

Predictive Activities

How the trailer tells the tale

The following chart includes all the dialogue from the trailer's soundtrack in the order it appears. Read through this dialogue carefully. In the opposite column are statements describing how this dialogue communicates meaning for the audience. These statements are not in sequential order.

Your task is to match the statement with the quote from the soundtrack.

Dialogue from the trailer in sequence	What meaning is communicated through the dialogue?
1. He's cute. Does he like you as much as you like him? Grandma, will you please just drop it?	a) Susie is an important name and character. A quirky comparison suggests something about her personality.
2. Hey, Mom. Look at me. Smile. My name is Salmon.	b) First person narrator paradoxically explains her own death. Someone who we may connect to her killing clarifies her identity.
3. Ok shipmate, take it away.	c) This is a story about the death and loss of a daughter.
4. Like the fish. First name Susie.	d) The themes of death and justice are central.
5. Bye Dad. Goodbye Susie.	e) There are elements of a police thriller.
6. You are beautiful Susie Salmon.	f) A child calls for its father. The father/child relationship is important.
7. I was fourteen years old when I was murdered. You're the Salmon girl, right?	g) Susie's grandma is a central character. There is young love interest.
8. On December 6th 1973.	h) A phrase is repeated. The speaker is significant.
9. We didn't find her, Mrs Salmon. I'm very sorry. Dad, she's dead isn't she? You miss her, don't you? She's gone.	i) The emphasis by a character on hard facts and legal procedures suggests a tension between belief and knowledge.

Dialogue from the trailer in sequence	What meaning is communicated through the dialogue?
<p>10. What if she isn't? What if she's still here? Grandma, Susie's in the in-between. I wasn't gone. I was alive. In my own perfect world. But in my heart, I knew it wasn't perfect. My murderer still haunted me.</p>	<p>j) Ships have some relevance.</p>
<p>11. [Telephone rings] Fenerman. Len. Susie would never go off with a stranger. It had to be someone she knew. I've got a name for you. This is police work. This is what we do. My father had the pieces but he couldn't make them fit.</p>	<p>k) A simple, happy exchange communicates a daughter requesting her mother's attention. The mother/daughter relationship is foregrounded early in the trailer.</p>
<p>12. You have a tomb in the middle of your house. I waited for justice but justice did not come.</p>	<p>l) The precise date given sets the context and might suggest a tone of formality</p>
<p>13. You're the Salmon girl, right?</p>	<p>m) Father and daughter saying goodbye holds significance.</p>
<p>14. DAD!</p>	<p>n) Someone's perception of Susie's beauty is highlighted. Suggested love interest.</p>
<p>15. There's definitely something wrong with this guy. Why won't you listen to him? Because you need evidence. You need proof.</p>	<p>o) Denial, fear and confronting the truth within a family context seem important.</p>
<p>16. Can't you just leave it alone? DAD! C'mon, face me! Don't be afraid.</p>	<p>p) This is about an after-life. First person narrator explains her paradoxical existence between dream-like perfection and nightmarish haunting.</p>