**Name**: Catharine Forst

**Film Title**: Her

**Guiding concepts and their relationship to genre**:

The guiding concepts relate to the love, loneliness and the relationship of the body and emotions. The love aspect relates to the love story genre side of this film as Theodore and Samantha are bonded by Theodores loneliness and desire for eros. To add on, the relationship of the body and emotions relates to the science fiction genre as the questions that present from a human having a relationship with an operating system creates problems that reflect the future as technology is increasing.

**Examples of the film’s participation in its genre:**

The philosophical questions that are present during this film include, what is a body? What is loves connection with the body? What does it mean to be human? This philosophical questions during the film present problems that can come in the future. It also presents a question most people are starting to look further into due to the up rise of technology in our society, what is loves connection with the body? This concept presents the science fiction genre by situating questions of the present in terms of problems for the future. Also, this film presents factors of the love story genre by producing autonomy through the category of desire as Theodore and eros are connected through the production of Samantha, an operating system that is human at the core but not human on the outside.

**Description of scene(s) and time of appearance**:

The first scene presents the first appearance of the character Samantha due to Theodore’s loneliness. This scene creates the question of what it means to be human by describing how the operating system works and the connection Theodore makes with human beings. (13:38)

The second scene shows the conversation between Theodore and Samantha about Samantha’s worry about how their relationship is on a low energy. Samantha’s suggestion to fix this problem is to have a human body to represent herself. This then brings up the question of what is loves connection with the body? (1:13:51).

**Argument (How do the scene’s formal elements justify your account of the film’s participation in its genre?):**

According to Eharmony Online dating site, 40% of Americans use online dating in 2018, and this has increased after every year. Therefore, with the increasing amount of technology being produced and the amount of technology being used, over half of the nation will be dating online. However, Eharmony also stated that 49% of the individuals that use their site, look for someone with physical characteristics they are attracted to. This film provides a concept that is opposite from this statistic and provides an insight of what our society is leading to. This science fiction film, therefore, situates philosophical questions of the present in terms of problems for the future. At the same time, it displays the love story by producing autonomy through the category of desire between Theodore and Samantha.

In this film, the color of red is very prevalent to display eros and the love desire of Theodore, as he is wearing red the majority of the time, like in my first scene. Theodore is defined throughout the beginning of this film as being lonely due to his recent break up. This is displayed as the lighting is dim and there are a few lights present to show his isolation. Also, the background is blurred out to put the emphasis on his body, which Samantha lacks. The few lights mixed with the darkness along with the blurriness creates an almost spotlight on Theodore. He is seen just going through the motions and being depressed, and not having joy in the everyday things he does. Therefore, he searches for something that can help him, and he finds Samantha. Samantha is an operating system designed to talk and interact with humans. This scene starts with Theodore questioning how Samantha works. This sense of curiosity shows how he questions what it is to be human, and this curiosity continuous throughout the scene. Samantha describes her human like features, such as her intuition, DNA, ability to grow through experiences, and she is always evolving. After this, she states “just like you,” which draws a connection between her being an operating system and Theodore being a human. The scene changes from a shot of Theodore to a reflection of Theodore through the glass. During this scenery change, Samantha is describing those human-like features of herself. The reflection is meant to show how Samantha is a reflection of Theodore in the sense as they both show human features. Theodore is in confusion because she seems like a person but is just a voice on a computer screen. This draws the question of, what does it mean to be human?

The second scene has a color scheme change from red to white. This scene involves Samantha and Theodore in a conversation about their eros. Samantha senses a low energy between her and Theodore’s relationship, and she wants to help bring the energy back up. She suggests having a someone else pose as her, so she is represented with about for Theodore’s happiness. This brings the question of, what is loves connection with the body? Theodore responds negatively to this idea as he feels uncomfortable, but Samantha disagrees and is insecure that she doesn’t have a body. With the white color scheme of his shirt and the bed sheets, it shows how there is a somewhat blank action for hope. The conversation presents the mess their relationship mis going through and that is also represented in the fil with Theodore’s hair being messy along with the mess on his bed. Theodore desires love and affection from Samantha, but this scene shows how that desire was lacking with the problem of the body.

Society is aiming toward a more social media and technology-based community where a human dating an OS will become normal. This science fiction film presents that problem between a non-body to body relationship. This therefore connects love with the body. However, does a human need a body. This film depicts a human through everything but a body. The operating system is given a name, personality, desire to love, and intuition. These qualities make Samantha human without the body to prove it.