Usual Suspect
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**Plot/Story**

The film begins with a shot of a wounded Keaton on his knees on a boat with dead people all around him. Keaton then gets shot and then the film cuts 6 weeks in the past to the 5 protagonists of the film getting arrested and getting brought in for a line up to see who was the one who did the truck-hijacking. The police believed it to be one of the 5.
Plot/Story (cont.)

After the line up one of the characters McManus believes they should team up and actually commit a crime. They decide to pull a heist to get revenge on the NYPD. The film then cuts to present day and shows dead bodies being covered up at the boat.
For the first time in the film it cuts to the interrogation of Verbal in the police's office. Agent Kujan is interrogating Verbal to figure out what had happened after the line up and if Keaton is still alive.
Plot/Story (cont.)

After they pull off the heist on the NYPD while counting their earnings, they decide they should all go to California to lay low from any cops. Keaton struggles when leaving since he is leaving his wife and everything he has behind.
The film then proceeds to return to the interrogation of Verbal and Agent Kujan believes that Keaton was behind the whole thing. Verbal then continues his story of what happened once they arrived in California and received a job by an agent named, “Kobayashi”
In California they meet up with a tall blonde by the name of, “Redfoot”. There he gave them the money and offered them one more job to do which they accept. When completing the job they get scammed and received no money. When the camera then transitions back to the interrogation scene the police now know that there was no cocaine on the boat and they find out about Keyser Soze.
Plot/Story (cont.)

The film then cuts back to Verbal's story when they get confronted by Kobayashi who works for Keyser Soze and offers them a job and in return he would wipe their records clean. The film then returns to the hospital where they are interrogating a severely burnt, Hungarian survivor from the boat and he is explaining to them how Keyser Soze looks.
Plot/Story (cont.)

The film cuts back to Verbal's story where he explains that they were on a beach discovering the dead body of Fenster. They believed that Keyser Soze killed him as a warning to them to complete the task that was given to them. There they make a pact to finish the job while they are burying Fenster.
Plot/Story (cont.)

The film then cuts to the four remaining characters at a building trying to capture and kill Kobayashi the worker of Keyser Soze. Kobayashi then threatens them that if they kill him far worse would to happen like that one loved one of each the characters would be killed.
The film then cuts to the four characters in a car debating whether they are capable of completing the job and coming out alive. The group decided that if they were going to complete this job that they are all going to wait for the money and all get a cut for the job. The group then splits up with Verbal going with Keaton and McManus and Hockeny go out on their own.
Plot/Story (cont.)

The film cuts back to the interrogation and the police found out more information. They now learn about the snitch named, Arturo Marquez. He snitched on 50 names and one was Keyser Soze. The film then returns back to the boat and shows Arturo Marquez being shot and killed.
**Plot/Story (cont.)**

The film cuts to the front of the boat where it shows Keaton waiting and then sees McManus only for him to collapse in front of him with a knife in his back. Then Verbal walks to the truck with the cash to see a dead Hockney on the ground. As he goes to the truck Keaton gets shot in his back then the film cuts back to the interrogation, where Kujan is questioning Verbal if Keaton is dead.
In the interrogation Agent Kujan is now fully convinced that Keaton is not dead but is actually Keyser Soze. When Kujan is explaining all the details on how Keaton is Keyser Soze he starts to convince Verbal that Keaton was Keyser Soze and he used him. Verbal then admits that the whole plan was Keaton's idea. The police finally release Verbal Kint to go away free.
The film then cuts to the hospital where they have finished the drawing of Keyser Soze and fax the drawing to the police. The film cuts back to the police office where Kujan is speaking with a cop, while speaking with the cop he examines the bulletin board and realizes details on the board where the same from the story and that Verbal's Story was fake. The fax arrives to the police and reveals that Verbal Kint was Keyser Soze after all and now he is gone.
Title/Opening Scene

Bryan Singer got the title of the film from a column in a Spy magazine called the Usual Suspects, after one of Claude Rains' most memorable lines in the classic film Casablanca.

In the opening scene it is showing the water where the boats from the beginning and final scenes of the film are shot.
Form

Storytelling usually is structured with a beginning, middle, and end, but they do not always have to happen in that exact order. The uses of constant flashbacks are shown in the movie to display what goes wrong. The flashbacks go back and forth from past to present day and allows viewers understand the complexity of the situation and what each of the criminals have at stake.
Subplots

- Verbal and Keaton's friendship
- Agent Baer's investigation
- Keaton and Edie relationship
**Causal, Spatial, and Temporal**

Temporal Relationship

-the scenes were arranged in a series of events and in a specific way

- the scenes alternated between past and present
Range and Depth

The music featured nice depth and dynamic range while it was also very clear and bright. The effects also appeared very clean and accurate, and boasted good bass response when it was appropriate. At the beginning of the story we didn't know as much because we didn't know how Keyser Soze was and at the end, David Kujan got manipulated and realized that everything that Verbal said was on the bulletin board making him Keyser Soze.
4 Vs

Visceral: The film is suspenseful and makes you want to figure out who Soze really is and leaves you with questions.

Verisimilitude: Most of the movie appears to be real but in the end we find out that everything is all a lie.

Vicarious: We care for Verbal because he is a cripple who looks like he isn't meant for crime and the story portrayed him as someone new to it.

Voyeuristic: The movie portrays the world as a regular world there's nothing out of the ordinary. If you were told this happened in your town you would be shocked but it would be believable.
Is it a Good Story?

Yes, it is a good story.

- Unified plot - the subplots connect with the main plot
- Credible/Plausible - Usual Suspects has verisimilitude, or the appearance of being a true or real story.
  - Internal Truths - characters appearance were true
  - Artistic Semblance of Truth- story is fiction, but the setting is realistic
- The plot is simple, but it is complex in review
Theme

Manipulation - You should never manipulate a manipulator or you're going to end up getting manipulated. In the movie, David Kujan thought he was pressuring Verbal Kint into telling him the truth about Dean Keaton. Kujan came in very aggressive and was threatening Verbal and Verbal wants Kujan to think that he is the manipulator, when he's really the manipulated, while Kujan took the subtle approach.
Motifs

A motif in the film can be the fear that everyone possess for Keyser Soze. When everyone speaks about him there is a sense of fear. Verbal would say that he believes in god and yet he still fears Keyser Soze.
Ironic

This scene is an example of dramatic irony because in the clip, Agent Kujan tells Verbal that, “I’m smarter than you.” This clip is dramatic irony because at the end of the film, Verbal Kint outsmarts Agent Kujan by making up his story with aspects from the bulletin board in the background and Verbal being Keyser Soze in the end.
Narration

Who is the narrator?

The narrator of the film is Roger “Verbal” Kint. The story is told in restricted narration from the perspective of Verbal as he is getting interrogated in the police office. The story is told to us through flashbacks and through the conversation in the police office.
Is the narrator reliable?

The narrator is not reliable because as we find out at the end of the film, parts of his story were made up and not completely the truth. While getting interrogated Verbal looks around the room then uses information from the bulletin board for aspects of his story.
Narration (cont.)

How does the camera function as narrator?

The camera functions as a narrator by showing us exactly what Verbal is explaining to Agent Kujan while he is getting interrogated. The camera is not a reliable narrator because what the camera shows us is Verbal's story and how he explained the actions even though some were false.
Major/Central Characters

The central characters are Roger “Verbal” Kint, Dean Keaton, Dave Kujan, Michael McManus, Fred Fenster. Verbal (protagonist) is a sociopathic criminal mastermind. Keaton wants his criminal history to be in the past. Kujan (antagonist) is over confident and is very egotistical and underestimates Verbal and overestimates himself. McManus came up with the plan of jacking the jewels to get revenge on the cops. Fenster was very incomprehensible when delivering his lines and it wasn't meant to be like that when the writers and the director planned it, but stuck with it.
Minor Characters

The Minor characters are Agent Baer, Kovash, Kobayashi, Redfoot, and Edie. Agent Bar was an FBI agent who interviews Kovash. Kovash is the Hungarian Survivor of the boat explosion. Kobayashi is the man behind the man but not the man behind the man behind the man behind the man, basically his second hand man of Keyser Soze. Redfoot is the drug leader who gave a job to the five men. Edie is Dean Keaton's girlfriend and he is also a defense lawyer.
Setting

The film takes place in 1995 in a police station in New York. Throughout the film it goes several places such as Los Angeles, San Pedro, and on a boat.
Important Scene #1

An important scene in the film can be one of the opening scenes which is the lineup scene. This is an important scene because this is the first time we see all the characters together and how they meet.
Important Scene #2

The second important scene in the film is near the end of the film when they barely release Verbal and Agent Kujan is speaking with a cop. When speaking with cop he realizes the bulletin board contains aspects of Verbal's story and that he was lying.
Important Scene #3

The third important scene is when Verbal, when walking out of the police station, he slowly starts losing his limp and stops being a cripple to reveal that he was Keyser Soze all along during the entire film.
"You know back when I was at that Barbershop Quartet in Shorkie, Illinois"

"There was a lawyer named Kobayashi"