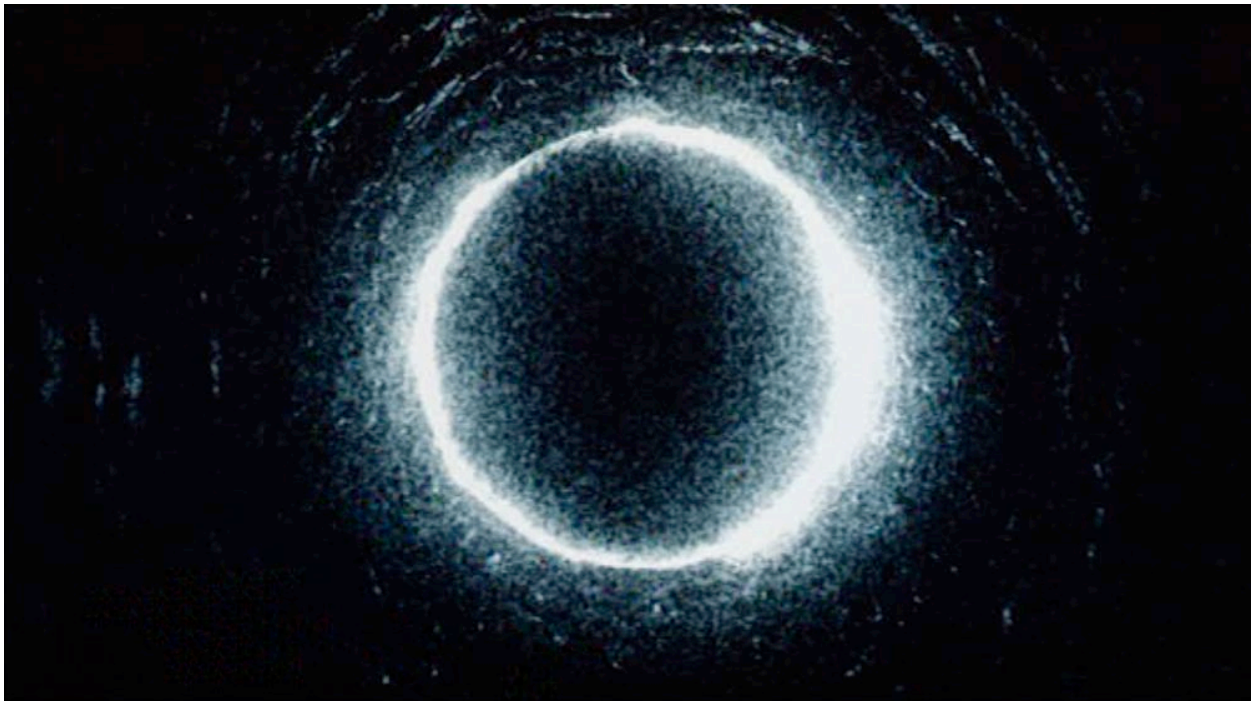


The Ring



Gore Verbinski

The Ring

Performance

Naomi Watts' performance reflects the fear her character feels throughout the film.



Her movement throughout the film is very slow and cautious like when she first watches the video to when she slowly approaches Noah at the end. This shows she is fearful about what may happen or what she might uncover. This slow movement also builds tension for the viewer who is anticipating what will happen next.

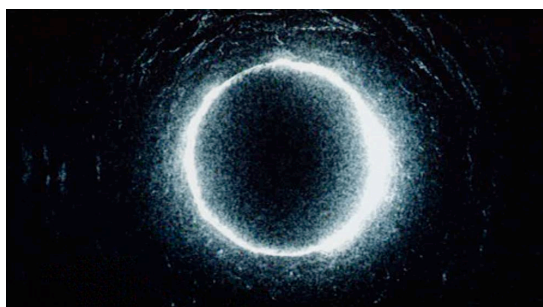
In **close up shots** she shows her fear through the widening of her eyes and the opening of her mouth. This look of shock or fear is familiar to viewers who feel the same way she does because of the close up camera angle. It also looks like she could scream in a loud and terrifying way, as she does at crucial points in the film.

Setting

The film has many different settings but some stand out more than others for their fear factor.



The cabin at the Shelter Mountain Inn is a **stereotypical** horror setting of the cabin in the woods. The cabin is very eerie looking, run down, dark and isolated. This is where Rachel watches the video. The inside of the cabin is very dark and in one scene, the room is flooded with blood red light. All of this creates fear and unease in Rachel and the viewer.



The Ring

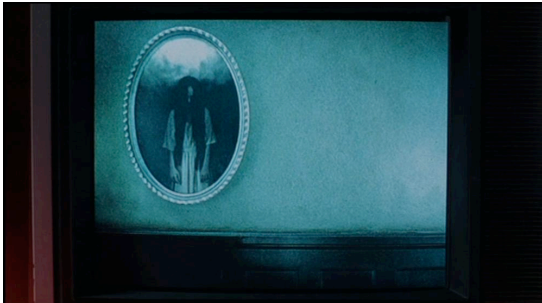


The Morgan farm is scary for similar reasons. It is also a little run down and isolated. There is a lack of human life for such a large farm as the only person living there is Richard Morgan. Inside the house is very dark, and when Rachel returns at night, the intermittent light of the lighthouse increases the scary atmosphere. This allows Mr

Morgan to appear from nowhere to startle both Rachel and the viewer.

Lighting

The lighting in the film has been designed in a very specific way.

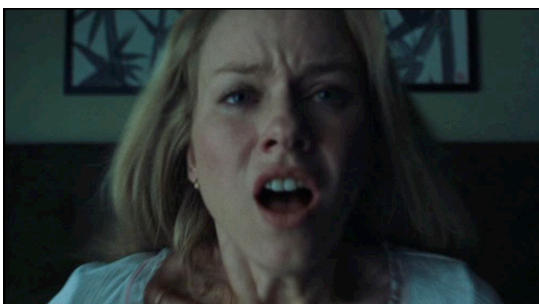


For the majority of the film the lighting creates a strange blue/grey look. This has been done using a **filter**. The blue/grey lighting effect creates fear because it echoes the colour of Samara's video that terrifies Rachel throughout the film.

In **key sequences** in the film (Shelter Mountain Inn, Morgan Farm) the lighting is very **low key** and dark. This creates fear for Rachel and the viewer because the dark spaces give the idea of the presence of unseen threats.

The one major change in the lighting comes in both Shelter Mountain Inn scenes when the red leaved tree creates a blood red colour in the cabin. Both scenes create fear in Rachel and the blood red colour represents death and danger to the viewer.

Camera Angles



The main camera angle used to show the fear of Rachel is a close up. This angle is used at many points in the film to show the audience the expression of shock and fear on the actor's face. The wide eyes, open mouth and deep intake of breath are all captured up close, making the viewer react too.

The Ring

Sound/Music

Sound and music are crucial in films because they complete the viewing process.

The music in “The Ring” is there to support the action on screen. There are two main themes in the music.

Samara has her own theme. It is a haunting tune, heard off screen and in her music box, and the slow tempo and volume of the music serve to create an eerie atmosphere. The childish tune is also unusual in the **genre** of the film.

The other music on the soundtrack is quite different. It is quick and striking with a deep tone. The music uses **dissonance**, which is the deliberate choice of notes that clash. This lack of harmony in the music creates an evil and sinister tone to support the action on screen.

The main use of sound is the sound of **distortion** from the cursed video of Samara. When Rachel watches the video this sound of distortion and interference can be heard and when Samara enters the real world, this is the sound effect used. This connects the sound effect with the feeling of fear.

