## "Nosedive" Analysis

## Screenshot(s) of a Frame Paste your screenshot here. Include a timestamp. [laughing hysterically] 0:02:15 (zero hours, two minutes, fifteen seconds) "Nosedive." Black Mirror, created by Charlie Booker, season 3, episode 1, House of Tomorrow, 2016, www.netflix.com/title/70264888. Script (if relevant) There are no dialogues in this shot or scene. However, this scene shows Lacie laughing, shown in Copy any important dialogue information that the reflection of a mirror. happens in the scene if it is relevant. The closed captions show, "[laughing hysterically]" What theme(s), motif(s), or symbol(s) is this This frame demonstrates the **theme** of authenticity through the **motif** of the rating system. screenshot connected to? What film techniques do you see? Describe Framing: This shot depicts Lacie, the main character, looking at herself through a mirror. This scene emphasized Lacie's action of laughing at herself in the mirror, in order to practice looking presentable and friendly to others. What do you notice about the framing? Shot and angles: Lacie is shown through the mirror using a medium shot, only showing her from What do you notice about the shot and angles? around her torso and up. In the previous scene, it demonstrates an extreme close up as the camera was zoomed all the way to Lacie's eye, showing the contact lenses that she is using. What camera movements do you notice? Camera movements: In this scene, the camera stayed still; however, in the previous scenes, it What do you notice about the lighting? shows Lacie from an angle showing her back, as the camera slowly zooms to her. This diverts the viewer's attention to only focus on Lacie and her actions instead of her surroundings. What editing techniques do you notice? Lighting: The lighting is in between high-key and low-key, as the scene was not very bright, nor was it very dark. There was side lighting from Lacie's bathroom window, which is natural lighting, What do you notice about the sound? making the scene and atmosphere appear as soft and calming.

What theatrical elements do you notice?

Editing techniques: The action of Lacie laughing to the mirror is not shown in only one scene, but in several clips through different angles. These are shown through several cuts in between the scene. Eyeline match is also demonstrated, showing Lacie's perspective as she was looking at herself through her mirror as she was practicing her laugh.

Sound: The scene starts with Lacie's laugh, which is diegetic as it can be heard by the characters in the show. There is also a faint calming piano background music (non-diegetic), letting the viewers understand that the character in the scene is at ease.

Theatrical elements: Lacie appears to be wearing a bathrobe with a towel on her head, indicating that she might have just finished a shower. People would tend to continue with their skincare or admire theirselves in the mirror in the bathroom as they would have their own privacy, but Lacie uses this time to practice on how she can seem more presentable and friendly.

**Analysis:** How do the film techniques connect to a theme/motif/symbol? What is the significance?

During this scene of Nosedive, the theme of authenticity was demonstrated as the frame shows Lacie observing herself in the mirror, mainly focusing on the way she laughs and how she can make it sound more authentic and friendly. This reduces the actual authenticity that Lacie is hoping to achieve, as she learns to behave in a manner that does not truly reflect herself, but more on what she thinks the societal standards expects her to act like. The atmosphere and the color scheme of this scene sugarcoats the dystopian characteristics—the rating system, technology control, societal standards—of this episode, as the colors of the background were pastel pink and purple, making the scene appear as soothing and aesthetically pleasing. In addition to the color scheme, the non-diegetic sound of the soft piano background music frames the viewers' mindsets to think that Lacie's action is considered a normal and good thing. The lighting in the scene also demonstrates tranquility, showing that Lacie considers her action as a part of her typical daily routine.

## Other Screenshots

Does your theme/motif/symbol appear elsewhere in the episode? Paste a couple screenshots of those moments here.



