

In this workshop you will learn:

- How to turn your idea into a story
- Story structure
- Character arcs and development
 - Dialogue
- The importance of drama in storytelling
 - how to set up a dramatic scene
 - build conflict in a scene
- Screenplay formatting
 - montages
 - phone calls
 - etc
- And other resources to help you improve as a writer

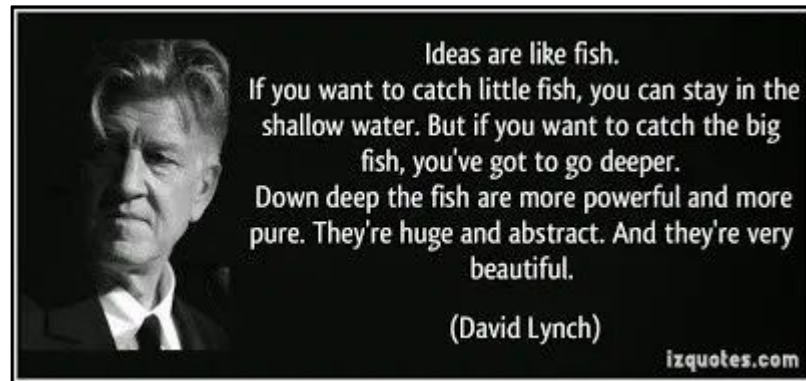
Scriptwriting Workshop 9/16

Presented by Reilly and Samuel

How to Turn Your Idea into a Story

How to Turn Your Idea into a Story

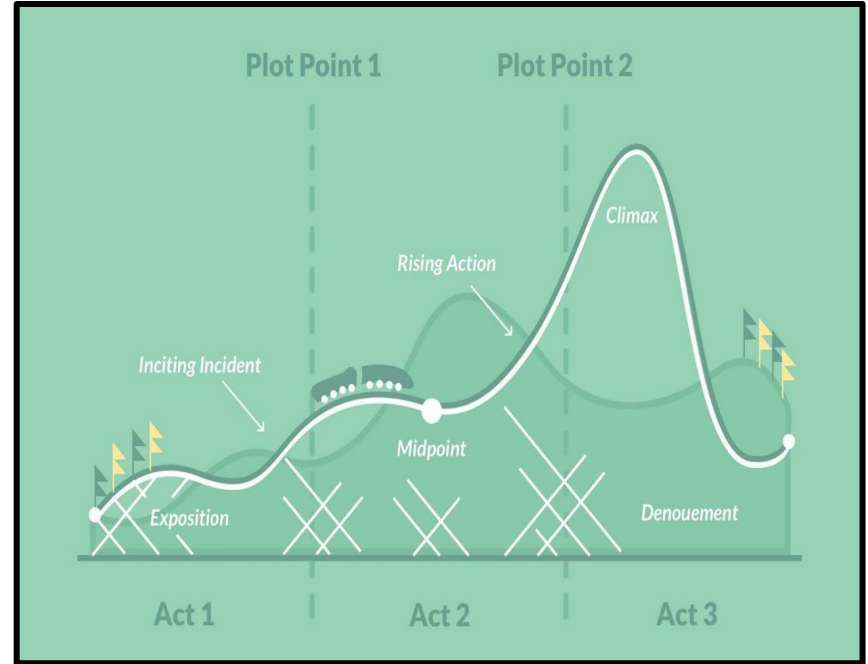
- Write it down!
- Find the beginning
- Find the End
- Doesn't have to be in that order!
- Be persistent with it
- Take your time



Story Structure

Story Structure

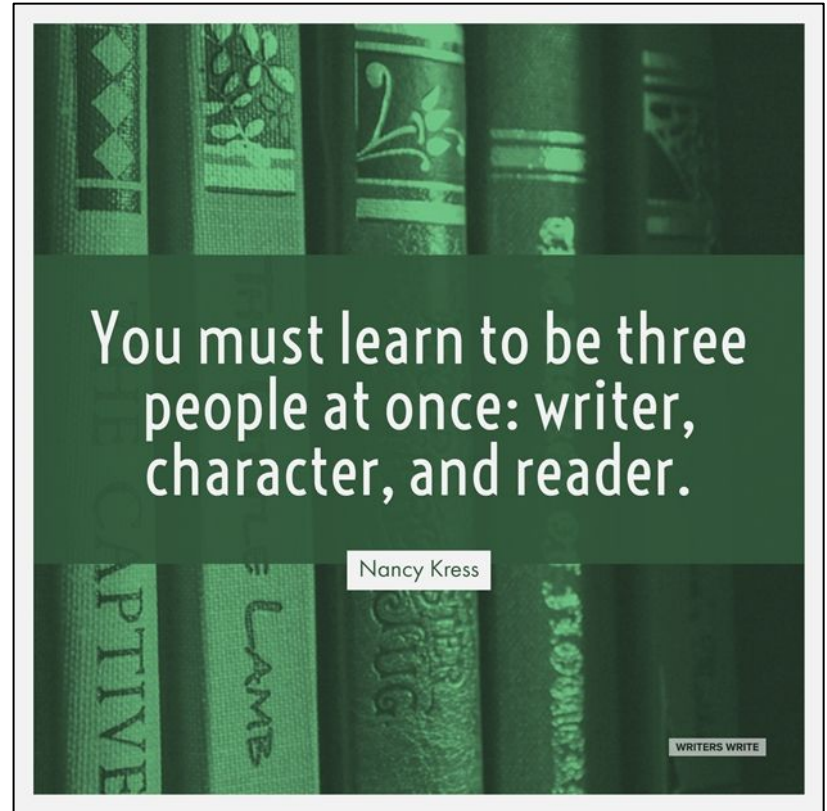
- 3 Act Structure
- Rules are meant to be bent and broken
- Use this only as a guide, not as a defined way to tell every story you write
- Set goals for your characters and goals for yourself



Character Arcs and Development

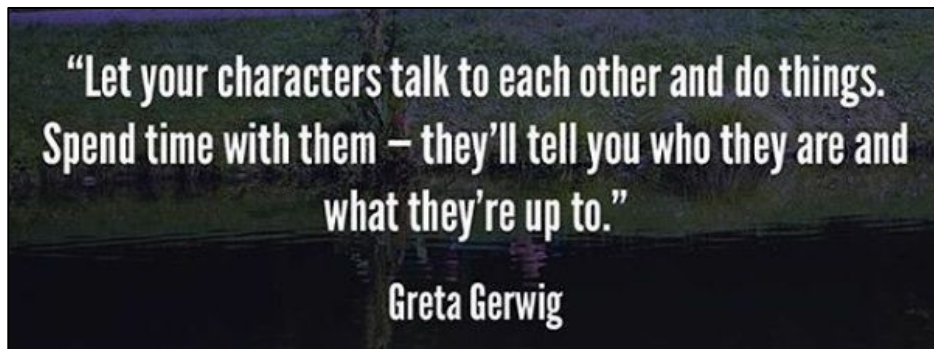
Character Arc and Development

- Focus on the characters first
- Let your characters tell the story
- Let your story be driven by action
- Allow your characters to grow
- Put obstacles in the way of your characters
- NEVER JUDGE YOUR CHARACTERS



Character Arcs and Development

- Dialogue
 - Write, write, write, write
 - To discover the voice of a character, you have to walk thousands of miles in their shoes
 - Even if they're based on you or someone around you!
 - Good dialogue goes unnoticed; natural



Drama in Storytelling

Drama in Storytelling

- Simple Equation
 - Character + Obstacle = Conflict
 - How the character reacts to that obstacle is *Action*
- It's hard to write good conflict/drama
- To get good action, good conflict, is to know your character
 - How would they react in this situation?
 - What situation can you put them in to best tell their story?
 - What matters?

“CONFLICT IS THE BEGINNING OF
CONSCIOUSNESS.”

M. ESTHER HARDING

© Lifehack Quotes

- Drama is **not** conflict, but you can't have one without the other
- To build conflict is to build obstacles

Screenplay Formatting

Screenplay Formatting

- Basics
- Use this as a skeleton
- Think of the script as a canvas, words as paint

```
Scene Heading _____ INT. OFFICE - DAY
Action _____ RUFUS sits at a desk, fingers furiously tap dancing on a
                    keyboard. He pauses for briefing and looks at the clock on
                    the wall. The digital display reads "5:34"
                    A TIRE SCREECH
                    Rufus looks out the office window to see JOHN storming into
                    the office complex.
Character Name _____ RUFUS (V.O.)
                    (sarcastically)
                    Here comes the sexiest man in the
                    universe.
                    John bursts in through the front door.
Parenthetical _____ JOHN
                    (breathing heavily)
                    Hell's Bells Rufus, the traffic is
                    insane. Is it ready?
Dialogue _____ RUFUS
                    Is what ready?
                    JOHN
                    (repeating himself)
                    Is it ready?
```

Screenplay Formatting

- Montage

- Difference between Single Location, Multiple Location
- BEGIN or END MONTAGE can also be wise additions
- Be specific!! EXAMPLE:
- <https://screencraft.org/2018/03/16/screenwriting-basics-how-to-write-an-effective-montage/#:~:text=Single%20Location%20Montage&text=One%20of%20the%20best%20and,she%20could%20never%20have%20afforded.>

- Phone Calls

- Specify where and who
- Think of 'Who can we see on screen?'
- INTERCUT or not
- EXAMPLE:
- <https://screenwriting.io/how-do-you-format-a-telephone-conversation-in-a-screenplay/>

Don't Forget!

Submit your scripts before the
deadline!!

Script Submission Deadline:

OCTOBER 2ND, 2020

Questions?

- rschroc2@kent.edu