**Cameron and christine thayler**

**Character**

**How they change:**

at the start Cameron is timid and passive. He allows a cop to sexually assault his wife whilst he just stood there. He’s willing to cooperate with the police officers despite them sexually assaulting his wife. He teaches one of his students, jamal to speak more like a white man and not use the stereotypical colloquialisms of a black man. The director tells him that he needs to change this, so then Cameron does, this shows he is a pushover and also him trying to escape black culture. Cameron begins to ponder about what he is doing and why he acts like he does and why he is so passive and doesn't stand up to what he thinks but generally does what is ‘right’. When Anthony attempts to carjack him he fights back. The cops begin to chase them. Finally the cops pull Cameron over. This time Cameron is braver and gets out the car with Anthony saying “no you so brave, you get out the car” this time Cameron is aggressive with the cops. This is a complete opposite to what happened at the start of the movie. Cameron stands up for himself. He refuses to do what the police say. Last scene of Cameron shows him joining in with young kids in poverty throwing things into the fire of Tom Hansens car. This shows how he is now doing what he never did as a child. This shows that Cameron changes to be the opposite of what he was at the beginning of the film towards the end of the movie.the purpose of this change is to show how certain events can change a person, their beliefs and opinions. It helps strengthen the author's purpose, which is to show how stereotypes can change people. By showing that cameron has tried to avoid his stereotype and this had changed him into a more passive person. This changes when he realises this and begins to stand for himself and what he believes in. christian starts off being nice to the police asking how they're nights going until John asks Cameron to get out the car and her mood begins to change to a more stand up confronting mood, once John calls her ma'am she begins to get very aggressive and yelling/ swearing at the cops. Once John starts sexually assaulting her she goes very quiet and doesn't stand up for herself as she begins to feel inferior as she's black and a woman which in those times would make her have very little power. When christine tries to open up to cameron about the john rynn incident he kind off brushes her to the side, this makes christine emotional. This a complete different side to her that we had previously not seen. When john goes to save christine we truly see how much it affected her. She screams “not you anyone but you”, this shows how much it had truly affected christine. When john rescues Christine they are very close together for a second. But this time it is under complete different circumstances. This time it is to help Christine and not to harm her. Both characters act the opposite as Christine pushes john away in the beginning and john helps Christine. This shows how people can have two different sides.

**costume/hair:** Nicely done clothes and hair. This shows that they are wealthy . Dressed in white, this could show that they are trying to escape the stereotype and are trying to embrace white culture. Dressed in darker colours later in the film. But always dressed nice and fancy, for example Cameron wearing a turtleneck sweater with a nice pair of jeans on whilst Christine is wearing a posh cocktail dress. The change in the colour of their clothes show the change in their attitudes throughout the film. When they wear lighter clothes they seem to be purposely avoiding the black stereotype and also their culture. But later in the film when they start wearing darker colours it shows them starting to embrace the culture. Still nice fancy clothes when she shows up at the studio. Even after all the stress of the last 24hr he still has nicely done hair and clean clothes.

**Symbolism:** The light coloured clothes they wear at the start of the movie symbolise the fact that they are trying to escape their black culture in order to fit in with the modern world.this shown through the text through certain quotes such as “do you think your good friends at the studio will read about you in the morning and realise you're actually black” and ” the closest you came to being black was watching the cosby show” . these quotes show that Cameron and Christine never grew up in black culture but in fact was raised very white. But as the movie progresses Cameron and Christine wear darker clothes . this shows represents a change in their state of mind in which they now are deciding to embrace the black culture and who they are.

**Settings:** They are pulled over at the start by cops John Rynn and his partner. Unnecessary force is used on Cameron. Cameron tries to stay calm. When Christine is sexually assaulted Cameron just stands there and doesn't do anything, this is because he is scared of the repercussions due to his race. Cameron and Christines bedroom is a dark room with a lot of tribal art around the room to show black heritage. The walls of the bedroom in the house are a dark maroon colour. It's a flash house which is very uncommon for black people in those days to be able to afford a house like that. One of the shots during this scene shows big glass doors which shows that because there black people think that they shouldn't have any privacy.

Dark abstract art in Cameron and Christines bedroom.

Lots of tribal art in bedroom such as a large tribal painting on the wall.

White bed.

Trapped in a car which can show that Christine is trapped by stereotypes.

Dark clothes car dark interior.

Outside at night so a dark setting whilst standing around fire this is different to the usual light surrounding Cameron and Christine, showing the progression and change of the character.

**Relationships:** under pressure after John Rynn sexually assaults Christine is well behaved but she can flip at any chance because Christine doesn't realise how she is stereotyped which annoys her as she feels like she has no power. After being in the car crash i think she will have a little more respect for john as he just risked his life to save hers.

**Dialogue:** Cameron is very calm when talking to the police at the start. “He doesn't drink he's a buddhist for christs sake’. “That a quite a mouth you have, but of course you know that”- john rynn. This silence in the car after they are released by Jon and Tommy.” do you think your good friends at the studio will read about you in the morning and realise you're actually black” ” the closest you came to being black was watching the cosby show” teaches black student to speak as a white man but the director wants jamal to speak more like a black man.”i’ve heard it might snow” cop says to Graham, this ties in with Cameron later in the film. “It's not like i've been pulled over before”. “Look at me you embarrass me, you embarrass yourself.” “i love you” Cameron to Christine, showing how both characters have developed to forgive and move past the previous events.

**Irony:** Even though he’s black Cameron is willing to cooperate with the cops and although he’s black he is dressed nicely which does not follow stereotypes. Irony in the fact that he tries to run away from the stereotype but in doing so he changes who he is, just to fit in. when Christine crashes her car it is John who comes to save her. This is after he previously sexually assaulted her. Anthony complains about how there is no black men doing right and how there are not as many influential faces in the black community but when it comes to it Cameron becomes this with the police, he stands for what right. Whereas anthony does what he complains about.” Graham says “look at me, you're embarrassing, you embarrass yourself” to anthony. 3 white cops pointing guns at one black man. A white man depicting the outcome of a black man's future.

**Cinematography techniques**

First shot you see of Christine and Cameron is through the car window glass this shows how sometimes black people live in a separate world to whites. When John pulls them over he is at a low angle shot. This show his authority and power and his superiority. Where as Cameron and Christine are at eye level to show they are equal or the same as us, the viewer. Scene is dark to show evil are bad things. Shots on John are very close up, this again shows his power and evil. The close up on Christine face shows the emotion and trauma she is facing. We see the focus on cameron after the sexuall assualt, this show how at this time he was almost in a different place to Christine. Again seen through glass in the bedroom. Cameron face is in the centre of the shot and enlarged when he has to be passive or submissive to the director when he confronts him about Jamal and his speech. When the doors open on Christine it only shows her and an overexposed white bright background. From inside the car John is seen with light around him, as in an angel.

You see Cameron for a low view angle when he beats anthony showing he has the power in the scene. Close up shows Cameron's emotions. The police are shown in close up to show the power they hold in the situation. All cops are white. Although Cameron is under the impression that he holds the power in the situation, the cinematography techniques show that in reality the police do. cameron is seen through the glass in his car. This time not symbolise separation but safety.