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English 1110.01, MWF 12:40-1:35

Instructor: Cathy Ryan

The Lost Thing

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### Lost Hope

What starts out as an amusing, lighthearted story about a Lost Thing and a boy trying to find out where it belongs develops into a story more about various social concerns and leaves the viewers with many questions. The setting of the story is more of a futuristic place where there is almost no more living things around besides people and the feel of the setting was very dull. It shows a society that is lifeless and very close minded and not open to different beliefs or opinions. This is shown by the boy's parents who do not let him keep the Lost Thing at the house or the factory that he takes it to hoping to find it a home. This type of society shows how much they are unwilling to accept anything that is different.

The Lost Thing itself contrasts the world that it lives in because it is very whimsical, big and red. This brings into question as to why nobody but the boy notices it. Maybe they do but choose to ignore it because they do not want to have to deal with the problems it possesses such as finding a home for it. Or maybe they are so distracted by other things such as greed or themselves that they are oblivious to other issues present.

The film itself could have been very confusing at first glance, but then when discovering the real meaning behind the story it can be seen as very profound. The significance of the Lost

Thing shows just how present issue are in society. Although it was big and very noticeable, no one seemed to care enough to interact with it. It also shows how the world is different and sometimes people are judged for being who they are. The boy had to leave the Lost Thing with objects of similar differences than normal people showing how being different leaves you ostracized and isolated. It almost makes the audience feel as though hope is lost for the world because of how things of different nature are treated and judged. The film calls into question many different values and it makes you wonder how you would react to different situations.