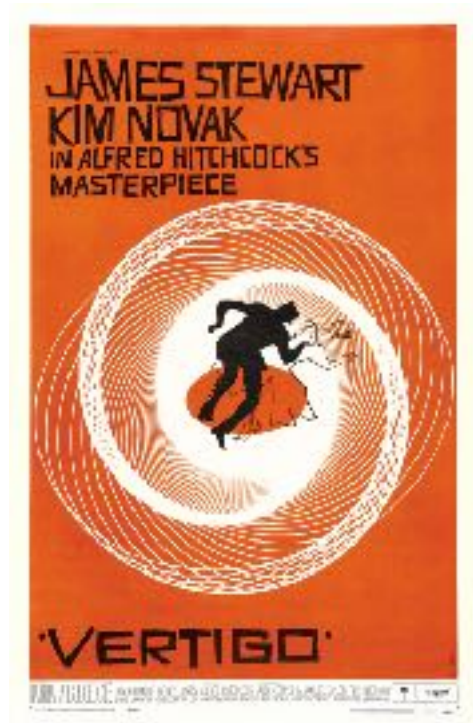


## *Vertigo Article*

Ben Bohenick

Vertigo by Alfred Hitchcock is a special movie. When the movie was first released in 1958 critics did not like it and it was not well received, but today it is recognized as one of the greatest films made. When you first watch the movie you follow the main character John. You watch as if you are part of his journey and when the film ends your thoughts of the movie completely change and this makes you wonder how it happened. The second time you watch the movie you see it in a completely new dynamic. You watch Judy pretend to be under this spell or curse but in reality you know she was hired to make John believe that she is under a curse. Each time you watch Vertigo you see something different. Although it wasn't recognized when the movie was first released Hitchcock did an exceptional job by creating the film with many twists which you wouldn't expect until the movie finally ends. He starts out by creating John as someone who is hired to watch and protect someone who isn't mentally well.

The more he digs into the story the more he becomes insane. He's put into a situation that makes him try to save a woman that he believes is insane but once he falls for her he breaks down and becomes insane himself. When Judy dies in the movie the first time. John no longer is the man he once was. He gets lost in the curse and starts looking for Judy. Everyone he sees makes him believe that it's her until the last second when he realizes it's not her. He continually digs himself a hole mentally even having a strange dream about the entire situation. This leads



him to continue to look at women as if they are actually Judy until he actually finds her. At first he doesn't realize it's her but he sees

similarities between Madeleine the woman Judy pretended to be and then her self Judy. He stays with this woman asking her to talk to him, change clothes for him, and lastly to die her hair for him. At this point Judy is completely identical to her appearance as Madeleine but John still doesn't realize that it is her. Judy makes the mistake of putting on a pair of earrings that belonged to Madeleine and Carlotta who was believed to be the one who was in control of the curse or possession. This wakes John also known as Scottie up from his mental paralysis and he takes Judy to the same location that he lost Madeleine. At the end of the movie Judy jumps just like Madeleine had and it is expected that John follows her. The movie is very special on how it was made and done. One character is mentally sane trying to help a character who fakes being mentally ill and this twist makes the mentally stable character insane himself. Overall Alfred Hitchcock did a magnificent job creating Vertigo creating twists that were unexpected.