

Review of the movie 'Blow up'

By Ahmed Umer Farooqi

I recently got a chance to watch the movie 'blow up' by Michelangelo Antonioni, which is about a London based photographer played by David Hemming, who blows up one of his photographs to find out a crime scene but the movie isn't all about that narrative. Antonioni's movies often have elusive plots and some intentional abstract cinematography that makes the viewer to think about the scene for a minute. In the movie 'blow up' the last scene does exactly that, the mime's playing without anything with their imagination and once camera shifts to a different angle (not showing the mimes) you can hear the sound of the ball hitting the rackets and that makes you think where did the whole narrative about the murder mystery went. It reminded me of the movie 'the lobster' which is also a conclusion based movie and it ends on a point where we are left wondering what that character decided to do in the end. Similarly in the movie 'blow up' we are left wondering whether he will choose to turn the woman in for the murder or not, but that movie is so much more than the main plot. I think it's a way of the filmmakers to ask us, the viewer's, what we would do. The ending did not resolve the plot but rather the murder mystery is interrupted by an imaginary game of tennis. He can hear what really isn't there. I think that scene is about distraction. How important distraction is in our lives and this is very relevant to what is happening around us these days. The murder seemed to be the most important thing for the character but this 'not real' game of tennis can distract him from it. We were so busy in our lives that we didn't notice all the little things around us. We needed the distraction of this pandemic to abruptly disturb our daily routine. It was a thing that was only read or heard in the news happening elsewhere but then suddenly it became something that was happening really close to us. It all became very real. We suddenly started to hear the ball hitting the racket and started noticing all the blessings we have around us.

[blow up last scene](#)

