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A.P. Literature and Composition

### Reflection

I decided to make a movie trailer for Franz Kafka's *A Hunger Artist*. I used clips from a movie that is based on *A Hunger Artist*, but it is really different from the short story. I wanted to give the audience a preview of the book, but not spoil the whole story in the process. Towards the end of the trailer I flashed some pictures of the major symbols/important events in the film. These were a panther, various food items, a steel cage, and the Hunger Artist's death. I used Windows Movie Maker to edit and put together this trailer. I also chose music that was dramatic to make set the tone, and make it feel like it was a real Hollywood trailer. This trailer is solely to promote the book, and not the 2004 short film.

*The Hunger Artist* is certainly a very interesting story, and one that should be read by everyone. I really liked how Kafka paints a great mental picture for the of how Hunger Artist appears, acts, and thinks. This is especially noticeable when Kafka describes the Hunger Artist's performances. "The hunger artist was...the only spectator capable of being satisfied with his own fasting," (Kafka, 2) is a great example of how Kafka establishes how the Hunger Artist thinks. His descriptions of the artist's rage during advanced stages of fasting when he would "shake the cage like an animal," (Kafka, 3) makes you feel like you are an audience member in the crowd watching. I also really like how Kafka replaces the Hunger Artist with a panther at the end of the story. The panther and the Hunger Artist are exact opposites, and Kafka points that

out. He describes the panther as having a “noble body” (Kafka, 6) while the artist was almost a living corpse. Kafka also adds that the animal enjoyed his food (Kafka, 6) unlike the Hunger Artist, who was a very serious picky eater. It was interesting how Kafka gave the Hunger Artist a really bizarre reason for fasting: his couldn’t find a food that tasted good to him (Kafka, 6). This really shows what kind of person the artist was, and that we shouldn’t feel sorry or admire his fasting (Kafka, 6). *A Hunger Artist*, although it may seem like an absurd story at first, is worth the read.