

CLASSIC SEQUENCE STRUCTURE

ACT I

SEQUENCE 1- Status Quo.

Establishes characters in routine. Introduces protagonist's want and obstacles to it.

SEQUENCE 2- Inciting incident

Status quo is disturbed. Central Conflict (main problem/ primary struggle) of film is introduced with twist in this sequence.

This will be answered by the end of Act II.

ACT II

SEQUENCE 3- First efforts to resolve problem

Denial or path of least resistance.

SEQUENCE 4- Bigger Efforts to Resolve Problem

Apparent solution/ resolution. Protagonist takes first unconscious step towards true destiny.

SEQUENCE 5- Honeymoon Sequence

The character tries on a new way of being which seems to be working. Problem apparently resolved until new obstacles are encountered. Subplots flower.

SEQUENCE 6- Climax

Drive towards the collision of all the forces your character has been trying to fight against. Conscious move towards destiny.

Conclusive answer to whether character will get their want (big question of ACT II).

Twist now introduces a new struggle for the character to get what they need (of which they were unaware or in denial about in the beginning of the story).

ACT III

SEQUENCE 7- False Resolution

The worst of the worst (if it's a happy ending). The last twist of the story will introduce a final threat or opportunity to bring us to the true resolution.

Start to tie up endings for secondary characters.

SEQUENCE 8- Resolution

Character achieves final destiny and true outcome of story is revealed. We learn the fate of all the characters about whom we care. All subplots are resolved, happily or unhappily.

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