

Movie title: *Moonlight*

Summary: *Moonlight* tells the story of a young boy growing up in Miami during the 1980's, in a poor neighborhood that is dominated by gang violence. The film follows him through 3 stages of life - boyhood, adolescence, and young adulthood - as he deals with the social pressures of his upbringing, along with his constant feeling of isolation from his own community.



1. This shot is from one of the beginning scenes, where the main character Chiron comes home to his emotionally abusive mother. He is alone in the hallway, which visually frames him and makes him seem isolated, small, and trapped in his situation. This type of shot, where he is shown alone and staring blankly as he witnesses the unsettling world around him, is repeated as a major theme throughout the movie.



2. This is an example of the repetition mentioned in the last shot - as Chiron gets older, his feeling of isolation and powerlessness over his life stays the same. Here, he is shown in the moments after he's been physically attacked by bullies at school, who have been bullying him since he was a young kid. He's sitting alone at the bottom of the steps, which draws emphasis to his expression.



3. This is from a scene early in the movie, where Chiron goes to the beach with a man from his neighborhood who's become a father figure to him. The man tells Chiron a story from his childhood of an old woman who used to say to him, "at night when the moon is out, your skin color no longer matters. In the moonlight, you turn *blue*." This is an important moment for Chiron, because for the first time in his life, he doesn't feel the pressures of society because of his race. In the moonlight, he is simply Chiron. This time, although he is alone in the shot, he seems completely free against the open sky.