Jessica Williams: Outline

As a result, comedic situations arise when one questions, their own and each other’s, sense of who they are in the midst of long term friendship.

Introduction of a small change can blow up into a huge situation

* Little things are big things
* Serge buys a 200,000 franc painting: five foot by four white modern, the Antrios
* Modern vs. classical; engineer vs. dermatologist
* Tone of voice
  + Pg14/15: Serge says well he could have just said he didn’t understand it…instead of being rude

Pinpointing minute faults/ Laughter and resolution ‘trial period’

* In the wake of an argument or confrontation between friends..other irrelevant and hurtful things will be brought up
  + Pg35: Mark attacking Yvan Pg24,27,45: homeopathy, deconstruction and Paula
* Fragile nature of friendships, the sadness and confusion that arises when friendships crumble for no apparent reason
* Questioning friendship and values
  + Pg4: how could my friend buy that?
* Yvan feels like he understands the painting which makes Mark feel like an outsider, as a defence mechanism he begins to lash out against the others.
  + Pg9: serge if it makes him happy: Yvan does not feel like Serge has changed away from the friend he knows so he does not feel replaced
* Despite previous emotion, true friends can laugh at situations or find a way of accepting their differences so that they can move on
* Followed by comical release
  + P59: resolution with laughter

Critique of relationship

* Defence mechanism
  + Pg51: mark explaining why he is upset over the painting p54-55 explains his feelings
* Mark felt as though his role in their relationship was replaced
* Mark felt that Serge had changed
* Human nature to fight problems with emotion
* People have an original image of their friends when they first meet so when they change its hard to accept
  + Pg54: friends need to be chaperoned
* Friendship is not rational it’s emotional; it is not perfect!
* Marks final comment is the biggest lie of all, but it is a lie that he is able to accept. He rationalizes in his mind the painting because there is now a skier on it.
  + Pg63: mark rationalizes the painting