

Midterm Script Revision Grading Rubric

Name: [REDACTED]

Formatting	9/9 pts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper Formatting of Screenplay Elements 	4.5/4.5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spelling and Grammar 	4.5/4.5
Screenplay Style	9/9 pts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the action lines clearly related to character and plot? 	3/3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are descriptions clear without being excessive? 	3/3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the camera directions clear without being explicitly stated? 	3/3
Character	6/6 pts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully-developed characters that engage the reader's sympathy, especially with the protagonist 	3/3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All characters have clear desires, and the protagonist's desire drives the story events 	1.5/1.5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue suits the individual character rather than being generic 	1.5/1.5
Story/Plot	5.25/6 pts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear beginning, middle, and end with each event following dramatic logic (one leads to the next) 	3/3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there sufficient obstacles between the characters and their goals? Are there <u>stakes</u>? 	1/1.5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there conflict in each scene? Is there an attempt at a rising action (achieving desires becomes more difficult for characters as the story progresses)? <u>climax</u> 	1.25/1.5
Total Points	29.25/30 pts
Percentage of Final Grade	19.5/20%

Well done, [REDACTED] This was a really fun revision to read because of all the new changes made. We'd talked about some of them, but the execution still left room for me to be surprised. What was really nice to see was how you accounted for the ripples of the changes. Quite a few good uses of plants and payoffs with the electrical issues and party mentioned early on. But most importantly, I had a better understanding of Eric. His desire was more active, and he was pursuing it the whole time, which gave each scene purpose. The two major issues that could be addressed more were the stakes and the climax. Both are much improved from the earlier draft, but for the stakes, we had a better understanding that he was a little strapped for cash, but if it was more severe, I think we'd feel it more (imagine if his credit card got declined in the cafeteria line and he's even 50 cents short for the vending machine), but even then that gives us an idea of his financial standing, but taking it as far as naturally possible will only benefit. Think again of Wasp; she had kids depending on her; maybe he has a dog at home counting on him to bring home the bacon or he has to help pay for grandma's assisted living. This added motivation only makes us sympathize and root for him more. For the climax, the only thing I would say is to make his choice to ride the elevator again up to the party and return to work on Monday feel more significant. And this can easily be done by adding just a little more hesitation to his choice at the end. I think that choice is your true climax; not so much he rode the elevator fine without realizing it, but more so was riding the elevator unbeknownst to him enough to conquer his fear for him to knowingly do it again?