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Section 4

Best Movie: *Gravity*

The movie *Gravity*, directed by Alfonso Cuarón, portrays the struggle that people face in discovering an ultimate purpose or motivation to endure and carry through with their lives on earth. As the movie develops, however, and the protagonist Dr. Ryan Stone begins to contemplate her own existence, the movie progressively becomes an impetus for the realization of the value and importance of human life. For example, although having essentially nothing left on earth, considering the death of her child and the absence of any family members to support her, Dr. Stone still manages to gain a new, more insightful understanding of herself and of human existence through her experiences in space, opening her up to the possibility of rebirth and a renewal of her motivation to live. She not only learns to accept and confront the adversity in her life through the urgings of Matt Kowalski, one of her partners in the space mission gone awry, when he says, “You have to learn to let go,” symbolically representing the depression and fears that overtake and overwhelm Dr. Stone’s life on earth, but she also acquires a responsibility and a duty to keep on persisting and enduring for the sake of her daughter and her inner desires as a nurturing human being. Obviously, *Gravity* is poetic in the sense that it encourages the viewer to keep on fighting and never to give up on life, but the movie also possesses significantly poetic aspects that are not so obvious. For instance, Dr. Stone most likely goes into space in the first place in order to get away from the restraints of the world as well as the problems and troubles that humans evoke, but it is ultimately through her tolerance of the hardships and difficulties characterizing her existence that she returns to earth an entirely new person, refreshed

and ready to live. She both poetically acquires a greater appreciation for life and learns to conform to the inherent tendencies of nature, producing in her a superior potential for future progression and a more worthwhile life on earth.