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Name: _____

Director's Mindset Exercise

(Imagine you are a film director adapting the following excerpt from text to film...)

Anton Chekhov - "Other People's Misfortune" (translated by Avrahm Yarmolinsky)

It was not later than six o'clock in the morning when Stepan Kovalyov, a young man fresh from law school, got into a carriage with his bride, and they were soon rolling along a country road. Neither he nor his young wife had ever risen so early, and the magnificence of the still summer morning struck them as something out of a fairy tale. The earth, clothed in green, sprinkled with diamond dew, seemed beautiful and happy. The sunlight lay in bright patches on the forest, shimmered on the sparkling river, and there was a freshness in the extraordinarily transparent azure air that made it seem as if all of God's world had just emerged from a bath, and so was refreshed and invigorated.

For the Kovalyovs, as they admitted afterwards, this was the happiest morning of their honeymoon, and indeed of their whole life together. They chatted without stopping, laughed boisterously for no reason, and carried on in such an unrestrained fashion that in the end they were ashamed before the coachman.

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1. Consider formal elements of the scene such as characterization, point of view, setting, imagery, and mood. If you were to put this scene to film, what would it look like? (Aim to describe shots, details of the environment, lighting, specific images, colors, acting, and editing in the sections below)

Characterization/Acting -

Point of view/Shots/Editing -

Setting/Environmental details -

Imagery/Specific images/Colors -

Mood/Lighting -

2. What would the scene sound like? (describe sound effects and music... be as specific as possible - i.e., footsteps crunch over the leaves loudly, a piano plays softly a slow, sad song. Perhaps you do not envision any music or sound effects, but only silence.)