

How to bring the characters and story of the Twilight Zone into the present day

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Contents

Introduction.....	3
Chapter 1 – No Time like the Past.....	6
What is the Twilight Zone?	6
What inspired Rod Serling to create the Twilight Zone?.....	7
How did the Twilight Zone begin?	8
What made the Twilight Zone such a success?.....	9
Chapter 2 – The Eye of the Beholder.....	11
The Twilight Zone: Remade and Rebooted.....	12
Inspired by the Twilight Zone.....	16
Chapter 3 – What you need.....	17
My Idea.....	17
My Major Project.....	18
My Format	19
Conclusion	21
Bibliography.....	23
Introduction.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Chapter 1	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Chapter 2	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Abstract

In this dissertation I'm going to be exploring the different areas of the Twilight Zone. What is that you ask? Well to put it simply, the Twilight Zone is doorway into imagination, classic version of Black Mirror, a character and thematic study under guise of a science fiction television series. I want to bring it into the modern day in a way that will honour the legacy of its 1959 series and its creator Rod Serling. In order to do that I will be researching the past the present and the future of the Twilight Zone with the hopes of gather enough information to build my own structure for a modern version of the show

Introduction

"You're traveling through another dimension. A dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind. A journey into a wondrous land whose boundaries are that of imagination. That's the signpost up ahead. Your next stop—*The Twilight Zone*." (Serling, 1960)

Have you ever found yourself in an unusual situation? Questioning your morality?

Questioning reality? If the answer is yes to any of those questions then the opening narration probably applies to you. It also means that you should find the following exploration of the history of the Twilight Zone all too familiar. For in the following dissertation I will be looking at the past of the Twilight Zone, how it's evolved and how it has inspired the modern day media, and finally how I'm going to use what I've researched to help make my major project. I'm going to be looking at this research as a director and a scriptwriter as those are the roles I want to undertake for my major project. I've decided to use the titles of specific episodes of the Twilight Zone as the titles of my chapter, to make a connection between my themes and topics in that chapter and in the episode.

"The present defines the future. The future builds on the foundation of the past." (Gifty Akita, 2014)

For my first chapter I will be looking more specifically at the history of the Twilight Zone from 1959, the reason I want research the past of the series is because it's a very important thing to understand in order to create something that is inspired by it today or in the future. The four topics and questions I want to focus on in my first chapter will be 'What is the Twilight Zone?', 'What inspired Rod Serling to create the Twilight Zone?', 'How was the Twilight Zone created?' and 'What made the Twilight Zone such a cultural success?'

My second chapter will look at media inspired by the Twilight Zone like Black Mirror, and the reboots of the Twilight Zone, focusing more on how the series has influenced the media of today. This come in the form of comparisons between the

original series and some the newer series that have been influenced by the Twilight Zone, and how some of the story and character development has differed over the years. The main themes I want to focus on in this chapter are 'How time has changed original stories?', 'How the Twilight Zone has changed and evolved today?' and 'How the Twilight Zone has inspired media today?'

Finally, in my third chapter I want to bring together the research from the prior two chapters and apply it to my major project to show how I'm going to create something inspired by the Twilight Zone. More specifically I want create a format for bringing the Twilight Zone into the modern day successfully, so that I can use it to help me create my major project, the ideas I want talk about in my final chapter are 'My idea', 'My major project' and 'My format'.

Chapter 1 – No Time like the Past

For this chapter I want to look at the original 1959 Twilight Zone series, I want to and give my view on a few questions as well as research into what made it so special and successful. That is why I decided to name this chapter after the episode 'No Time like the past', a story that follows a man who wanted to leave his life in 20th century (the present day at the time of the release of this episode) to go back to a time where he feels more comfortable, before realising that going back to the past isn't the answer, but moving forward and learning lessons from our past to inform and try to improve our future is. "Children of yesterday, heirs of tomorrow" (Serling, 1963) is a line from the closing narration of this story, I feel as if it has a lot of importance in many different conversations today, stating that we should learn from yesterday in order to master tomorrow.

I thought that the plot and the title of this episode applied quite nicely to this chapter as I am going to be looking back at a time where the Twilight Zone was at its prime. By the end of this dissertation, I aim to have used the information I've gathered in this chapter to try and help myself create something inspired by the Twilight Zone that has also moved forward into the modern day. I do also want to talk about how it's influenced the modern media and its legacy in my second chapter, but for now I want to focus on the original, and in my opinion the best version of the Twilight Zone, after all there is no time like the past.

What is the Twilight Zone?

You may be wondering what exactly the Twilight Zone is, well let me tell you, the Twilight Zone was a television series from 1959 that was created by Rod Serling, it was an anthology series that had a different story and a new set of actors and characters in every episode, there were no connected story arcs that took place

across a series, there were only 25 minute long episodes that told a singular story. Overall the 1959 Twilight Zone series spanned from 1959 to 1964 with five series and 156 episodes in total. The success of the series led to not only a feature film with short segments focused on different stories, but also a television film focused on some of the lost episodes, a ride in Disney land with a brand new story to go with it and three different reboots (in 1985, 2002 and 2019). And if that wasn't enough it has also inspired multiple different films, television series, video and board games and even music believe it or not.

“Justifying the analysis is the truth that the twilight zone was the best art-directed show in TV history and one of the most influential”(Wolfe,1997)

This can be seen by the multiple different forms of media inspired by the series, such as Black Mirror created by Charlie Brooker who has said in the past that Rod Serling and the Twilight Zone were very clever, uncompromising in their views and were a great inspiration for his modern day ‘What If’ technological stories (Brooker,2013). The series left behind a huge legacy as it managed to tackle thoughtful topics and current issues with creativity and the capability to craft a story that would both teach and entertain. Across its five series it managed to reach into many different genres with great success, from comedy to mystery, from romance to horror, from thriller to science fiction, the series managed to tell effective and entertaining stories within all of those genre and more. This was down to its long list of extremely talented and famous writers and actors, which I will talk about later on in this chapter.

[What inspired Rod Serling to create the Twilight Zone?](#)

Well, how was the idea of the Twilight Zone created? It all started with Rod Serling, the creator of the Twilight Zone, and one of its main writers, in fact Rod Serling managed to write 93 episodes out of a total of 156. Rod Serling was a soldier during world war two, a pilot in fact, while he was away fighting in the war, Rod Serling saw

a lot of disturbing things that he struggled to deal with, at first it was said that he took up boxing to vent, but instead, after he got back home he used his scripts and stories and his job as a writer to explore complex themes and contemporary topics as a way of dealing with trauma from the war (Goldstein, 2014). Having made clear that he had many problems with the media and the views of the times, censorship and racism being two of the many things that Rod Serling clashed many times over, Rod decided to take these somewhat sensitive topics of the time and explore them under the guise of science fiction in order to escape the censorship of the time. He would often explore topics and feelings he felt close to, for example episodes such as 'the thirty fathom grave' and 'King nine will not return' dealt with survivors guilt and quite a few of the episodes deal with post war terror and some the problems that people had to deal with after the war had ended. He also used episodes like 'I am the night – colour me black' to explore racism and used female characters in his stories to push forward his views on gender and its place in the time, he'd do this by creating smart female characters that were self-dependent and were quick thinking to show powerful female characters in the media of the time.

[How did the Twilight Zone begin?](#)

The show itself started as an episode of a separate series, a backdoor pilot was made for the Twilight Zone. The very first proposed episode for the Twilight Zone was titled 'the time element' and the script was written by Rod Serling in 1958 and was purchased by CBS in the same year, it was set to air as part of another anthology series named the 'Westinghouse Desilu Playhouse'. This script contain all the hallmarks usually associated with the Twilight Zone, starting the script with an opening narration, strong themes of science fiction and fantasy throughout and a final plot twist followed by a closing narration. It was such a unique experience and

mixture of these elements that the episode received extremely high praise and stood out among the other episodes from the 'Westinghouse Desilu Playhouse', so much so that it allowed Rod Serling to create his own series based completely on the anthological premise set up in the pilot, this would end up being called the Twilight Zone.

"If you have the temerity to try to dramatize a theme that involves any particular social controversy currently extant, then you're in deep trouble" (Serling, 1959)

Looking back at interviews with Rod Serling towards the beginning of the series, it seems that the series began as a way to tackle sensitive topics without the censorship and controversy you would normally gain by talking about these morally complex themes and questionable actions in a drama (Lacy, 1995).

[What made the Twilight Zone such a success?](#)

And finally I want to look at what makes the Twilight zone so special, what made it such a critical success at the time it was created and released, and why it had such a cultural impact and became a well-known staple of its time. It really comes down to the creative team behind the series, of course Rod Serling was a huge part of the series. However, the amount of well know writers and actors used in the production of the episodes as well as the numerus insightful short stories that were adapted for the series helped create a very high quality of story and character development.

Writers of the time such as Charles Beaumont, Richard Matheson and George Clayton Johnson were some of the few regular writers of the Twilight Zone that were held to high acclaim for their work outside of the series as well their work on the series. These talents were combined with a high calibre of well-known actors like Burgess Meredith, William Shatner, Martin Balsam and Robert Redford, who received fame for their work on the series and the numerous roles they took within this series. These aspects of the series allowed the Twilight Zone to appear to the

public as an intellectual piece of work that would pose moral questions to the audience.

The writers of the Twilight Zone managed craft a feeling around the series, one that hasn't been replicated in the same way since. For every story, the writers would focus on a main character who is dealing with an unusual situation that tests the main characters views on the world, these characters would normally have an unusual character trait that would make these situations morally challenging to the audience. Each episode would try to tackle a different issue using the characters traits to try and inform the audience on current issues in the world of 1950s and 1960s America. At first the series began by hiding these issues under the science fiction premise, by using allegories in episodes like 'the whole truth'. The writers also used the titles of some episode as clever ways to indicate the themes of the episodes, the title 'I shot an arrow into the air' is the part of a famous line from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's 'The arrow and the song', 'I shot an arrow into the air, it fell to earth I knew not where' (Longfellow, 2000). This line was an inspiration for the episode and to use in the title was a clever and subtle way for Serling to tell the audience what was happening in the episode, another episode title that subtly told the audience the twist of the story was the episode titled 'third from the sun'. Both the stories and the titles were combined to create what is now known as the classic Twilight Zone.

Chapter 2 – The Eye of the Beholder

I decided to name this chapter after a very famous and important episode of the original 1959 Twilight Zone series as I feel that the title is very relevant to the topic of this chapter, that being how the Twilight Zone has evolved and influenced media.

‘The eye of the beholder’ is a story about perspective, and how perspective can affect how you see certain aspects of the world. In this chapter I want to explore the different films and television series that the Twilight Zone has inspired since 1959 and how perspective has shifted as time has passed, focusing mostly on recent media but also looking at some specific remakes and reboots of the original series and its episodes. I mostly want to focus on story and character differences, but I will also look at some other aspects of filmmaking and how they affect the story. I want to compare some of these examples to the 1959 series to support my opinion that the original Twilight Zone series, although simpler and shorter in episode length than some of its more modern counterparts, is far more intelligent and generally better in its stories and characters.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder (Hungerford, 1878). This idiom can be interpreted in multiple different ways, I believe that what Margaret Wolfe Hungerford was trying to say in her book “Molly Bawn” and what Rod Serling was intending when he named his famous episode of the Twilight Zone after it, was that beauty is subjective and that everything can be beautiful and ugly to different people based on the mentality of people, how they were raised and what time they were raised in. Another great, more recognisable idiom with a similar if not the same meaning would be “one man’s trash is another man’s treasure”, they both seem to make a point of perspective and

how it can affect how we see certain things in relation to other people in different circumstances and different points in time.

[The Twilight Zone: Remade and Rebooted](#)

Looking more specifically at both the 1960 original and the 2003 remake of the Twilight Zone episode 'the eye of the beholder', I want to explore for me what makes the original version of the episode a better telling of its story and a more effective way of teaching its lesson without drawing attention away from it. Both versions of the episode follow the same plot and are almost exactly the same, shot for shot, but there are some key differences that make the 1960 episode an overall better experience for most people. But I'm getting ahead of myself, the plot itself is very important as to why some people think changing aspects of the original devalues its lesson.

The story centres on a woman whose face is covered with bandages, named Janet Tyler, who has undergone facial reconstructive surgery so that she can fit in with society. Throughout the 25 minute long episode it is made clear by the doctors and nurses (whose faces we never see) that Janet's face is hideously deformed and that this is her final chance to have it altered, however if the surgery fails Janet would be exiled and sent out to live with a group people like her, who are outcast and segregated from the major population, with minimal contact with the rest of the world. Towards the end of the episode, it is revealed that Janet's face looks normal under the bandages, but the surgery had failed. The doctors and nurses step out of the shadows to reveal their faces as seen in the image below, mangled pig like faces, that seems to be normal wherever this takes place, and that normal for us seems to be seen as a disfiguration. The episode ends with Janet accepting her fate and leaving with another person like her to join their colony.



Figure (1): (Disfigured doctor and nurse)
(the eye of the beholder, 1960)

"Now the questions that come to mind: "Where is this place and when is it?" "What kind of world where ugliness is the norm and beauty the deviation from that norm?" You want an answer? The answer is it doesn't make any difference, because the old saying happens to be true. Beauty *is* in the eye of the beholder, in this year or a hundred years hence. On this planet or wherever there is human life – perhaps out amongst the stars – beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Lesson to be learned in the Twilight Zone." (Serling, 1960)

I feel as if this story is a very important one and is a very creative way of telling it and of exploring a problem of the time, that being racism. Using the rubbery looking faces of the medical staff in contrast with the beautiful face of Janet Tyler, Rod Serling managed to exude pity from the audience for someone who in our world would be considered normal if not beautiful (Wolfe, 1997). At the time of the episode being created and filmed in 1959, and when it was eventually released a year later, racism was still a large problem in America. Rod Serling was known for his activism and stance against racism and how he would get into arguments with studio heads and television executives over racism in the media. He would use his platform to share the message that discrimination of any kind wasn't right, Rod Serling had been praised multiple times for his stance and use of media to promote his beliefs. He received high praise from the critic Jack Gould for his 1958 television film *A Town Has Turned to Dust*, as he yet again incorporated his views into his work.

"Mr. Serling incorporated his protest against prejudice in vivid dialogue and sound situations. He made his point that hate for a fellow being leads only to the ultimate destruction of the bigoted." (Gould, 1958)

Having the context of that time period already makes the original better, it gives it more substance, meaning and more depth. The remake however comes across as shameless and a cheap way to cash in on the prior success, as the story of the original is held in such high regard. In the article titled 'Carbon copy does not an homage make' it is stated that the idea to remake the episode shot for shot wasn't necessarily a bad one, but seems like a pointless exercise (Bonar, 2003). Another reason why people seem to feel as if the original is better than the remake is the practical effects used to create the faces of the doctors. Allow me to ask you this, looking at both the coloured image to the right and the black and white picture above, which looks more horrifying, more disturbed. Most people



Figure (2): (Disfigured doctor and nurse) (the eye of the beholder, 2003)

seem to think it's the coloured picture, as they look as if they've been scarred by acid or suffer from third degree burns, and they think that it takes away from the story, at least in comparison to the original episode. I personally found myself more shocked by how they looked in the 2003 episode than the twist, now that may be because I'd seen the original before, but even so, when comparing the two versions, I feel as though the original is more effective with its storytelling.

Another example of an episode from the original Twilight Zone series that was remade in a much more recent version is 'Nightmare at 20,000ft'. This is yet another fairly famous episode that has been remade, the difference in this case is that it was loosely adapted for the 2019 reboot of the Twilight Zone, and by loosely adapted I mean that it borrows the basic premise and set up from the original and spins it into a more modern telling of the underlying story in the original. Renaming the episode 'Nightmare at 30,000ft' and featuring many different references to the original

episode, the reboot managed to begin in a similar position to the original, a man suffering from PTSD and several nervous breakdowns is boarding plane. From this point forward the plots diverge and head in different directions, both of which push the main character towards a situation where they would be seen as unhinged or unwell. The main character in both versions manages to alienate both the passengers and the flight crew while trying to save the flight from a catastrophe, be it a gremlin destroying the plane from the outside, or a podcast that details the way that the plane will crash. While the original seems to focus more on its main character and how a person with this condition would function in a situation that would make him question his own sanity, the 2019 remake seems to focus on shock value and the final twist, which by the end of the story seems extremely forced, in fact it feels like the final scene was added to the story at the last minute.

Unfortunately most people feel as though most of the 2019 rebooted series has similar problems, it feels less about the characters and more about the twists, and the reboot feels as though it is a poor imitation of the original series, with exception to the first episode 'The Comedian'. Overall it seems as if the people behind the 2019 reboot have misunderstood what made the 1959 series so successful, as they seem to have come to the conclusion that all episodes have to be within the thriller genre, have to keep a dark and serious tone, and have to have a twist of some kind. When in reality they failed to understand that the best episodes and the most impactful episodes of the Twilight Zone make the audience think, and that the twists work best in service of the story and the characters.

"Plots emerge from the actions of semi-autonomous character agents, focusing on the influence of the characters' emotions on plot development" (Theune, Rensen, Akker, Heylen and Nijholt, 2004)

Inspired by the Twilight Zone

Now you may be thinking that I've spoken too much about how the series has been redone poorly and how it's been interpreted incorrectly, and you may be asking how do you do it correctly? That is one of the questions I aim to answer in my third chapter as it will be informed by the first two chapters. A question I aim to answer now is, has the Twilight Zone been interpreted correctly in modern media? Well yes and no, it both has and hasn't. As I've previously stated, the reboot of the Twilight Zone has failed to live up to the legacy of the original series, but there are examples of other films, television shows and other forms of media that have managed to do what the reboot couldn't, succeed the Twilight Zone.

The obvious television series that stands out, would be Black Mirror, another anthology television series that focuses on darker, more pessimistic stories. It is widely thought that Black Mirror is technological version of the Twilight Zone, as well as a bleaker outlook on people, yet it still manages cover similar themes and topics. This seemed to affect the production of the reboot of the Twilight Zone, as its showrunner, Jordan Peele has stated before that while they are both science fiction shows, Black Mirror sticks to technology whereas the Twilight Zone can explore anywhere and any topic (Sharf, 2019)

"At its core, 'Black Mirror' is cynical about humanity—that's not a dig, I love the show. To me, 'Twilight Zone,' no matter how dark the episode, is ultimately optimistic about humanity." (Sharf, 2019)

As I mentioned earlier, Rod Serling was a huge inspiration for Charlie Brooker and Black Mirror, but Rod Serling has also influenced different projects with his classic television series. There are direct comparisons between the plots of episodes like 'a nice place to visit' and the plots of television series like the 'Good Place', films like 'V/H/S' and 'Ghost Stories' have also clearly been inspired by the format of the Twilight Zone.

Chapter 3 – What you need

During this final chapter, I'm going to focus on my major project, I wanted to do this as it is linked fairly heavily with my research and discussions on the Twilight Zone. I feel as though it would help me explain my major project more to link it back to what I have discussed in my previous chapters, to not only show my inspiration for the major project, but to also help me show you how I intend for different elements and different parts of the project to fit together and work together. And finally and arguably more importantly, I want to show you what I'm going to take away from my research and what I have learnt from my research in the previous two chapters.

My Idea

The story of the episode 'What you need' focuses on a peddler with the ability to tell what everybody will need in the near future, and how he uses it to try and help the people around him. The story has more to it and involves a later twist but this is the part of the story that I think is relevant to this chapter and my major project. Am I saying that I can figure out what people need before they need it? No, I'm not as talented as the salesman in this story. The reason I think that this is important to my third chapter is because of the goal that I've set for myself to try and create for my major project, a way to give the audiences of the 21st century what they need in regards to a contemporary twilight zone-esque story. This is because of my belief that there isn't anything that matches the style of the original 1959 series in the modern media, and there hasn't been since the dawn of the 21st century. Of course the series Black Mirror has given a spin on the ideas posed in the Twilight Zone, and television series and films such as The Good Place and Ghost stories have shown updated plots from the Twilight Zone, but they've all neglected to utilize the feelings the classic series brings to light. Even the two reboots of the series in both 2002 and 2019 have somewhat failed to capture the tone, atmosphere and the themes used in

the original series, naturally there are a few exceptions to this but the majority of both series were not as successful as the 1959 series. The failures of 2019 reboot bring back around to the main point I've been trying to prove throughout this dissertation, that the best versions of the twilight zone stories are always focused on character. As someone who wants to become a director and scriptwriter, I believe that character is key when it comes story.

Well, it's easy to say that the best episodes are focused on character, but what do I mean by that? I believe that the key to making a successful twilight zone episode is the characters in the story, the way they progress and how they deal with unusual situations. Most importantly I believe that the story and the character should be focused on telling a story about relatable human emotions or trying to show the audience contemporary story dealing with an issue that is very relevant today. The best episodes of the original series have done this by questioning the morality of the audience by showing them a difficult situation or showing a reality not dissimilar to our own. This has led me to the belief that there is a format that could be created in order to bring the Twilight Zone into the modern day successfully. But to explain this format and for you to understand how I'm going to use it, I feel as though it would be better to explain my major project idea first.

[My Major Project](#)

For my major project I wanted to look at something different, I wanted to develop something that no one in my class was going to do. At first I had planned to make a mockumentary, one to do with MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) to show a young man's journey of self-improvement with a mix of comedy. I still plan to make and film that project at a later date, but I want to focus on my major project now. Before beginning the dissertation, during our summer break, I watched the original 1959 Twilight Zone

series, all 136 episodes. Having watched the Twilight Zone over the summer, I decided to incorporate the ideas expressed in the series into more of my work this year. That is why I changed my dissertation idea to focus on the Twilight Zone rather than comedy and mockumentaries. This is also why I wanted to change my major project to be inspired by the Twilight Zone, looking back at my research and thinking back to when I was watching the series I feel as though there is nothing quite like the original 1959 Twilight Zone in television or film today. As I've already stated, I believe that even the new reboot of the Twilight Zone fails to capture the same feeling and tone of the original series, this was a big factor in why I wanted to try and make my major project inspired by the original series, to try and capture the feeling I felt while watching every episode of the 1959 series. And so for my Major Project, my main goal is to create something that I can see as a Rod Serling inspired story, and hopefully a short film or short episode based on that story.

"Biopics were often sold to the public as accessible versions of history ... Extravagant research efforts became, for the biopic, a way of reassuring consumers that every effort had been expended to bring them true history in the guise of spectacle."

[My Format](#)

In order to meet my goal for my major project, I feel as if I need to create a layout for how my project should be built based on my inspirations. My final proposition after my research and exploration of the twilight zone through time, is that there is format to make a successful Twilight Zone-esque story and episode in the modern day. I've built this format by gathering all the research I have done in this dissertation, examining the different episodes of the twilight zone from 1959 and 2019, exploring how the black mirror is able to explore similar themes in the modern day and forming them all into a structure for my major project. What I believe is that the best way to bring the style of writing from 1959 into the present day is to begin by identifying the

themes and issues you want to express in the story. I would then create a character with a trait, that could be a supernatural skill or very real illness, I think that this should be done in a specific way so that it can become relatable to the audience or could allow the story to tackle the topics that have been chosen to explore under the guise of science fiction and the supernatural. I then believe that you should form a plot around the theme or topic you want to explore and the character trait that you have chosen, rather than writing the character around a twist or a specific plot point you want to meet. From that point forward I would experiment with different settings, locations and times for when the story would make the most sense and be the most entertaining. Finally I believe that there doesn't have to be a plot twist in every Twilight Zone story, much like in the original series, where there were episodes that didn't have plot twists and simply focused on character, story and exploring themes relevant to the time. So I believe that a plot twist should only be used in the story if it serves the characters and story. As the creative roles I'm undertaking for my major project are scriptwriting and directing, I feel as if I could complete my roles and my major project with success by using this format to create the story for my Twilight Zone major project.

Conclusion

Finally I want summarise what I've researched through this dissertation and how I'm take what I've learnt forward for my major project and many things after. I do believe that I have learnt a lot from the experience of researching the twilight zone and changed through time, and I feel as though I am prepared for my major project

The research that I conducted throughout the first chapter has proven to me that the classic twilight zone series was critically successful and managed to maintain different stories exploring similar themes and topics for 156 episode over 4 years. This also proved that there was a market for this genre and type of storytelling in the late 1950s and the early 1960s as well as the fact that they still retain their quality today as they are held with high regard are normally the direct comparison for any similarly structured media today. I was able to understand why it was so successful as well, because my exploration into the themes used in the series and the list of highly credited writers and actors involved in the episode, Rod Serling being the most interesting and inspiring.

My second chapter began with the comparison of the two versions of the episode 'the eye of the beholder' from 1960 and 2003, followed by the comparison of the episodes 'nightmare at 20,000ft' from 1963 and its remake 'nightmare at 30,000ft' from 2019. I felt as I was able to identify the flaws of the newer renditions of these stories through these comparisons and also identify how the original episodes worked in their time. I also decided look how the twilight zone has inspired media today, specifically Black Mirror and how Charlie Brooker took the ideas and themes behind the twilight zone and brought them into the modern day.

Finally, my third chapter was mostly focused on my major project and my plan for how I was going to write and direct it, I found that all the research that I'd done

throughout this dissertation had helped me significantly, to craft the structure I wanted to use in order to help me make my Twilight Zone inspired major project.

In conclusion I believe that I was able to meet every goal that I had set out for myself at the start of this dissertation, and I believe that my major project will be stronger for as well as my ability to direct and write for it, and hopefully my major project will meet the goals I set for it as well.

“Couldn't happen, you say? Probably not in most places – but it will happen in the Twilight Zone.”

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