

The background features a gradient from dark purple at the top to a deep blue at the bottom. Overlaid on this are several technical diagrams, including circular gauges with numerical scales (e.g., 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260) and various circular arrows indicating motion or flow. The text is centered in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

SCREENWRITING FOR SHORT FILMS

BY ADRIAN DEAN

INTRODUCTION

- Kiss Shot Truth or Dare (writer)
- He's Home (writer, director)
- Bomb Squad Bobby (writer, director)
- Jonathan Commits (writer, director)
- White powder (writer)
- Steps (writer)
- Off-his Job (writer, director)
- Duets with the dead (writer, director)
- Night fears (writer, director)

WRITE FOR THE DIRECTOR

- THINK VISUALLY
- THINK ABOUT ALL THE COMPONENTS

STAGE DIRECTIONS

- HIGHLIGHT IMPORTANT PARTS OF THE SCENE
- SHOW DON'T TELL
- DIALOGUE IS SECONDARY

YOU'RE NOT MAKING A PLAY

- USE THE THINGS THAT MAKE FILM UNIQUE
- TALKING, TALKING IS NOT FILM
- FILM SHOULD ALSO BE EFFECTIVE WITH THE SOUND OFF

DIALOGUE

- NOBODY WANTS NORMAL CONVERSATIONS
- LESS IS MORE
- NOTHING SAID IS WITHOUT PURPOSE

IS IT REALLY NECESSARY

- NO IT'S NOT, CUT IT OUT

CHARACTERS

- SMALL DETAILS ARE IMPORTANT
- GET TO KNOW YOUR CHARACTERS
- KEEP THEM UNIQUE FROM YOU AND EACH OTHER

FORESHADOW & SET-UP

- KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING AND LEAVE A TRAIL OF BREAD CUMBS
- NO DEUS EX MACHINA

ARC

- CHARACTER GROWTH BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED IN THE STORY
- NOT NECESSARY IN ALL SHORT FILMS

EVERYTHING IS THERE FOR A REASON

- CUT THE FAT

BE THERE WITH THE CHARACTERS

- BE IN THE SCENE
- IDENTIFY WITH THE CHARACTERS
- IMAGINE HOW IT WOULD FEEL FOR YOU

WORLD BUILDING & TONE SETTING

- IS IT NEEDED?
- TRY TO SHOW IT VISUALLY
- STAY FOCUSED ON THE FEELING

CLIMAX

- MUST BE FULFILLING
- SUM UP THE POINT

CAMERA TRICKS

- USE THE CAMERA TO YOUR ADVANTAGE
- VISUAL AIDS CAN HELP WITH STORY TELLING

NARRATIVE DEVICES

- USE SPARINGLY
- USE EFFECTIVELY

INSPIRATION

- NOTE DOWN ALL OF YOUR IDEAS
- GET IN THE HABIT OF THINKING OF SCRIPTS

LET YOUR BABY FLY

- THE TIGHTER THE SCRIPT THE LESS THINGS THEY WILL CHANGE
- ALLOW CHANGE TO HELP IMPROVE YOUR WORK

BEGINNING

- SET-UP WORLD
- INTRODUCE CHARACTERS

MIDDLE

- SHOW US WHAT WE CAME FOR

END

- CONCLUDE THE STORY USING EVERYTHING THAT CAME BEFORE

PULL THEM IN EARLY

- USE MYSTERIOUS CHARACTERS OR CIRCUMSTANCES
- SET THE SCENE IN OBSCURE INTRIGUING WAYS

EXTRAS

- COMEDY IS KING
- STAY IN YOUR LANE
- DON'T BE STUBORN
- MAKE THE EDITORS JOB EASY
- SUBTEXT
- CONCEPT

RESOURCES

- BOOKS
- SOFTWARE
- SCRIPTS
- YOUTUBE