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### The Old Man and The Gun Movie Critique

The Old Man and the Gun are directed and written by David Lowery. This movie portrays the final days of Forrest Tucker. Robert Redford plays the role of a famous escape artist who has chosen his profession as a bank robber. The way Forrest Tucker's dress was shown on film demonstrates the important impact of appearance and how people would treat an individual based on their clothing.

Within the film, Forrest Tucker was short and thin by size, his shape was flat with no defined muscles, and having an average weight. Tucker's main features within the film are depicted as golden light brown hair, wrinkly aging skin, enthusiastic smile with bright white teeth, blue eyes with defined wrinkles at the side of his eyes, and his nails were not featured as much. Tucker's movement was rather slow due to his age, his gestures were very polite, and even though he did not have a lot of physical strength, he had a strong cognitive mind. Forrest Tucker was depicted as a healthy man, he was rarely depicted drinking or smoking throughout the film, except one time at a bar with his accomplices before a heist. The only time you witness Tucker eating when he was in his favorite restaurant with his supposed girlfriend Jewel, played by Sissy Spacek. Forest Tucker is not the one to exercise on a daily routine, however, the only time we saw Tucker exercise was towards the end of the movie before he got arrested. Tucker was seen wearing a tannish Pancho while riding a horse.

Throughout the film, Forrest Tucker kept his grooming to a minimum of keeping his face shaved and occasionally having his hair a little messy. Tucker's grooming is as important as his clothing selection. The majority of the film, Tucker was dressed in a navy blue suit, brown suede hat, cream-white collared shirt, navy blue suit pants, light brown leather shoes, a watch with a leather strap and one golden ring. However, every time Forrest Tucker would rob a bank, he

would modify his body with body supplements of an earpiece and fake mustache. Tucker would also be seen putting some glossed nail polish over his fingertips to hide his fingerprints within the scene of the crime. The body supplements gave Tucker an advantage because most people would think he had a hearing problem, but that was Tucker's tool for robbery. He would be tapped into the police radio station and hear everything that is going on in the area. Whenever there was an alert of a bank robbery, Tucker would be alerted imminently and then leave the bank and get away successfully. Everyone that was around Tucker during every robbery would identify his earpiece to the authorities, but they did not know the earpiece was wired into the police radio.

Forrest Tucker did not have any specific gender ideology nor any comparison targets. He did not compare himself to anybody, he was himself throughout most of his life. Within the film, in 47 minutes and 10 seconds into the film, Tucker shares his ideology to Jewel. "If I ever wonder what I am doing or where I am going, I just think of myself as that little kid I was when I was about this tall and say, would he be proud of me? And if the answer is no, I just keep walking on through, but if the answer is yes, I know I am exactly where I need to be" (Lowery, 2019). Tucker's gender ideology is not based on the influence of other people, but the influence of himself. After this conversation, Jewel mentioned how the little kid Tucker is comparing to does not see the world as he does now. This means that the understanding of the child version of Tucker drove him to commit countless acts of criminal activity since the age of 15.

Since Tucker was a teenager, he has been through several detentions and prisons, and he had 17 successful escapes with 12 unsuccessful attempts. Before finally getting caught in his last heist, Forrest Tucker made another 14 bank robberies before the authorities found him. Tucker was able to get away with most of these bank robberies due to his politeness and appearance. Within the first hour and four minutes of the movie, Tucker told detective John

Hunt, "You should fix yourself because it will show people that you know what you're doing" (Lowery, 2019). The importance of appearance is vital to the aspect of daily life. Every time Tucker wanted to rob a bank, he would have a fake mustache to conceal his true identity. The suit was an important role for Tucker because no one would ever expect a bank robber to wear a suit.

In conclusion, the movie *Old Man and The Gun* portray the final moments of Forrest Tucker. This film showcases the importance of appearance and how people would act around them. Most people would expect classic bank robbers to have a mask and gun while robbing banks, but Forrest Tucker robbed banks differently. He knew the power of appearance and how it will affect his every move. Dressing the way Tucker dressed, he threw everyone off by being as polite as he could be while robbing banks. Forrest Tucker demonstrated the importance of appearance by following his own profession by robbing banks in suits.

### Citations

Old Man and The Gun. David Lowery. Fox Searchlight Pictures, 2019. Film.