Analysis of Coco

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Intercultural Perspectives
Coco Introduction

- Coco is a famous Disney Pixar Movie produced by Darla K. Anderson, directed by Lee Unkrich, and co-directed by Adrian Molina

- The movie depicts the celebration of Dia De Los Muertos, offering a detailed homage to Mexican traditions, culture, legends, symbols, and the social and economic aspects, all brought to life on the big screen
The traditions of Dia de los Muertos originated 3,000 years ago as pre-Columbian Mesoamerican ceremonies honoring the dead.
Dia De Los Muertos

- National holiday in several Spanish-speaking countries, including Mexico, and runs from October 31 to November 2.
  - The first day, All Hallows Eve, involves families visiting cemeteries to clean and adorn the graves of their loved ones.
  - The second day, El Dia de los Inocentes, commemorates departed younger relatives and friends.
  - The third day, All Souls Day or the Day of the Dead, sees families visiting graves with food, creating Ofrendas in memory of their loved ones, and spending the day reminiscing and conversing.
Myths

La Llorona

The filmmakers successfully conveyed the significance of Mexican myths and stories to the country's history, exemplified by the inclusion of the well-known Mexican song "La Llorona" in the movie, even though it's not directly tied to the main storyline. The enduring legend, shared through various mediums like movies, books, and oral traditions, imparts lessons about parental love, the repercussions of one's actions, and the lasting impact of unresolved guilt or wrongdoing.

Alebrijes

In the film, the myth of "Alebrijes," mythological spirit animals and guides, is prominently featured. Originating from artist Pedro Linares' dreams in the 1930s, these creatures, representing life guides, guide individuals towards self-discovery and true identity in the Afterlife, as exemplified by Dante and Pepita, the Rivera family Alebrijes.
La Llorona

Alebrijes
Cocos Importance

Coco effectively introduces children to the concepts of death and grief, presenting the afterlife as a continuation of the soul to alleviate the fear of loss. The movie highlights the significance of remembering and honoring departed loved ones during Dia de los Muertos.
Symbolism in the Film

**Marigold Flower**
- Represents the connection between Mexican traditions and the afterlife.
- Orange petals guide spirits during Día de los Muertos, symbolizing the bridge between worlds.

**Ofrenda**
- Symbolic altar filled with photographs, mementos, and favorite items of the deceased.
  - Powerful representation of familial remembrance.

**Alebrijes**
- Fantastical spirit creatures symbolizing the fantastical and mystical aspects of Mexican folklore.
Symbolism in the Film

**Guitar**
- Owned by the main character, Miguel.
- Symbolizes passion, family, and the power of music to bridge generations.

**Remember Me**
- The song serves as a touching symbol of love and remembrance, highlighting the emotional core of the film.
The film talks about Miguel's journey as a quest for self-discovery and understanding his family's roots. This relates to more general social conversations concerning the defense of cultural identity against globalization.

The movie also depicts Miguel's family's economic troubles as shoemakers suffering financial challenges.

This economic reference gives the story more reality by mirroring the difficulties that many families face.

The narrative is also political. Coco, Miguel's great-grandmother, immigrated from Spain to Mexico, emphasizing the importance of immigration and cross-cultural ties.
Casting

Anthony Gonzalez, Alanna Ubach, and Benjamin Bratt, whose diverse backgrounds contribute to the genuine representation of Hispanic culture, capturing the intricacies of speech patterns, expressions, and emotional tones while avoiding cultural clichés.


