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Brandi Pessman, Tim Wucherer, Brad Dawson

We present here guiding questions on the content of the film for group discussion, as well as a brief summary of the film for reference.

Introduction:

A Brooksfilm production, *The Fly* (1986) is an American science-fiction film directed and co-written by David Cronenberg. *The Fly* (1986) is based on the same-named 1957 short story by George Langlaan and a 1958 film written by James Clavell and directed by Kurt Neumann.

Film Summary:

Seth Brundle (played by Jeff Goldblum) is a scientist who, inspired by his life-long struggle with motion sickness, is developing a teleportation device. While at a science conference, he meets Veronica Quaife (played by Geena Davis), a journalist looking to write a story about the next great scientific discovery. Veronica proceeds to document his work on trying to teleport living beings. Things go horribly wrong when Seth attempts to teleport himself and a fly enters the “tele-pod” with him.

Questions for Discussion:

1. How do Seth Brundle’s actions accurately or inaccurately represent those of a scientist? In other words, how are scientists portrayed in the film?
2. How could viewers’ perceptions of insects be influenced or changed by the film?
3. Why do you think the Brundle fly never developed wings or the ability to fly?
4. Did the Brundle fly’s transformation proceed by what you believe is a natural progression?
5. What role do you think the computer chip in Seth Brundle’s’ back played in his transformation into a fly?
6. How would you rewrite the ending of the movie?
7. What do you think was Seth Brundle’s motivation for building the telepods?
8. How is sound or music used to portray mood in the film?
9. Why do you think Seth Brundle is in denial for so long that the machine changed him?
10. When the transformation begins to alter Seth Brundle’s personality, do you think these changes are related to a fly’s “personality”?

11. What behaviors did you notice from Seth Brundle before and after going through the telepod that could be comparable with a fly's behavior?
12. What would you have done differently if you were Seth Brundle in the same situation where you were gradually turning into a fly?
13. What would be one feature or characteristic you would change in Brundle Fly if you were in charge of creating the Brundle Fly (*i.e.*, wings, compound eyes, etc.)?