

Key Narrative Conventions of the Classical Hollywood Narrative

- **Clarity.** Viewers should not be confused about setting, time, events or character motivations.
- **Unity.** Connections between cause and effect must be direct and complete.
- **Characters.** They should invite viewer identification, be active, and seek goals.
- **Closure.** Third acts and epilogues should tie up loose ends and answer all questions.
- **“Unobtrusive craft.”** Stories are told in a manner that draws viewers into the diegesis and does not call attention to the storytelling or filmmaking process.