

SCRIPT REVIEW - SENTIENT – USA

Author: Joseph DiFrancesco
Reviewer: Ebuka Okparauzoma

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TASK 2

TEASER complies with the formula.

The page count is 8. Excellent!

Within this length, it spins off pretty well. There's enough to make the viewer/reader wanting to know more.

It shows the arrival of the storm; with featured elements like (red sky, violent storm, strange buzz etc) creating that chaotic atmosphere and graphic imagery that depicts a looming danger fast approaching. "The life forms on transit". ☺

The protagonist's inciting incident prior to the arrival is well depicted.

Areas to be improved on using the Teaser Guide

- The **day one mindset/interpretation** of the incident was not captured
- That can easily be key in by JJ or Syd at the point of seeing or perceiving the danger in the sky.
- There is **not enough mystery created**. JJ only witnessed Syd turning into ashes and it ends up there. An additional page for the teaser can feature a disheartened JJ coming out of the cave, after spending few days. Now the storm has died down and soon as he walks out of it, to his dismay, he encounters pile of dead bodies littered on some strategic corners etc. This could do the magic.

ACT ONE complies with the formula...

The page count is 19. A bit longer than expected!

Captures most of the "**Must see content**" except for the **jet airliner** hovering in the hazed sky and eventually crashing.

Here again, it now featured the individual's assumption of the event by the characters. For JJ and SAL, (invasion by North Korea or China, Radioactive); For Lena it's a meteor.

The disappearance of bodies has witnessed by Resse on returning back to the fuselage. The viewer will be shocked too. "What's really going on?"

The Dirty, exhausted people, Red dust, Humming cell phone, Vibration, Streak in the sky, Thunderous blast, Car engine dead, Bleeding orifices deduce an atmosphere of panic, anxiety and devastation.

There is an intro to B story (Sal)
Then intro to C/D stories (Resse and Lena)

Few observations

- Sal sounds like he knows a lot more. He equally appears not to be affected/afflicted like every other person who experienced the event OR is it that he was quick to recover? And for an old man, such agility in the midst of the uncertainty makes him quite a character. But the Formula guide states that the survivors should suffer slight or severe physical or psychological pains.
- Lena's expression after the event does not really depict that intense panic. She is with her colleagues at the bar alongside the patrons, and it is rowdy in there, although sent to the basement to get a bottle of wine. Then the event occurred. It will be deepening to show us that hysteria when she breaks through the basement and find the others lifeless on the floor or their bodies piled up to a door with congealed blood dripping from their orifices and the bar overturned. This will create more horror to the viewer. **OR**
- She comes out to see everywhere overturned, disordered without a trace of anybody (her friends/patrons). Create that continuity before we see her headed off for help, safety etc. We are suspended. This will do the magic. Bringing more clues/mysteries.
- Don't know if it is allowed, although not stated in the Act 1 formula guide, "**the intro of a silhouetted Sentient**" towards the ending of the sequence where JJ used a spotter scope to sight one that quickly vanishes.

ACT TWO... does not really depict the guide.

The page count is 7. Excellent!

Although well established, the tension, clash and conflict between JJ and Sal; JJ beginning to realize that his initial interpretation of the incident is wrong. There is something more yet to be known. Meanwhile Sal carries on with his belief of an invasion by the Chinese.

And for Resse and Lena a relationship appears to be brewing.

None of the must see content are depicted in the Act Two as stated in the guide “**A rain of human ash begins to fall over the city. The characters may not yet know what it is but one should speculate**”.

If possible the author should try to add that at some scenes, leaving the viewers and characters suspended.

ACT THREE does not conformed to the Act 3 guide.

The page count is 10. Excellent!

Featured an intro to new characters DAMAIN, CAROLYN & JOEL (would that be an E story?). And it appears that they have got an experience of the incident too but are not badly afflicted. Rather trying to free those animals from their zoo since the city is in ruin.

The story’s pace appears to be slow compared to what has occurred and the next course of action to be taken.

There is a deviation from the central storyline. Even if there is a subplot, I expect it to have a gripping effect featuring some of the elements.

Observation

let’s not see the night sky clear. Not at this point. Rather continue with the red haze or rain of ashes and the clues build up.

The reader/viewer at this point may lose interest/grip on the story.

I think the whole of Act 3 needs to be reworked on.

ACT FOUR

The page count is 6. Excellent!

I’m not exactly sure if that conforms to the guide. Most of the clues to hold the viewer/reader are dashed out.

There is need to rework on it.

ACT FIVE

The page count is 6. Excellent!

It has that grip. Yet the clues/elements are not there. JJ is sort of faced with one nemesis or the other. This needs to be tightened.

The walkie-talkie radio I guess was not affected by the arrival or thereafter? (Refer to Sentientology).

We didn't get to see the first real look of the sentient. It doesn't end terrific.