

2AMK9 ANALYSIS PART 5: IDEA

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TITLE: 2AMK9.

THE MEANING OF 2AM ACCORDING TO INFORMATION BLOG

Mental: “You’re struggling to process your place in life, or to feel safe. You’re worrying about how to “step forward,” and might be struggling with issues regarding your appearance or weight. If you are waking at this time, it is usually because of unresolved energy pockets that you picked up in early to mid-childhood. When you were young, your inability to process what they meant made you either avoidant or resistant to the circumstances in which they arose. To this day, it is impacting you. You are in need of guidance and direction. Though you are beginning to have an awakening in your life, a lot is still very new to you, and so you are literally waking up at the spiritual “witching hour” (not necessarily a bad thing) to absorb more of the information that you need.”

Spiritual: “You are in need of energy. You’re giving more than you’re getting, and it’s depleting you. It might be an issue of not being open to receiving (issues of circulation often relate to resisting “flow”) but it also could be because you don’t know how to make yourself happy, so you’re relying on the idea of goals or other people’s approval to do it for you. You need to remove these old, limiting, inherited beliefs and ideas you have about yourself that you picked up before you were even conscious of what was happening. You need to re-learn how to literally digest, process and properly absorb the lessons that were offered. This is the time during which the veil between dimensions is lowest, it’s possible that energies are trying to communicate with you (passed loved ones, guides, etc.). It is also possible that because you are becoming more sensitive to subtle energies, your body is waking itself up when there’s more happening in the physical world. Stay awake and write down any messages you receive or ideas that crop up in your head at this time.”

THE MEANING OF K9:

K-9 or K9 is a homophone of canine. In America a K9 most often refers to a police dog or a dog that is specifically trained to assist police officers and other law-enforcement in the line of duty.

TITLE ANALYSIS:

2AMK9 is all about how our psychological traumas can make a lasting influence on our daily lives. The show centers around a young woman who struggles with insomnia. Janice is haunted by an invisible dog that only she can seem to hear which symbolises her past traumas. The K9 only visits at 2AM when Janice is most manic. Does the dog symbolise The lesson of the show is fairly open to interpretation. As it’s a 10 Minute play the themes must be incredibly simple and clear. The name represents Generation Z’s general insomnia and wary attitude towards the world around them.

KEY SPEECHES / PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENTSSPEECHES

S#	Pg#	CHARACTER	SPEECH
INT	0	HOST	<p>Ladies and gentlemen, allow yourself for a moment, to be teleported back to a dimension in time, a region in space--vast, and perilous, between waking and dreams, the intersection of science and superstition, and, for our purposes, legally dissimilar to any pre-existing licenses or copyright. I mean, come on.</p> <p>Tonight, the [NAME OF THEATER] would like to present you an offering--a talisman, if you will, transporting the willing to another world--a world double parked in the poorly lined space between surety and fear--a curio shop on the seldom trafficked strip mall of the shadowland, we call:</p> <p>The Twilight Gallery.</p>
	29	HOST	<p>Janice moved to the suburbs in search of life at a slower pace. But the quiet solitude isn't as calming as she'd hoped. Perhaps she could get herself a nice, friendly dog for company? Unfortunately, her landlord has a firm "no pets" policy--and a loose grasp of right and wrong. So Janice can't have a dog could have her, since her new neighborhood is in The Twilight Gallery.</p>
3	30	BENNY	<p>And don't you mind Ray. He likes it when pretty girls rent the place, but shouldn't have anything to worry about. His wife keeps him on a tight leash.</p>
4	31	JANICE	<p>You come here every night. Always after midnight. I know because I still Do Not Sleep. I can tell when you're coming because your chain. It makes noise. Are you out there watching me back?</p>
5	33	LANDLORD	<p>Yeah, the marker. Property line. Very important. There are all sorts of rules, and I'd hate for you to break one. It means your lease could be terminated.</p> <p>I'm here to help you. But you gotta call me, let me know what's going on. I could come over again, make sure it's all good. You know what I mean?</p>
7	34	JANICE	<p>The phone's rung three times tonight. I know someone's there. I</p>

			<p>hear the breathing. I didn't answer after the first one. Now that it's stopped, it's too quiet. You don't think there's something in the bushes? You don't hear that? If you don't, it must be nothing. Promise you'll stay here tonight? Outside my window? All I want to do is try to go to sleep. Stay? Stay. Good dog.</p>
		<p>LANDLORD</p> <p>What the hell?</p> <p><i>The shadow dog growls again, a warning. Its shadow grows larger.</i></p> <p>LANDLORD</p> <p>I know you're out there. Go on, git.</p> <p><i>The dog snarls and lunges for him. Everything goes dark, but we hear the sounds of the attack. It's loud: snaring dog, a man shouting in pain. JANICE enters, frantic, looks toward the screen, the yard, but there's nothing at all to see. She leaves.</i></p>	<p><i>She exits. The shadow dog remains. Sound: the rustling in the bushes is real, and grow louder. His shadow grows larger. Soft cursing and heavy breathing: It's the LANDLORD, entering with binoculars. He focuses his binoculars on a spot, and watches for a moment. Then he fishes his keys from his pocket and moves in the direction of the house. He hears a dog growl.</i></p>
8	36	JANICE	<p>But I could call them. I could tell them that you're making unwanted sexual advances, that I feel uncomfortable. That you keep threatening to evict me. That you make false claims about a dog attack and are here to intimidate. And the city will care, when I file a claim against you. You'll care when you go to court.</p>
		BENNY	<p>We've lived here a long time. We've witnessed a lot of things about this place. A court might like to hear about them. But we didn't hear anything sounding like a dogfight last night.</p>
		LANDLORD	<p>Hold up. I must've gotten confused with a different property. Clearly you don't have a dog. There's no need for anyone to make any phone calls.</p>
		JANICE	<p>If I miss a rent payment, then you can come out here. Otherwise, write me a letter. Don't show up without an appointment. Don't call me.</p>

PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENTS:

S#	Pg#	CHARACTER	PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENTS
INT	0	HOST	Ladies and gentlemen, allow yourself for a moment, to be teleported back to a dimension in time, a region in space--vast, and perilous, between waking and dreams, the intersection of science and superstition...
	29	HOST	Janice moved to the suburbs in search of life at a slower pace. But the quiet solitude isn't as calming as she'd hoped.
		HOST	So Janice can't have a dog could have her, since her new neighborhood is in The Twilight Gallery.
1		JANICE	Quiet is good.
		LANDLORD	I'm happy to help you with anything... anything at all.
2	30	JANICE	It's 2AM. I am wide awake. It is <i>too</i> quiet. What are you doing up?
3		VIVIAN	It's nice here. Quiet.
	31	BENNY	There are some migrant workers that camp out in the field behind Winn-Dixie. I've seen them with dogs / sometimes.
4		JANICE	Are you out there watching me back?
5	32	LANDLORD	I'm glad I caught you.
	33	JANICE	Have I done something wrong?
		LANDLORD	You really need to get in touch.
6		VIVIAN	Now Benny, don't go frightening the girl.
		BENNY	You have any problems at all, you know where we are. If you holler, we can hear you and will come running.
	34	VIVIAN	That's what good neighbors are for, dear.
7		JANICE	Promise you'll stay here tonight?
		LANDLORD	I know you're out there. Go on, git.

8	35	JANICE	Around 2AM maybe?
		VIVIAN	Having some bad dreams?
		VIVIAN	It's true. If she'd had a dog we've noticed. I'm a busybody.
		LANDLORD	I can have you evicted. You let that dog get at me. I know you were there, and you didn't do a thing to stop it.
	36	BENNY	You have an accident, Ray? Looks like you're in a bad shape.
		VIVIAN	You got attacked by an invisible dog?
		LANDLORD	Her dog attacked me last night. I don't know where you're hiding it, but I'm calling animal control.
		JANICE	Why were you outside the apartment last night?
		JANICE	I could tell them that you're making unwanted sexual advances, that I feel uncomfortable.
		JANICE	You'll care when you go to court.
		VIVIAN	Your wife might care. I could call her right now.
	37	LANDLORD	I'm still calling animal control. Damn strays.
		VIVIAN	I just can't believe I slept through the whole thing. He deserves every single stitch. Now I have an oven to get back to.
			<i>JANICE walks around the backyard, inspecting for signs of struggle. In the distance, the faint jangling of the chain on a dog's collar.</i>
		JANICE	Good dog.

CENTRAL CONFLICT

CONFLICTS BETWEEN CHARACTERS / STAKES:

CHARACTER	STAKES	CONFLICTS
JANICE	Being sexually assaulted by the Landlord.	The 2AMK9 not letting her sleep. The Landlord touching her.
LANDLORD	Being caught and imprisoned for her unwanted sexual	Needing to find someone that will notice her back. Seeking financial security. The

	advances.	2AMK9 attacking her. Being a poor lesbian in Texas.
VIVIAN	Letting down the Neighborhood Watch committee.	Not having secure evidence to take down the Landlord.
BENNY	Disappointing her husband, Vivian, and being deported or kicked out at an old age.	Dirty American Politics about Immigration. Doesn't speak up for himself. Usually lets her husband do the talking. Being an Asian immigrant in Texas married to a Christian white man.

COMMON CONFLICTS:

- Reputation
- Exposed Mental State
- Loss of Sleep
- Lack of Safety in the Neighborhood

CONFLICTS BETWEEN IDEAS:

- Upper Class vs. Middle Class
- Older Generation Ideals vs. Younger Generation Ideals
- Fear of the Unknown

STATEMENT OF DRAMATIC ACTION

Janice attempts to find solace in this new stage of her life but is met with adversity from a sexual harassing Landlord, generational differences, conflicting religious statuses, internalized mental illness, and contrasting class status to discover their own interpretation of peace and safety and protect the suburbs from outside antagonists.

IDEA STATEMENT

*2AMK9 tells the story of four incredibly flawed humans living in suburban Texas. It is important to know that the show is written as an additional episode of Rod Serling's *The Twilight Zone*. The technical design as indicated by the production notes required a dog shadow puppet. The Host only has the two opening monologues, one is actually optional, but with a different directing approach he becomes a fundamental component of the show. It discusses themes of intergenerational tension and the lasting psychological damaging of sexual assault through the symbolism of an imaginary dog that only the main character can hear. Additionally, the audience should note that the Landlord is played as lesbian woman instead of a man as it's*

important to discuss that lesbians, especially white lesbians, can be sexual predators too. Each character represents different American ideals, ideations and identities:

Janice (Generation Z)

Host (The Golden Age of Television / Glorification of the Past)

Vivian (Baby Boomer)

Benny (Immigration)

Landlord (Middle Class).