

## English essay

What elements of Do androids dream of electric sheep translate well into film.

The book Do Androids dream of electric sheep is the sort of science fiction story that has several elements which can be put into film. One element of this book that goes well into film is the setting in particular the infrastructure. It is set in the futuristic Los Angeles it is a place with big tall skyscrapers and virtual cities inside buildings this can be seen on the front cover of the book. The concept of having towns inside huge buildings has been used before in many Science fiction films. The most notable of which I believe is 2001 a space odyssey. Although it is not a huge part of the film early in the movie we see a shot of a space station orbiting the earth in this space station there is a type futuristic city. This was a revolutionary idea in its time. Although the two cities are completely different it is the concept of having cities inside these futuristic worlds which always translates well into film. Another classic example is the death star in the Star Wars trilogy. There are many other elements of the futuristic cities, which translate well into film things such as flying cars which were used in the film blade runner.

There is an important question that is asked in this book that works well on film. That is that this book questions reality it asks us the question how do we know what is real and what is not. On the screen this sort deep moral question has the capacity to catch the audiences attention and keep them interested. An example of this is 2001 a space odyssey. In this movie our view on what reality is is questioned. Another film, which demonstrates this well but in another way, is the Matrix. The plot is very deep this usually means that people either like the film or hate it. This has been the case with some of the most acclaimed films of our time. So if Do Androids dream of electric sheep is in any way similar to films such as 2001 and the Matrix it would be a matter of personal opinion as to whether it translates well into film.

The idea of the character Rick Deckard translates well into film. Rick Deckard has the image of the typical cop who is the best at what he does but he has had enough and he agrees to come back to do this last mission because they need him. Deckard's interaction with the Androids is interesting his job simply is to retire them and the way Deckard and the other characters refer to them and interact with them is really different.

The idea of memories is looked at closely in this book. This is demonstrated in the part where Rachel finds out that she is a Android. She finds out in this moment that everything she has known was a sham this gives a whole new meaning to her so called life and it also makes all of us question reality. This section leaves the reader confused. There is not nearly enough emphasis on this section in the book. This could be demonstrated much better in film where more time could be spent on it. If it was done in film the viewer

would more easily be able to understand Rachel's feeling because we would be actually able to see her reactions and we would be able to appreciate this as a key moment in the whole story.

The concept of having Androids is something which has been used in many films before most notably the Terminator parts 1 and 2. Androids that look like humans always go well on screen they help to generate the audiences imagination especially when faced the situation when you cant tell who are Androids and who are humans this situation arises quite a few times in the book. In the book the Androids are being hunted by Rick Deckard often the reader ends up feeling sorry for the Androids as all they want to do is lead a normal life on earth. The Androids in this book are very advanced to the point where they can experience emotion. This leads us to the moral question of if they can feel emotion why cant they be considered to be alive. This the sort of question that you have to answer your self it really is a matter of opinion. Questions like this work well on the big screen because it makes it clearer than it does if you were reading it. It is very easy to miss things like this in a book.

Do Androids dream of electric sheep is the sort of novel which a film can very easily accompany. This was demonstrated in the movie blade runner which was based on this novel but did not follow the story line exactly. This book deals with very deep moral issues which leaves asking questions about reality an ourselves. It is the sort of science fiction book that will be better understood on the big screen where people can see what is going on and take more in.