

The story worksheet: one scene, planned.

Fill this in before you open the generator. A scene that is planned takes two or three attempts; a scene that is improvised takes twenty.

THE IDEA — IN ONE LINE

What should the audience take away, in a single sentence?

The four beats — 15 seconds

0-3 SEC

Hook

3-7 SEC

Develop

7-11 SEC

Message

11-15 SEC

Payoff

The two locks — nothing else holds without these

CHARACTER LOCK

Who must stay identical — face, hair, build, age?

BACKGROUND LOCK

What place, time of day and light on it?

The shot

DIALOGUE

CAMERA

TRANSITION

STYLE & MOOD

WHAT NOT TO DO

Camera = type + position + movement. Name all three.

Weak: “make the camera dynamic.” **Strong:** “handheld, tracking backwards as she walks toward camera, then a quick push-in.”

The golden rule

May change: clothing, fabric, colour, texture. **Must never change:** face, identity, body, continuity.

Keep the sheet. Scene two starts from the same four beats, which is what makes separate clips read as one film.