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|  | **BEAT DESCRIPTION** | **SCENE IDEAS** |
| 1 | **Opening Image**  *A visual or scene that sets the tone of the story and introduces the protagonist.* | Ethan meets Union Prime who choose someone else as his successor. |
| 2 | **The Theme Stated**  *A scene that sets up or teases the message or essential truth of your story.* | Ethan |
| 3 | **Set-Up**  *Scenes that introduce the world & supporting characters, and also hint at changes to come.* |  |
| 4 | **Catalyst / Inciting Incident**  *The surprise moment that turns the protagonist’s world upside down and kicks off the main plot.* |  |
| 5 | **Debate**  *Tension mounts and the protagonist ponders whether to undertake the journey. What is at stake?* |  |
| 6 | **Break into Act II**  *The protagonist chooses to take action. A journey into a new and strange experience begins.* |  |
| 7 | **B-Story**  *The protagonist learns about the theme, usually with the aid of a mentor, friend, or love interest.* |  |
| 8 | **Fun and Games**  *The conflict kicks into high gear: bad guys attack, lovers fight, mysteries deepen.* |  |
| 9 | **Midpoint**  *The second big turning point: Goals are achieved… but a reversal upsets the plan.* |  |
| 10 | **Bad Guys Close In**  *Troubles pile up after the Midpoint, either from literal “bad guys” or the hero’s flaws and doubts.* |  |
| 11 | **Crisis / All Is Lost**  *The opposite moment from the Midpoint: A disaster that makes the goal appear to be impossible.* |  |
| 12 | **Dark Night of the Soul**  *In the aftermath of the Crisis, the hero hits rock bottom emotionally as everything falls apart.* |  |
| 13 | **Break into Act III**  *The B-Story [7] returns to provide fresh ideas or a new inspiration, derived from the Theme [2].* |  |
| 14 | **Finale**  *The protagonist tries again, drawing on experience and understanding of the Theme in the climactic sequence.* |  |
| 15 | **Final Image**  *The flip side of the Opening Image [1], showing how the protagonist and the world have changed.* |  |