

Groundhog Day

1. How and why was Phil trapped?

Phil trapped in by the snowstorm after Groundhog ceremony in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania where he is doing the broadcasting work about what is groundhog prediction of that year for second night. The strange thing happens. When he wakes up in the morning, all events that had happened to him in previous day are happened all over again and when he tries to escape from the repeated day he cannot at the first. As a result, he again is trapped in the time loop of life.

In first trapped he was trapped because of the snowstorm. In second trapped, in my opinion, he was trapped for himself to learn how human should live life in common aspects of normal human culture.

2. Is Groundhog Day a religious movie? Explain your answer.

No. According to the definition of Religion, Religion is a collection of cultural systems, belief systems, and worldviews that establishes symbols that relate humanity to spirituality and, sometimes, to moral values.^[1] Compared to story in the movie, the meaning conveying from this movie is the common aspects of what the meaning of life are or what the purpose of life is which represent the cultural system, worldview and belief but these have not be a symbolism thought so that separated people into groups like Christianity or Islam or so on.

3. How would you characterize the phases that Phil goes through? What does he learn as a result of his experience?

When the first figure out, Phil was trapped in the time loop. He is trying to escape from this time loop by treating life as a game such as risk his life, gorges on food and it ended with hopeless because no matter what he does the time will reset itself as if nothing has happened.

Inspired from the drunken friends one night, Phil starts to find what the purpose of life is. At first the purpose of his life learning everything he can about his female producer, Rita, so he can pretend to be her ideal man and seduce her but his attempt end up failure day by day. Thus, with desperate he starts to kill himself, but he still stuck in this time loop.

At the end, passing through many unsuccessful endeavors' experiences Phil starts to know value of him from Rita: the fact that someone actually liked him for whom he is. He begin to control the circumstance instead of let it control him by doing new things the he himself never done it or living life that he has never lived before such as learning piano lesson, learning how to be ice sculptor, and helping people because he know what will happen and also he have unlimited in the world.

The changing point is he start to help an old man who was died in that day consequence by his action. He tries to save him and him start to concern for others: helping, meeting with other and he have learn to accept the condition of life. As a result he is able to pass the day.

4. How is Phil's journey related to Existentialism?

Phil's journey is related to Existentialism in the way that any consequences that happen from Phil's decision making, Phil have to accept it.

5. What would you do if you were trapped in a "Groundhog Day"?

At first I would be happy, because I get a second change to fixed what I have done wrong if there are any and I can do anything bad things without punishment and I have unlimited time in the world. Later, I would try to do anything to get out of this day and if I don't change any things, I would accept it and live with it.

6. What does your answer to the previous question say about your beliefs about the meaning of life?

According from the answer, meaning of life, personally, means you have to accept what life is and accept natural and social environment and adjust yourself for surviving in the society.

[1] <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion>

