

"THE SAMPLE SCRIPT"

Written by

Mick Hurbis-Cherrier

MICK HURBIS-CHERRIER
1424 Golden Ave., #2
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(313)930-9738

AUTHOR'S DRAFT
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FADE IN:

SCENE HEADING → INT. HOWARD'S STUDY - NIGHT

HOWARD JOHNSON, a slender, handsome man in his early thirties sits at a desk in his modest study facing a blank computer screen and eating from a bowl of popcorn. He types a few lines, stops, thinks, then erases the text and leans back in his chair. He grabs a handful of popcorn and, one by one, throws the kernels in the air and tries to catch them in his mouth. He successfully throws and catches three times.

STAGE DIRECTION → As JOE CARRUNCIO, also in his mid-thirties, walks into the study with a dishtowel and plate, Howard throws up another white kernel and opens his mouth, but it lands in his eye.

JOE
What are you doing?

HOWARD
Oh, hi Joe.

DIALOGUE → I agreed to do the dishes so that you could write. ← **PERSONAL DIRECTION**

JOE
(holding up the plate)

Joe walks over to the computer monitor and sees a blinking cursor at the top of an empty screen.

JOE (CONT'D)
That's some significant work you've done there.

CHARACTER CUE → HOWARD
Leave me alone. The writing process is not easy. It takes time, concentration, inspiration and...

JOE
...and lots of popcorn.

Howard puts the rest of the popcorn he is holding back into the bowl and swivels his chair so that his back is facing Joe.

HOWARD

If you'll excuse me, I have work to do, and don't you have dishes to finish?

JOE

I'll make you a deal. I'll give you a spotless kitchen for the rest of the week, if you give me five pages of work by Friday.

Howard swivels around to face Joe.

HOWARD

Fine, it's a deal.

JOE

OK, it's a deal then.

Joe and Howard shake hands and Joe leaves.

Howard turns back to his computer and begins to type frenetically. He stops, thinks and erases all the text from the screen. He ponders, scratches his chin and leans back. Deep in thought, he grabs a handful of popcorn. In one quick motion he spins himself around in circles in his chair, throws a kernel of popcorn in the air and catches it deftly in his open mouth.

SCENE ENDING  FADE OUT.
fade out only at the end of the entire script. not at the end of every scene.

THE END

MEASUREMENTS: from left edge of the page

Scene Heading (1 3/4")

Stage Direction (1 3/4")

Character Cue (4 1/4")

Dialogue (2 1/2" cuts off @ 6 1/2")

Personal Direction (3 3/4" cuts off @ 5 1/2")

Spacing:

Between scenes: 3 spc

Between Scene Heading and Stage Direction: 2 spc

Between Stage Direction and Character Cue: 2 spc

Between Character Cue and Dialogue or Personal Direction: 1 spc