

Orthopedic Impairment: The Bone Collector (Movie) Est. Time: 2 Hours Viewing/45 Minutes Class Time

Objective

Explore how individuals with an orthopedic impairment (sometimes referred to as a physical disability) can be perceived by those without disabilities.

Overview

Homicide Detective Lincoln (Linc) Rhyme sustains injuries that leave him without the use of his arms or legs and only able to move his head and one finger, a condition that drives Rhyme to plan his own suicide. But when a serial killer begins abducting, torturing, and killing victims by impersonating a taxi driver, Rhyme is called on to help solve the case.

A young police officer, Amelia Donaghy, displays keen thinking at the first crime scene and teams up with Rhyme to solve the case. The combination of each person's strengths results in a formidable partnership.

Activity

View the following movie and be prepared to discuss the questions below in class.

Title: *The Bone Collector* (1999)

Studio: Universal Pictures

Questions/Discussion Topics

1. This movie features a central character with a physical disability. In what ways does his disability define the character and shape the plot?
2. How do others in the film perceive the character?
3. Think about how an individual with a physical impairment is portrayed in this movie. Does this portrayal strike you as accurate? Inaccurate? Explain your answer.
4. It has become increasingly controversial for non-disabled actors to portray people with disabilities in films and on television. Do you agree with this critique, and if so did it affect how you viewed this movie?