



ANALYZING THE FILM

“ALTERATIONS”

by Juan Carlos Zaldivar

THE BASICS:

Who are the main characters in ALTERATIONS?

When did/do they live?

Where did/do they live?

What kinds of things did they do or experience in the film?

BEYOND THE BASICS:

What questions was the filmmaker asking the audience to think about in this film?

Why is the film called ALTERATIONS?

What was the relationship like between each of the characters in the film?

How did those relationships change over time?

How did the various characters' ideas change over time?

What did the main character, J., note as a seminal moment in her life?

What did the character, Mary Jane, note as a seminal moment in her life?

Who was the father?

What do any of these characters' experiences have in common with your experiences?

How are any of these characters' experiences different from your experiences?

Why do you think J. is so interested in lightning and why is this important to the story?

What factual information about lightning did you learn in the film? Are these facts true? How would you do research to confirm these facts?

The character J is making a film. What do you imagine this film looks and sounds like? Why?

Is there a difference between a documentary film and a fiction film? Explain.

What is "truth"? What makes something "true"?

What new insights did you gain from hearing and seeing this story?

