

App Proposal



Scripty

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DGM 2240

Problem /Need

These days writing your own movie screenplay is easier than ever. There are numerous options to choose from as far as scriptwriting software and applications. Your only limitation is your own creativity. Therefore, the real need is not tools for writing but for inspiration.

In a writer's quest both research and study are key. Some of the best sources of inspiration and technique are those scripts that have already been made into our favorite feature films. Yet there are only a few websites filled with professional screenplays to learn from. There are even fewer that contain unproduced screenplays, which holds great potential for networking with other filmmakers.



Proposed Solution

My solution is to create a mobile application that will provide a searchable database filled with both produced and unproduced screenplays.

- Produced screenplays will be a source to help prospective writers learn from the blueprints of cinema's greatest films.
- Unproduced screenplays will provide a means to connect with other writers and filmmakers who have yet to get their movie off the ground.
- In addition, there will be an option to create a user account that will allow you to submit your own screenplays.

Background Research

As for research, I looked at both Amazon Kindle's mobile application as well as Simplyscripts.com. Kindle was a solid reference for what I wanted in terms of site structure and design. Simply Scripts is a website that was an example for what I wanted in terms of content.



Pros

- Easy to navigate
- Genre selection
- Drop down menu on the left side
- Side Scrolling

Cons

- No social network
- Only published literature

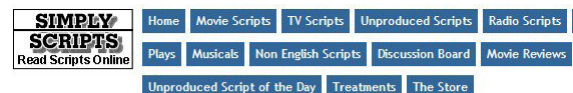


Pros

- Many categories
- PDF downloads
- Deep selection of scripts

Cons

- Ugly interface
- No mobile app
- Hard to navigate



The Movie Script Page! See below for what is new on the site or click on a letter under "Movie Scripts". Scripts are listed by the first noun in the title.
- Enjoy!



► **Something Evil, Something Dangerous 2: The Beginning** - August 2, 2009 revised script by Suzanne Howarth - hosted by: [New Cannon Productions](#) - in pdf format

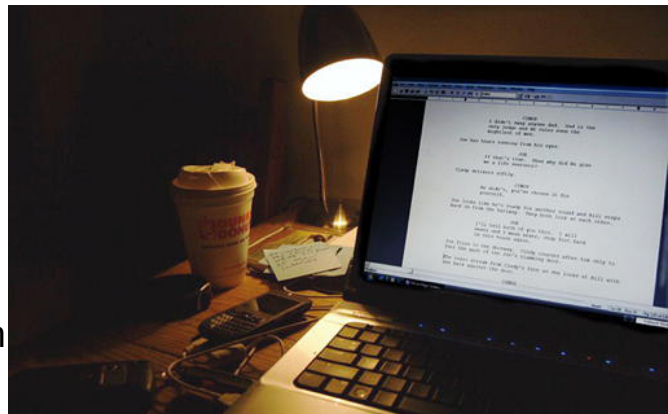
Four months before the original nightmare began, four friends meet with something evil, something dangerous deep in the woods near Horton. Mike, Brad, Maddie and Carly set off on a camping trip. As they settle into their adventure, they are unaware their every move, every breath is being watched. The evil eyes follow them... hungry.... waiting... watching.

Target Audience

Scripty's target audience will include screenwriters, movie buffs and amateur filmmakers. Age range could vary from high schoolers to middle-age men and women. While screenwriting is a niche market, it also a very diverse one.

Prospective writers in their teens and early twenties can utilize the app for research purposes. Viewing some of the scripts that have been made into major motion pictures will allow them to inspect patterns in writing that have garnered success. Older film students or freelance filmmakers can similarly use this resource as well. They can also find unproduced screenplays useful for networking. Contact info can be posted with submitted screenplays as well as general location to promote social engagement.

Finally, the last demographic targeted will be film buffs that enjoy reading screenplays but have no intention of writing or producing. They can still participate in discussions with other users and give helpful comments to submitted screenplays if permitted by the author. This can promote a community as found on other online movie forums.



Interview Summary

I interviewed a total of five people. I was able to meet with a few cinema students, a teacher who enjoys reading screenplays and a current writer of both novels and scripts. All of them found it to be potentially useful to access screenplays quickly and easily from a mobile application. Both the ability to read Hollywood screenplays as well as new and independent screenplays sparked interest. Making sure the app is responsive and efficient will be key.

Facebook was referenced as the most common source for networking with other writers and filmmakers. This may limit the social features to a simple user contact icon being attached with submitted screenplays. Using the app as a database retrieval system seems to be the most appealing function. Various filter options for narrowing search results was highlighted as well.



Interviews

Interview 1

Conducted by: Dustin Robertson
Brian
Cinema Student - UVU
6:30pm Feb 24, 2015
UVU Campus - CS Building

Q: Do you read screenplays or have considered writing your own screenplay?

Yes I have.

Q: What has held you back from writing a story other than a lack of time?

Lack of experience. I don't have a ton of it with writing screenplays. That holds you back. I don't know if I would be good enough.

Q: What tools do you or would you use for research when writing?

Movies and their screenplays.

Q: Would you find it useful to have a mobile app to find and study other screenplays? Why?

Yes, I think it'd be nice to have them all in one place.

Q: Do you use websites or mobile apps to network with other screenwriters and filmmakers?

Facebook, which hosts the cinematography club at UVU. We use it to share ideas and help each other.

Q: Is there anything about these apps that you don't like? Why?

Social clicks. They always have their good networking but not as much if you're new to the club. If they don't know you it's difficult to work with them.

Q: Do you use other book or reading apps? What do you not like about these apps?

ibook. I find it useful when going between my textbook on screenplays and the script that I'm working on.

Q: If there was a social networking app for screenplays, what features would you want?

A means to contact others. Also a forum to give advice on what you have learned from other filmmakers and writers

Interviews

Interview 2

Conducted by: Dustin Robertson
Chris
Independent Filmmaker
4:30pm, Feb 25, 2015
Over the phone

Q: Do you read screenplays or have considered writing your own screenplay?

Yes.

Q: What has held you back from writing a story other than a lack of time?

I didn't think it would ever get made or ever be seen. Sometimes I think about not having a good enough idea.

Q: What tools do you or would you use for research when writing?

Handwritten outlines of where i wanted the story to go and the Celtix app. I use Google to research technical details within the story.

Q: Do you ever read produced screenplays? What do you find helpful?

I get good guidelines from screenplays and writers I like. I use them as a guideline for the format.

Q: Would you find it useful to have a mobile app to find and study other produced screenplays? Why?

Yes, because it gives instant access on your phone while on the go. If it's easy to navigate.

Q: What websites or mobile apps do you use to network with other screenwriters and filmmakers?

Facebook, email and Vimeo.

Q: Do you use any book or reading apps? What do you like about these apps?

I use the Kindle and Cracked reading apps. I find that formatting is key. Also font controls for size and color.

Q: If there was a social networking app for screenplays, what features would you want?

Some search options to determine length of screenplays. A filter for page length. It'd be nice to find a short film script for a school or independent project.

Interviews

Interview 3

Conducted by: Dustin Robertson
Clay
Independent Filmmaker
3:30pm, Feb 24, 2015
Over the phone

Q: Do you read screenplays or have considered writing your own screenplay?

Yes. I also started a few scripts myself.

Q: What has held you back from writing a story other than a lack of time?

When I start it, it changes into something else and basically I lose interest.

Q: What tools do you use for research when writing?

Google, memory, newspaper stories specifically from that time and place. Weather forecast and details are all used. I also use different books on that time period. Like for a script set in the 1980's, I used a book on economics for that time.

Q: Do you ever read produced screenplays? What do you find helpful?

Yeah. I recently read Heat's screenplay which I loved. I also enjoyed reading Breaking Bad among others.

Q: Would you find it useful to have a mobile app to find and study other produced screenplays? Why?

Yeah, definitely.

Q: What websites or mobile apps do you use to network with other screenwriters and filmmakers?

I don't social network.

Q: Do you use any book or reading apps? What do you like about these apps?

Nook but I don't use it too often. Not really. I like physical books.

Q: If there was a social networking app for screenplays, what features would you want?

Nothing that I can think of really. I'm not that creative, (laughs).

Interviews

Interview 4

Conducted by: Dustin Robertson
Stevie
Teacher
2:00pm, Feb 22, 2015
Outisde School

Q: Do you read screenplays or have considered writing your own screenplay?

Yes.

Q: What has held you back from writing a story other than a lack of time?

I usually just like to read screenplays, mostly by people I know so I can edit for grammar.

Q: What tools do you or would you use for research when writing?

I would use the internet, books and people I know for help.

Q: Do you ever read produced screenplays? What do you find helpful?

I do occasionally. It gives me a reference for what to look for. They're different than other written works. So that's helpful.

Q: Would you find it useful to have a mobile app to find and study other produced screenplays? Why?

Yes. If it's simple to use and lets me read them on my phone without squinting. I'd love that. Or if it's on the computer. I usually like to read bigger font.

Q: What websites or mobile apps do you use to network with other screenwriters and filmmakers?

Facebook.

Q: Do you use any book or reading apps? What do you like about these apps?

No, not really. I use Google books for textbooks sometimes. That's not too frequent.

Q: If there was a social networking app for screenplays, what features would you want?

I would like to be able to print the screenplays so they're easier to read. Reading from the phone hurts my eyes.

Interviews

Interview 5

Conducted by: Dustin Robertson
Nate
Movie Buff - writer
11:00am, Feb 24, 2015
Over the phone

Q: Do you read screenplays or have considered writing your own screenplay?

Yes.

Q: What has held you back from writing a story other than a lack of time?

A lot of times I feel like I have no ideas. I have nothing new to say or I'm just distracted by other things.

Q: What tools do you or would you use for research when writing?

I like watching other movies, reading books or news stories. Sometimes music.

Q: Do you ever read produced screenplays? What do you find helpful?

All the time, yeah. They're really helpful for seeing a finished product. Something that was good enough to be made means there's something to learn from it.

Q: Would you find it useful to have a mobile app to find and study other produced screenplays? Why?

Oh yeah. It would be nice to read something when I'm not near my computer. Even though I don't read that often from my phone. As long as it has a good list of movies that are worth reading.

Q: What websites or mobile apps do you use to network with other screenwriters and filmmakers?

I don't work with people other than my family when I write.

Q: Do you use any book or reading apps? What do you like about these apps?

I use Kindle and Audible. I like that my library is synced with the cloud and that I can bookmark my spots.

Q: If there was a social networking app for screenplays, what features would you want?

I would like to be able to find different editing tools to work on projects at the same time. To edit in real time.