now come up with a new plan: I am going to be a director! I have told many people that I am going to be a director but no one believes me, so I have written this essay to prove that I am going to be one. I like English as much as my mother does, because English and literature are key to becoming a director. A friend of my mother told me that we can plan a script for a short film (she is a director). I am a director in the future; an author if I have a downfall. I have planned a lot for my future, such as trying to create a scene from my movie on an app on my laptop. I get distracted very often, so I have put all my focus into this essay. If you are reading this, it means you are interested in what I am planning for the future as a director.

I have been told I get distracted often and don't complete my work. I am determined to be a director in my future and am ready to work for it. Those of you that don't believe me, please stop reading this essay! Criticism is something that will hurt you, but it will help you carve a path in life to do better than before.

In the future I will not be a person who will wait for others. I will overtake and conquer lands that others cannot even dream of. In war you cannot surrender; so, you must put in your blood, tears, sweat. To make your dreams come true, you must do the same and win the war. Now, of course there is better advice on the internet, but if I become a famous director, I suggest that you take my advice instead. A famous director once said that it is the crew that you work with that changes everything, but I disagree, because if you want to be a director, you can't quit just because your crew gave up on you and left you. This must be a lot to take in, but you don't need friends or companions to succeed. I'm not saying you don't need friends, just don't depend on other people for your needs in the present or the future.

If a person disrespects you, stay calm and ignore them, but if it is serious, act depending on the situation you are in and tell them clearly that you don't like what they did. But if they continue that behaviour, punch them in the face. Some parents reading this will think that this is bad advice, but then, how will your son or daughter learn about self-respect? I mean, would you let your daughter or son get bullied and act like nothing ever happened to her or him? If I had children I would not let that happen.

On account of money, you decide what happens in your life. Now, money is key to your future life, but on the other hand you don't need that much money to become famous and successful. One day, my friends and I had a session on what we want to be in the future. All my friends wanted to be a person who was respected to the limit, but I wanted to be a villain. Because, I mean, come on, you can't help it! A famous person said, "You are always a villain in someone else's story." I believe in that quote because in the movies a hero is needed, but a hero can't get that title without a villain. A villain is bad; we all know that. But he tries his best to be the winner. On the other hand, a hero just walks into the villain's life and throws him around without any effort at all, and I don't think that is fair, so in my movie I will have a scenario in which the hero must become the villain to save his people. People who want to become a director, take note if you are interested in this thing.

The concept of genre is a lot to take in, because there are a lot of genres in the world. Some kids might be thinking that if you become a director you can make a lot of movies in different genres, but you can't. A lot of people have tried, but it is very tiring for those who are not ready to work hard for it. I am not saying that you are lazy, but you might be fully concerned and self-aware that you are not working hard enough. Honestly, I will be a little lazy, so I am lucky that I am self-aware now instead of in the future. When I grow up I will be independent and free to own the choices I make for my future as a director. On the other hand, who knows? I might become an engineer. Now, when it comes to something personal, especially making a movie about a loved one who has passed away, you should try not to put too much emotion into the film, because it might lead to too much emotion and sadness and spoil the movie. To avoid this, distract yourself with your favourite hobby or friends. On the other hand, if it is about trauma in your life, you should try to recreate it.

Characters are another vast subject requiring endless decisions. You have to be a very patient person if you want to design a character for your movie. Making characters is pretty easy, and I am only talking about looks and outfit. When you design a character, remember to add outfits and clothes according to their personality and the movie they star in. For example: if John is a detective in a movie set in the late 1900s and the early 2000, I will make him wear a long, dark brown coat with black trousers and a hat that the British wear. When he investigates and finds clues, he smokes a big pipe. Remember that you should adapt the character to the genre of your movie. Like, if it is a fantasy movie, then your characters should be imaginary because it will be in sync with the genre, and make it very majestic, and a hit.

Now, I want to talk about something very important. Let's talk about something which is very important in life: failure. Failure is actually good for you, and it can help you in the future. For example, a rich man who has got his money without any work and then loses that money will not know what to do. But a man who has worked and has had failures in his life will know what to do in that situation, because he has faced it before and knows how to overcome it. So, failure can help you drastically in life. And you cannot go without a single failure in life, so do not quit anything just because you failed; instead, learn from it and do better. Never accept criticism in your life. Even if you get criticised, always do better and show the other person that you are better than before. If milk goes bad, it turns to cheese, which is far more expensive than yogurt and milk. Or when grape juice goes bad, it turns to wine, which is far more expensive. So every failure in your life is a chance to do better than the previous result. But don't get overconfident and think you can overcome failure; if so, you are very wrong, because everyone has to at least go through many failures to become a success. If you have extreme luck, maybe you can become successful without any failures at all, but remember, if you have a downfall later on, then you will have to just let it happen because you won't know how to deal with it. Criticism is really good, because how else will you know where you have gone wrong and act upon it and improve so that it gives a good result?

PART II

In filmmaking, if you want to change the idea, topic, or even layout, then you need to change the aspect. For people who don't know, the aspects of a movie are the properties of a movie, such as lighting, sound, actors, etc. Aspects make your movie good and interesting. Aspects vary in each movie, so technically they make your movie look and feel different from others. Christopher Nolan is my inspiration as a director because he has high standards and, from what I know, he has made countless movies like *Dark Knight*, *Interstellar*, and even a recent one called *Oppenheimer* which is on Prime Video. The reason I like him is because he has made a lot of movies, but none of the movies have the same aspects as another, so it is one of the best ideas to always change the aspect of your movies and make them stand out from others. There are many stories with a similar storyline, so you should do your research and watch movies that have a similar storyline to yours and observe what techniques they use and how they film it.

One very important thing is that when you were a kid you would think that some movies are boring, but they are not. Different people have different mindsets, so never criticise another director because the movies he or she makes are not interesting for you. As a child, you would probably think that movies based on real life are boring, but do you know how hard it is to make a whole one-hour-long movie based on mere books and history records and recreate events exactly how they happened? Never disrespect another director. When you are bad at getting actors to act in your movie, you can hire an animation artist and give them the storyline and they will make a movie for you, and you don't have to look at most of the aspects of a real movie with actors. I suggest that you don't become an animator and at least try to make a nice movie with proper actors and proper aspects of a movie.

If you think that music does not play a major role in movies, you are so wrong, because music plays a major role in the world of movies. Music suggests that the scene might be important or sad, but it is mainly used in horror movies. If you don't believe me, I will give you an activity on movies: watch any horror movie without volume. Now tell me, was it actually scary? Even if it was scary, it wouldn't have been as scary as it was with volume. It is technically proven that different types of sounds signal different feelings.

Did you know that even colour plays a major role in movies? It does, and also doesn't at the same time. Let me explain how. Movies in the late 1800s and early 1900s were black-and-white, right? Wrong! There were many movies with colour, but people still made black-and-white movies and shows, like *Charlie Chaplin*. They made those because people like me love black-and-white films, because people can make better movies in black and white than in colour. As a child you must have liked *Charlie Chaplin*, right, but why, even though there were many movies in colour? It is because colour can create symbolic references in your head, so you might feel another feeling than what they are trying to convey in the scene.

Children mostly look at colours instead of the whole act, so *Charlie Chaplin* was filmed in black-and-white; children would be forced to be attentive to the action in the scene because there was no other distraction, such as colours. If it was colourful then it wouldn't have been as funny as it is now. If you still don't understand, let me explain. Now, when I say imagine an X in the colour red and an arrow in the colour green, you would probably think that it means stop and go. If you

still did not get it, then let me explain more. When I say 'red', what element comes to your mind, or when I say 'blue' or even 'green'? You would have probably thought that 'red' means fire and 'blue' means water and 'green' means earth, so when I said all this I meant, in easy words, that colours can make a difference in your mind and change your view about an object. It means that it can create a symbolic reference in your head and change your view on a certain object.

Let's get into it more intricately and consider a character, more specifically a hero. Everyone knows what a hero is. He is just the perfect human being to ever exist on earth. He is brave and courageous and, how could I forget, always handsome. But did you know that a villain is also a hero? The villain is actually the hero, because the storyline focuses on the hero simply because that is how a hero is made. But it is the storyline that is changed to make a villain and he has to get thrown around by the hero just to entertain us, and that I do not like, you see. The actor has to have so much courage to be a villain. It is too hard to make your brain think twisted things on purpose. Meanwhile a hero has to do nothing, because he just has to be good at everything in the movie. I almost cried when I watched *Oppenheimer* because it was actually the only movie that put the spotlight on (J Robert Oppenheimer as the main character, even though he was the person who created the atomic bomb. Robert Downey Junior's character was actually shown as the villain, while in real life he was actually considered a hero because he tried to stop the bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. But they blend it in such a way that we don't realize it until the last scene where Oppenheimer realizes he has made a grave mistake and has 'become death'.

While it's subjective to label one better than the other, villains often provide a contrasting perspective, driving narrative tension and complexity. They can challenge societal norms and provoke thought, contributing to a story's depth and moral ambiguity. Failures are essential for growth and learning. They teach resilience, helping us develop problem-solving skills and adaptability. Each setback provides valuable insights, revealing areas for improvement and fostering innovation. Embracing failure encourages a growth mindset, promoting experimentation and risk-taking, which are vital for creativity and progress. Additionally, overcoming challenges builds confidence and perseverance, reinforcing the idea that success often follows a series of missteps. By reframing failures as opportunities rather than obstacles, we cultivate a more resilient attitude, ultimately leading to greater achievements and a deeper understanding of ourselves and our goals.

Movies have long been a powerful medium, captivating audiences with their ability to tell stories, evoke emotions, and reflect societal issues. The reasons why movies are good extend beyond mere entertainment; they encompass cultural, psychological, and educational dimensions that enrich our lives.

1. *Storytelling and Escapism*

At their core, movies are a form of storytelling. They transport us to different worlds, allowing us to experience lives vastly different from our own. This escapism can be therapeutic, offering a temporary respite from the stresses of daily life. Through various genres—fantasy, drama, or romance—movies allow viewers to engage with narratives that resonate on a personal level. We can laugh, cry, and feel exhilarated alongside the characters, providing a shared emotional journey that fosters a sense of connection.

2. Cultural Reflection and Influence

Movies are a mirror of society, reflecting cultural norms, values, and struggles. They can shine a light on social issues, such as race, gender, and inequality, prompting important conversations and encouraging empathy. Films like *12 Years a Slave* and *Moonlight* explore the complexities of identity and social injustice, making audiences confront uncomfortable truths. Additionally, movies often celebrate cultural heritage, showcasing traditions and stories that might otherwise be forgotten. They help preserve history and inspire future generations by providing insight into diverse experiences.

3. Artistic Expression

The filmmaking process is an intricate blend of various art forms, including writing, acting, cinematography, and music. Each film is a collaboration of talents, resulting in a unique piece of art. Directors and screenwriters craft intricate narratives, while actors bring characters to life with nuanced performances. Cinematographers use visual storytelling to enhance the narrative, and composers create soundtracks that evoke emotion. This artistic synergy not only entertains but also pushes the boundaries of creativity, leading to innovative techniques and storytelling methods.

4. Educational Value

Movies can serve as powerful educational tools. They can simplify complex concepts and make learning enjoyable. Documentaries, for instance, provide insights into real-world issues and events, from environmental concerns to historical milestones. Films like *The Social Dilemma* and *An Inconvenient Truth* provoke thought and inspire action on critical topics. Even fictional movies can convey important lessons about ethics, relationships, and personal growth, making them useful in classrooms and discussions.

5. Building Community and Connection

Watching movies can foster a sense of community. Whether it's a blockbuster in a packed theatre or an indie film at a local festival, shared experiences bring people together. Movie nights, film clubs, and discussions create opportunities for social interaction, allowing individuals to bond over their interpretations and feelings about a film. This communal aspect enhances our understanding of diverse perspectives and strengthens social ties.

6. Emotional Catharsis

The emotional experiences evoked by films can lead to catharsis, helping individuals process their own feelings. Movies often depict characters facing challenges, and through their journeys, viewers can confront their own struggles. This can be particularly helpful for those dealing with grief, anxiety, or other emotional challenges. By watching characters navigate their emotions, audiences may find validation, comfort, or inspiration, ultimately leading to personal healing and growth.

7. Inspiration and Motivation

Movies have the power to inspire. Stories of perseverance, courage, and triumph resonate deeply, motivating viewers to pursue their dreams and overcome obstacles. Films like *Rocky* and *The Pursuit of Happiness* illustrate the power of resilience and hard work, serving as reminders that

success often requires determination and sacrifice. Such narratives can instil hope and encourage individuals to take charge of their lives, pursuing their aspirations with renewed vigour.

8. Technological Advancements

The film industry drives technological innovation, constantly pushing the boundaries of what is possible. From advancements in special effects to the development of virtual reality, movies are at the forefront of technological exploration. This not only enhances the viewing experience but also contributes to various fields, including animation, computer graphics, and sound design. As technology evolves, so too does the potential for storytelling, opening new avenues for filmmakers and audiences alike.

9. Diverse Perspectives

Movies provide a platform for diverse voices and stories, highlighting experiences that may be marginalised or overlooked. Films from different cultures, languages, and backgrounds expand our understanding of the world, fostering empathy and appreciation for diversity. International films like *Parasite* and *Roma* have gained acclaim, proving that powerful narratives transcend borders and resonate with global audiences. By showcasing a range of perspectives, movies encourage inclusivity and challenge stereotypes.

10. Legacy and Cultural Impact

The impact of movies extends beyond their initial release. Iconic films can shape culture, influence fashion, and even alter language. Quotes from films become part of our language, and cinematic moments are often referenced in everyday life. Classics like *Casablanca* and *The Godfather* remain relevant, continually inspiring new generations of filmmakers and audiences. Their legacy lives on through discussions, adaptations, and homages, solidifying their place in cultural history.

Movies are far more than just entertainment; they are a multifaceted medium that enriches our lives in countless ways. From their power to tell compelling stories to their ability to foster community and inspire change, films play an integral role in shaping our understanding of the world and ourselves. As we continue to explore new narratives and perspectives, the value of movies will only grow, reminding us of the importance of storytelling in the human experience. Whether through laughter, tears, or moments of reflection, movies remain a vital part of our cultural landscape, offering both escapism and profound insight.

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Grade 6