

Ali ha gli occhi azzurri - Ali Blue Eyes

PART I: BEFORE VIEWING

Ali ha gli occhi azzurri/Ali Blue Eyes (look up missing info on IMDb)

Director: _____

Year: _____

Cast

Character

Actor/ Actress

Nader

Stefano

Brigitte

Nader's dad

Nader's mom

Laura

Mahmoud

Eleonora

1) Watch the English language trailer for *Ali ha gli occhi azzurri*/ Ali Blue Eyes (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-EhbPaOFG9g>). Who do you imagine the characters to be (occupations, relations/interrelations, challenges/solutions)? What do you think the film will be about? Write a minimum of 3-5 sentences.

PART II: WHILE VIEWING

1) Pick one technique/element to focus on: music/sound, camerawork, symbolism/iconography. Describe how this technique/element is used in one scene. Be sure to jot down the minutes so you can re-view it and expand upon this response after viewing the film in its entirety. Write a minimum of 7-10 sentences.

PART III: After Viewing

1) How is masculinity/ masculinities represented in this film? Are certain attributes/ characteristics idealized? Consider intersectional qualities: age/generation, ethno-racial identity, religion, etc. Do you agree with Dolasinski's assertion that Nader *desires* "white" masculinity ("Precarious Masculinity," especially p. 126-130)? Write at least 5-7 sentences.

2) What role does the setting/ mise-en- scène play in conveying disparities and hierarchies of different cultures, religions, and ethno-racial identities in *Ali ha gli occhi azzurri*? Cite examples from Dolasinski ("Precarious Masculinity," especially p. 122-126) in addition to your own observations. Write 5-7 sentences.

3) The title of Giovannesi's film (*Ali ha gli occhi azzurri*) recalls the volume *Ali dagli occhi azzurri* published by Pier Paolo Pasolini in 1965. Prior to the publication of this volume, Pasolini introduced the figure of "Ali- Blue Eyes" in "Profezia"/ Prophecy in *Poesia in forma di rosa* (Poetry in the shape of a Rose, 1964). This poem was dedicated to French philosopher and writer Jean-Paul Sartre. The emblematic figure of "Ali- Blue Eyes" was born during a period when Pasolini began seriously engaging in an existential reflection on the relationship between the North and the South and between Christianity and Marxism. For Pasolini, these issues intersect, and this is represented visually in "Prophecy" as this poem is written in the form of a cross. Read a translation of "Prophecy" (<https://paralleltxts.blog/2015/09/26/profeziaprophecy-by-pier-paolo-pasolini/>). What is the message/ significance of this poem? Is it connected to Giovannesi's film? Does, as the title of the poem suggests, "Prophecy" anticipate contemporary society (including the society shown in Giovannesi's film)? Write 5-7 sentences.

***You can also view an extract of the poem read by Toni Servillo (an established Italian actor that portrays the protagonist in the penultimate film we'll watch in ITA 375) here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcfC6rrcExk>. The images in the YouTube video are from Pasolini's *Appunti per un'Orestide Africana* (Notes Towards an African Orestes, 1970) – a narrative-like documentary in which Pasolini documents his preparation for filming a cinematographic version, in Africa, of *Oresteia*.

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