

<i>Short summary of the initial sequences</i>	<i>Expectations</i>	<i>Criteria</i>
<p>Stage fright, by Alfred Hitchcock, USA 1950, with Marlene Dietrich, Jane Wyman, Richard Todd, Michael Wilding Jane, a young student (Wyman) helps her friend Jonathan (Todd) to flee from the police chasing him. Jonathan tells her in a flashback that his lover Charlotte (Dietrich), a music-hall star, has killed her husband during a quarrel, and has then come to his house in a frenzied state, wearing a blood-stained dress. Jonathan has tried to help her, and has even gone to her home to get her a clean dress, but he may have been seen by Charlotte's maid and now he's in a big trouble ...</p>		
<p>Maurice, by James Ivory, GB 1987, with James Wilby and Hugh Grant Cambridge, at the start of last century. Two students, Maurice e Clive (Wilby and Grant) fall in love - but society is very strict and repressive and homosexuality is a crime. They are still enjoying a Platonic love as the end of their university studies is getting near the end ...</p>		
<p>Ace in the hole, by Billy Wilder, USA 1951, with Kirk Douglas, Jan Sterling In a coal mine in New Mexico a miner (Sterling) has an accident and is buried alive. A lot of journalists, radios and TVs rush to the site to follow the case and provide a live broadcast. A journalist (Douglas) contacts the miner's wife and wins her confidence ...</p>		

<p>Arlington Road, by Mark Pellington, USA 1999, with Jeff Bridges, Tim Robbins, Joan Cusack Michael Faraday (Bridges), a widower, lives with his 10-year-old son in a house in the suburbs of Washington. One day the child of his new neighbours, the Langs (Robbins and Cusack) gets injured while playing with fireworks, and Michael finds him and takes him to hospital. As a result, he becomes friendly with the Langs, who seem a helpful, friendly couple. However, Michael starts feeling ill at ease when he discovers that Mr Lang tells lies and finds strange drawings at his house ...</p>		
<p>Ricky (<i>Ricky</i>), by François Ozon, F/I 2009, with Alexandra Lamy and Sergi López Katie (Lamy), a factory worker who lives with her adolescent child, falls in love with a newly-employed fellow worker, Paco (López) and becomes pregnant. The presence of the newly-born Ricky makes things more difficult for the couple - the baby is not an "easy" child to deal with. After a few months, when bruises begin to appear on Ricky's back, Katie starts having doubts about Paco's behaviour ...</p>		
<p>Lift to the scaffold (<i>Ascenseur pour l'échafaud</i>), by Louis Malle, F 1958, with Jeanne Moreau and Maurice Ronet One Friday night Julien (Ronet) kills his boss at the office, in order to start a new life with his wife Florence (Moreau). However, as he tries to escape from the office, he remains trapped in the lift, which is put out of use at the weekend. Florence thinks that Julien has left her, and wanders aimlessly through Paris. In the meantime, a young couple steals Julien's car ...</p>		