

A summary of the book save the cat kim hartman

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The Save the Cat Screenwriting Concept

What is Save the Cat?

Save the Cat is a screenwriting technique developed by Blake Snyder that provides a structured framework for telling compelling stories. It is based on the concept that the audience must "like" the protagonist before they can fully engage with their journey.

Why "Save the Cat"?

The name "Save the Cat" comes from a scene in the film "The Godfather," where the protagonist, Michael Corleone, kills a cat to show his willingness to protect his family. This act of compassion establishes Michael as a sympathetic character, even though his actions are violent.

The Concept of "Save the Cat" in Storytelling

The "Save the Cat" technique involves creating a moment early in the story where the protagonist does something that makes the audience empathize with them. This moment is often unexpected and reveals a surprising or endearing side to the character. It helps the audience connect with the protagonist on a personal level and root for their success.

The Theme of "The Cat Who Saved Books"

"The Cat Who Saved Books" by Sosuke Natsukawa explores the theme of the power of stories. The protagonist, Rintaro, is a quiet librarian who discovers a magical cat that can read and speak. Together, they embark on a quest to save books from a cruel queen who believes that reading is dangerous.

Save the Cat as the Language of Storytelling

Save the Cat provides a universal language for screenwriters, directors, and producers to communicate about story elements. It offers a clear structure that helps writers craft narratives that are emotionally resonant and engaging.

A Story and B Story in Save the Cat

Save the Cat distinguishes between the A story (the protagonist's external journey) and the B story (the protagonist's internal journey). The A story focuses on plot events and external challenges, while the B story explores the protagonist's character growth and emotional development.

The Book "Save the Cat"

The book "Save the Cat! The Last Book on Screenwriting You'll Ever Need" by Blake Snyder outlines the 10-step structure of the Save the Cat technique. It provides examples from classic films and offers practical tips for writers.

Summary of "The Plot"

"The Cat Who Saved Books": Rintaro the librarian and a magical cat named Tiger unite to fight against the evil queen who seeks to eradicate books.

"The Plot": A chaotic and noisy school gets an unexpected visitor: a mysterious cat that brings peace and harmony to the students.

"The Cat Within": A stray cat mirrors the hidden emotions and struggles of a lonely and isolated man.

"The Cat Poem": A poem that celebrates the beauty and wisdom of cats and their ability to soothe human worries.

"Big Cat Little Cat": A gentle story about the special bond between a big cat and a small kitten.

Explanation of Save the Cat Beat Sheet

The Save the Cat beat sheet is a step-by-step guide to structuring a story. It includes key turning points and elements that help writers create a cohesive and impactful narrative.

The Concept of Cats

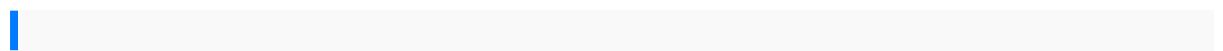
Cats have been a constant presence in human history and culture. Throughout the ages, they have been revered as sacred animals, symbols of grace and mystery, and loyal companions to people from all walks of life.

Cat Theory Explanation

"Cat Theory" proposes that cats can perceive and interact with extradimensional beings and entities. This theory has gained popularity among cat lovers who believe that cats possess a unique understanding of the world beyond human comprehension.

Message of the Cat

The message of the cat is often one of peace, love, and acceptance. Cats remind us of the importance of living in the present moment, appreciating the beauty of nature, and connecting with the world around us.



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