

## **Secret of the Scene**

**Teaching technique:** Half of the class will be spent teaching new material, the other half will be used for writing exercises and work-shopping homework assignments.

**Course goals:** to provide students with detailed knowledge of scene structure and types. At the end of the course students will have a variety of diverse scenes for portfolio use.

**Homework:** homework is optional, but essential if you wish to have a comprehensive portfolio by the end of the 8 week course. All assignments can be e-mailed in Final Draft or Pdf format by Sunday evening to [contact@naominoir.com](mailto:contact@naominoir.com) for feedback by Tuesday's class.

### **Week 1: Scenes of Introduction**

Theme, genre, general overview of scene type, life dream, Scenes of Introduction, general overview of course

**Homework:** Write a Scene of Introduction for a character without using dialogue

### **Week 2: Scenes of Power**

Plot vs. character as ways to approach writing a script, how to get audience to identify with character, Enneagram, Power Struggle scenes, Scenes of Negotiation

**Homework:** Scene of Negotiation

### **Week 3: Scenes of Conflict**

Central conflict, Scenes of Hidden Conflict, Scenes of Open Conflict, Scenes of Betrayal

**Homework:** Scene of Hidden Conflict

### **Week 4: Scenes of Decision**

Visual Story-telling, telling story through action/ behavior rather than dialogue, visual descriptions (as if/ like...), Scenes of Decision

**Homework:** Scene of Decision

### **Week 5: Scenes of Lies**

Dialogue, finding your character's voice, how to avoid on-the-nose dialogue, words vs. action (or how to let your character lie), Creative Lie scenes

**Homework:** Creative Lie scene

### **Week 6: Scenes of Preparation**

Dialogue, finding your character's voice, how to avoid on-the-nose dialogue, words vs. action (or how to let your character lie), Idea/ plan scenes, Scenes of Preparation

**Homework:** Idea/plan scene

### **Week 7: Scenes of Combination**

Scenes of Arrival, Character development scenes, Red Haring scenes, Smoking Gun scenes

**Homework:** Combine scene of choice with existing scene from previous weeks

### **Week 8: Scenes of Resolution**

Loglines, the Pitch, the Second Draft/ tips for editing, techniques for overcoming writer's block, getting your script produced, Scenes of Resolution