



# Fate stay night

[Unlimited Blade Works]

Narrative Analysis by Asad Ali

**Utilization of the dialectical method to build up the themes of a piece allows for much more resonant delivery of its message.**

Unlimited Blade Works very clearly states the thesis of Shirou's beliefs early on in the story, and then uses his conflict with Archer to pick at all the points and flaws within said ideology. This is followed by Shirou finding a middle ground between the flaws and merits of his ideals, creating a synthesis. Challenging the core tenets of the themes that one presents within a piece of fiction allows for them to shine brighter than if they simply ignored their implications

**Well-utilized and implemented reference material acts as a form of 'narrative shorthand', allowing for much more complex narratives to be delivered without becoming convoluted.**

Unlimited Blade Works utilizes its reference material, specifically Avalon, with a high degree of effectiveness. The additional elegant complexity added to a story isn't limited only to reference material, however. Ontology, Hermeneutics, Poetics, Architecture, historiography, etc. all add different elements and flavors to a piece of media, and provide multiple levels of richness and analysis that can greatly bolster how resonant the core message of a work may be.

**The contrast between thoughts and actions are key to creating compelling and believable characters**

"Show don't tell" is not an absolute rule. There are many manners in which it can be played with to allow for greater depth and dramatic irony in terms of building character relations and player empathy. Shirou is a character that can be very difficult to relate to given how extreme the nature of his trauma is, as well as the ways in which it has shaped his world view. However, the unique swapping of diegesis and mimesis that the story employs allows for players to relate to a character that may have been very difficult to traditionally relate to.