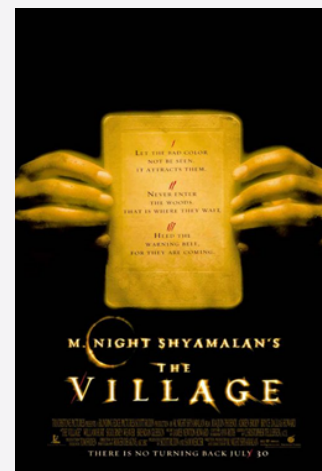




DIRECTOR	M. Night Shyamalan
SCREENWRITER	M. Night Shyamalan
STARRING	Bryce Dallas Howard, Joaquin Phoenix, Sigourney Weaver
PRODUCTION COMPANIES	Touchstone Pictures, Blinding Edge Pictures, Scott Rudin Productions.
DISTRIBUTOR	Buena Vista Pictures
BUDGET	\$60 million
BOX OFFICE	\$256.7 million



REVIEWS/ ARTICLES

Empire- film magazine
<http://www.empireonline.com/movies/village/review/>

MTV- online presence of youth orientated television channel
<http://www.mtv.com/news/1883725/the-village-m-night-shyamalan-10-years/>

Task- read the **first review**. Make notes on what the reviewer suggests about the film's narrative construction.

Task- read the *MTV* review. What points does this retrospectively make about how the film positions audiences?

POINTS TO CONSIDER

- This film was partly marketed on the name recognition of film-maker Shyamalan, who was renowned for horror films with 'twist' narrative such as *The Sixth Sense* and *Signs*.
- Shyamalan's films were aimed towards the mainstream. The film was released as 12a, a rare feat for horror films.
- *The Village* features many named actors who would be more familiar to older audiences. The 'historical' setting, as realised by cinematographer Roger Deakins, is another selling point for this audience.
- *The Village* divided audiences and critics on release. The mix of horror codes, narrative surprises and post 9/11 ideologies lead to very different readings.

TRAILER

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpFdYGGZeLsg>

SYNOPSIS

M Night Shyamalan's *The Village* revolves around a desolate town in 19th Century Pennsylvania. The residents of this town live simply and without the means of a modern world - no tv or even medications. They live by strict rules: they are not to leave the village or the monsters which are said to lurk beyond their boundaries will attack them. Lucius and Ivy have a strong attraction. But when Noah, a man with an intellectual disability whom also has feelings for Ivy, finds out that the two are in love, Noah attacks Lucius. Lucius will die if brave Ivy (who is blind) does not breach the borders and find help to save Lucius. (imdb.com)

INTERVIEWS WITH FILM MAKER

http://www.bbc.co.uk/films/2004/08/11/m_night_shyamalan_the_village_interview.shtml

http://www.iofilm.co.uk/feats/interviews/m/night_shyamalan_18082004.php

Task - Read both short interviews. What points does the director make about construction of **narrative** and **media language**?