

Action Film Making Seminar Sides

Directions: Find a partner and choose one of the below scenes to prepare for the Rehearsed Auditions session.

CONTENTS:

1. "Million Dollar Sweepstakes" from "WatchUsDie.com"
(two men or two women)
- 2.> Boardwalk from "Ashes"
(two men)
- 3.> "Billy and Venus," from "Promises Kept"
(one woman and one man)
- 4.> "Let There Be Light," from "The Magic of Life"
(one woman and one man)
- 5.> "The Ringer," from "KnightFall"
(two men or two women)
- 6.> "No Deals," from "The Last Resort"
(one woman and one man)
- 7.> "Don't Say a Word," from "The Last Resort"
(Two women)

1.> "Million Dollar Sweepstakes" from "WatchUsDie.com"
(copyright 2005 Keith W. Strandberg)

INT. MIKE HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

Mike is talking to the speakerphone.

MIKE

It's got to be Sonja.
She's the one with the
gun.

PHIL

I think it's someone
outside the site...

MIKE

I don't think so, it's
too much of a stretch.

PHIL

I heard you get \$1
million if you guess
right.

MIKE

Who do you think it
is?

PHIL

For a million dollars?
Some pervo.

MIKE

I bet it's a
sweepstakes. Do the
math--there are only
about 10 suspects,
they couldn't give the
million to everyone
who guessed right.

PHIL

Maybe they'll have a
drawing or
something...

Mike goes to the desk and grabs a piece of paper and a pen.

MIKE

There are four
left...Where do you
enter?

PHIL

I'll call you back
with the info.

Mike looks at the screen, and sees Brenna being chased by Sonja.

MIKE

You think Amber's
still alive?

PHIL

No chance.

2.> 8.> **"Boardwalk," from "Ashes"**
(copyright 2005 Keith W. Strandberg)

EXT. PIER -- MOMENTS LATER

Kris and Will are standing at the edge of the sand, urn in hand looking back at the boardwalk just coming to life.

KRIS
We used to put our
towels under the pier
here, and boogie board
right there.

The sand is cool under their feet.

KRIS
This is the last time
we were together as a
family.

WILL
You broke my nose over
there...

KRIS
That was an accident.

They move underneath the pier, and Will digs down into the sand.

WILL
Right. You held me
down and spit in my
face over there. You
took my shorts off in
the water and stuck
'em on the pier right
there.

Kris smiles and takes a deep breath, tasting the fresh, salty air.

KRIS
All acts of love.
Great memories, huh?

Will finishes the hole and stands up, looking at the boardwalk. He points at one building in particular.

WILL
I met Angela at that
french fry stand.

KRIS
I **got** Angela right
under this pier.

Will, who was in the middle of pointing something else out,
stops and stares at Kris.

WILL
You and Angela?

KRIS
Why do you think she
broke up with you?

WILL
She was the first girl
I ever loved...

KRIS
She wasn't right for
you. She had hairy
pits.

WILL
I can't believe you
would take Angela from
me!

KRIS
I didn't take her, she
was very willing.
Besides, it was 14
years ago, Will. Time
to get over Angela.

ANGLE ON WILL

He hasn't ever really gotten over the conflict with Kris
over Angela, and every other woman in his life.

WILL
Is it everything I
have you want, or just
the women? Hell, you
even tried to take my
guy friends from me.

KRIS

I don't want anything
you have, man. I like
my life just fine.

WILL

Yeah? How are things
with Karen? I noticed
she didn't come to the
service...

KRIS

We're <BEAT> taking
some time off.

WILL

You screwed around on
her, didn't you?

KRIS

I can do what I want.
I'm not married!

WILL

It's your pattern,
Kris. Want something
really bad, get it,
then want something
else, something
different.

KRIS

Well, right now, I
want out of here.

Kris pours some of the ashes into the hole in the sand, and
watches some of the ashes fly on the wind, over the
breakers.

KRIS

Let's go to the
mountains!

WILL

Slow down, Kris.
You're the one who
wanted to go on this
trip!

KRIS

I just want my face in
the wind.

He starts walking off, while Will stashes the urn in his
backpack and hurries after him.

3.> "Billy and Venus," from "Promises Kept"
(copyright 2005 Keith W. Strandberg)

EXT. ALLEY -- CONTINUOUS

Billy winded, exhausted, turns into the alley, and it's a dead-end.
Venus is nowhere to be seen.

Just as he turns to ride back, he sees Venus at the mouth of the alley.

VENUS

Leave me be.

BILLY

I'm worried about you.
You're my only sister,
my blood. I've got no
one else.

VENUS

I got a life, Billy. A
job. Leave me be.

BILLY

What about your
education, your
degree? This have
anything to do with
science? You earned
that diploma...

He pauses for a BEAT, and sees that this is going to get him nowhere.

BILLY

You're famous. The
best, they told me.

She smiles a little.

VENUS

I won't let you run my
life again.

BILLY

I don't want that. I
just want to be part
of your life again.

VENUS

That's not you, Billy.
You want to control my
life.

Billy goes up closer to Venus, clumsily rolling his bike up to her, then brushes some hair from her face.

BILLY

No, I...

He looks into her eyes, sees something that shouldn't be there.

BILLY

Are you...<BEAT> high?

Venus pushes her bike back away from him.

VENUS

What? <BEAT> See! This
is what I'm talking
about. Get away from
me!

BILLY

You ARE high! You
CAN'T run your own
life. Look, I can get
you in a program...

VENUS

NO!

BILLY

...get you clean.
Then...

VENUS

NO! I'm leaving, and
don't you look for me!
You hear?

She rides off.

BILLY

I'm your brother,
Venus.

VENUS

And, I can't be around
you. Not anymore.

She rides off, leaving Billy alone in the alley.

4.> **"Let There Be Light," from "The Magic of Life"**
(copyright 2005 Keith W. Strandberg)

EXT. COLLON PARK -- MORNING

The sun is just coming up, and the sky is glorious.

Mist is still shrouding the trees and the green, well kept lawns of the park.

Preston is standing in the middle of a clearing, facing the East. As the sun starts to show over the top of the horizon, it becomes clear that Preston is commanding the sun to rise.

Preston does one more flourish, and the sun comes up over the trees.

Preston takes a bow to his imagined audience, and he hears applause behind him.

ALEXANDRA

Bravo! A masterful performance.

Preston turns, and there stands Alexandra, two steaming hot cups of coffee in her hands. Preston smiles sheepishly, caught at his fantasy.

PRESTON

I'm here every morning, don't forget to tip your waitress.
<BEAT> Without me, the world is in darkness.

ALEXANDRA

Then, I'm glad you're around. I sure was glad you were there last night. <BEAT>
Thanks.

Alexandra hands him a cup, and he takes it gladly.

PRESTON

My pleasure. It was a great performance.

They start to walk down the park path.

ALEXANDRA
Getting sawed in half
kind of pales when
compared to bringing
light to the world.

PRESTON
Yeah, well. <BEAT>
Seeing the magic of
life keeps me humble.
How can we compare to
what we see around us
every day?

Alexandra looks at Preston with new admiration. She stops and kisses him gently on the cheek, and Preston puts his hand up to his cheek, a little amazed.

PRESTON
What was that for?

Alexandra smiles and starts walking again.

ALEXANDRA
Let's go see if we
made the cut!

PRESTON
They're posted?

ALEXANDRA
Supposed to be. Let's
go!

She reaches out her hand to Preston, and Preston takes it. Together, they hurry towards the small village square, tossing their coffee cups into a waste can as they go.

5.> **"The Ringer," from "KnightFall"**
(copyright 2005 Keith W. Strandberg)

INT. ROCCO OFFICE -- LATER

TIGHT ON PLASTIC KNIGHT TOYS ON HORSEBACK. Two hands are making the Knights fight each other, jousting. One gets hits off his horse.

LIONHEART

I'm telling you, you would have to change so much.

ROCCO

Why do you say that?

LIONHEART

You're not running a museum here. It's entertainment. You're selling corn dogs, not exactly a delicacy in medieval times.

ROCCO

But being historically accurate would be a plus, a marketing point...

The other Knight gets hit off his horse. The Knight still on his horse, gets off, and they start to battle hand to hand.

LIONHEART

I've made the study of Renaissance times my life's work. I take it very seriously, and I already sense reluctance from your employees.

ROCCO

They'll come around.

One Knight is chasing the other across the desk. The first Knight reaches the edge of the desk.

ROCCO

(under
his
breath
)
I'll jump, I mean it.

LIONHEART
Sir! Would you mind
not playing with those
Knight dolls while we
talk?

THE CAMERA PULLS BACK TO REVEAL

A sheepish MIKE ROCCO, dressed in business clothes, sitting
at his desk, with Lionheart on the other side.

ROCCO
Certainly.

Rocco frowns and reluctantly puts the Knights away in his
desk drawer.

ROCCO
For the record, they
are not dolls. They're
collectibles. <BEAT>
I hired you, and you
didn't come cheap, to
make our Faire more
authentic. Anyone who
resists, tell me about
it and I'll handle it.
My people are very
talented entertainers-
-actors, singers,
stunt people, and so
on, but they also have
a responsibility to be
as historically
accurate as possible.

He smiles at Lionheart, who is twirling an old coin, with
the date 1596 inscribed on it. His good luck charm.

ROCCO
You just have to
approach it in the
right way. Maybe it's
your delivery. Keep

trying, and let me
know how it's going.

Rocco is done, and he pulls the Knights out of his desk
drawer.

Lionheart stays in front of his desk.

Rocco looks up and sees him still there, and sighs, rolling
his eyes.

ROCCO
Is there more?

LIONHEART
What is the ringer?

Rocco smiles, glad that he doesn't have to put away his
"collectibles."

ROCCO
It's a game I play
with the talent, to
make sure they stay in
character. I hire an
actor they've never
seen before, and he
approaches the staff
randomly, like one of
the customers, testing
them. Those that
perform well, stay in
character, are
rewarded. It helps
keep them on their
toes.

LIONHEART
Who's the ringer
today?

Rocco smiles and watches his Knights duke it out.

ROCCO
Oh, my dear Lionheart,
telling you would
spoil all the fun.

Lionheart leaves Rocco to play.

6.> "No Deals," from "The Last Resort"

(copyright 2005 Keith W. Strandberg)

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Already sitting at the conference table is JENNIFER HAMILTON, a very attractive ADA. She has some files open on the table in front of her, and she looks up as they walk in.

JENNIFER

(surpr
ised)

Counselor...

She indicates the seats opposite her, and Max and Vinnie sit down.

MAX

Jenny, this is Mr.
Vincent Pacicco...

JENNIFER

I know who he is.
You're not really his
lawyer, are you, Max?

Her look is incredulous.

MAX

On this matter, yes, I
am.

JENNIFER

Scraping the bott...

Max puts up his hand and looks straight into Jennifer's eyes.

MAX

Hold it, Jenn.
Vinnie, Mr. Pacicco,
and I are old friends,
so let's see what we
can do about these
charges.

JENNIFER

Is your client ready
to make a deal?

MAX

No, he's innocent.
So, we'd like to make
them go away.

Jennifer laughs a little.

JENNIFER

The lowest I can go is
three to five, with
good behavior, he's
out in less than two.

MAX

Didn't you hear me?
He's innocent.

JENNIFER

I heard you, but I
didn't think you
really meant to insult
me.

Max stands up, and he's the only one standing. He motions
for Vinnie to stand up with him.

MAX

No deals, Jennifer.
Unless you're prepared
to dismiss now, we're
going to trial on
this.

JENNIFER

No.

MAX

See you in court.

He turns to Vinnie and smiles.

MAX

After all these years,
I still love saying
that.

JENNIFER

Still happily married?

MAX

Married, yes. The
happily part went out
the window long ago.
C'mon, Vinnie.

They exit, leaving Jennifer watching wistfully as they go.

7.> **"Don't Say a Word," from "The Last Resort"**
(copyright 2005 Keith W. Strandberg)

INT. KITCHEN -- LATER

Stacey and Laura are sitting at the kitchen table. They are looking outside the large windows at the back yard of the house. It's a beautiful snow covered scene.

LAURA
It's so quiet, so
peaceful.

Stacey checks her watch.

STACEY
Not for long. The
ogre will be back
soon, after his
precious run.

LAURA
Wouldn't it be nice to
live here all by
yourself?

Stacey stares wistfully out the windows.

STACEY
Yeah. <BEAT> Don't
start again, Laura.
I'm not in the mood.

LAURA
When are you going to
wake up and take
control of your life,
Stacey?

STACEY
Oh, right, and rubbing
out...

She drops her voice, even though no one else is home.

STACEY
(whispering)
Rubbing out my husband
is taking control?

LAURA

If you'd shot him when
you first met him,
you'd already be out
of jail.

After a BEAT to let this sink in...

STACEY

Really?

Laura smiles and nods.

LAURA

I can get it arranged
for you.

Stacey starts to say something, but Laura holds up her hand.

LAURA

Just hear me out. For
\$50,000, maybe less, I
can make it happen
while you're on this
second honeymoon. You
can come home the
grieving widow. You
wear black for a
month, and you look
damn good in black,
say all the right
things, and you're
free.

Stacey smiles at the last bit.

STACEY

You're terrible.

LAURA

Do you want me to
pursue this?

STACEY

This is crazy.
Sitting here, talking
about putting a hit
out on Max. Just
absolutely crazy.

She laughs at the idea.

LAURA

If you want me to ask
around, just don't say
anything. OK?

Laura pours herself a little coffee, and Stacey stares
purposely out the windows at the back yard, stirring her
coffee with a little spoon. After a long BEAT...

LAURA

So, what's on your
schedule for today?

Stacey looks at Laura and smiles.

STACEY

I have some shopping
to do for the trip. I
think I deserve a new
swimsuit. I found the
cutest one...

She pulls out a catalog from a pile of magazines next to the
table, and puts it down in front of Laura. She leafs
through it, trying to find the right page.