

## Favorite Scene in Citizen Kane

Although Citizen Kane featured many iconic scenes, my favourite in the entire film would have to be when Charles Foster Kane is sent away with Thatcher by his parents. In this scene, Kane is seen happily playing in the snow with a sled, who is later revealed to be Rosebud, whilst his parents discuss arrangements with Thatcher. It is revealed that a gold mine was discovered on their property and that Charles would be sent away to be properly educated. It is also implied that Kane's father may have been abusive towards Kane which may be another reason for his mother to send him away. This scene is my favourite due to its use of the Micro-Elements.

### **Lighting:**

This scene in particular features a heavy use of high-key light compared to the majority of the film, which often uses low-key light. I believe this is because the light is used to emphasise how happy Kane was as a child, playing in the snow with his sled, Rosebud, before he had his childhood taken from him. Conversely, the scene does include some low-key light, specifically when his parents are discussing arrangements with Thatcher. This heavily contrasts with Kane's happiness as a child and is heavily suggestive of how lonely he feels during his later years in life compared to him before he was sent away.



### **Space:**

Space is another reason that this scene sticks in my mind because I believe it is extremely important at showcasing how Charles' childhood was taken from him. Charles plays out of focus in the background while his family stay in focus in the foreground discussing the arrangements with Thatcher. Charles is pushed back while his family are brought forwards which suggests that they care extremely little for his childhood and further emphasises the the sad reality that Charles' never got to experience a proper childhood and that it was taken from him.

**Cinematography:**

This scene in particular features brilliant cinematography accompanied by equally brilliant set design. This is most notable when the camera moves away from Charles' playing outside and moves across the room behind the table. The camera movements are slow and steady and the table would come apart to allow the camera to pass through and come together again. This was an extremely well made practical effect as it would allow the camera movement to integrate seamlessly into the scene.