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Narrative Analysis

## **BOYZ N THE HOOD**

The storytelling and narrative in the movie are used to show how the environment and choices changed the lives of three young Black men growing up in South Central LA. The way the story is told helps the audience understand the struggles and limited options that the characters face. It also makes the message of the film more powerful by connecting us closely to the people and their community.

The film doesn't just follow one story but mostly Tre, Doughboy, Ricky, and their families. The story is told in a straight line from Tre's childhood to his teen years. This helps the audience grow with the characters and see how their lives change based on where they live, what they have been taught and what decisions they make. The story starts Tre, when he was young, getting into a fight at school and his mom deciding to send him to live with his father. This part is important because it sets up one of the biggest themes in the film about how having a parent figure can help someone survive and stay out of trouble.

Narration isn't used much in the film but the story itself is filled with silent moments, conversations, and actions that say a lot. Like when the scenes where Tre's father, Furious, teaches him about improvement and respect show how storytelling can be used to teach. The story doesn't rush but there's space for the characters to talk, joke, and reflect. This pacing helps the audience get close to them so when something tragic happens like when Ricky got shot, it feels real and heartbreaking.

The film's structure also plays with expectations. For most of the movie, Ricky is shown as someone with potential like having a football scholarship, good behavior, and dreams of getting out of the ghetto. But the story doesn't give him a happy ending as he was shot and killed. This goes against the usual success story and shows how even good kids are not safe from violence and problems within the system. That storytelling choice says something deep about how unfair the world can be for people in neighborhoods like theirs.

The ending also adds on to the story's meaning behind it as Doughboy reflects on his brother Ricky's death and how the world don't care about what happened. His words are heavy and is left with the feeling that these type of stories happen all the time but are ignored often. That final moment of reflection where Tre decides to go to college and leave gives us some hope but it shows how rare that escape really is.

In the end, Boyz N the Hood uses characters and emotional scenes to show the deep impact of place, family, and personal choices. The way the film tells the story helps the audience

understand that these issues are not just personal but they're a part of a bigger system that needs to be seen and challenged.