

7) DECLARATION OF WAR/ASSUMPTION OF POWER (PAGE 75):

Sweet Spot: page 75

The protagonist experiences a surge of strength, realizes their TRUE POWER and either initiates a direct attack on the Antagonist or prepares/TRAINS for the inevitable battle. Key Characteristics:

- Moment of personal power
- Protagonist “fights back” after the devastation of the Midpoint.
- Protagonist throws down the gauntlet, issuing a challenge to himself/herself or the enemy.
- Protagonist is able to do something or see something that they previously failed at or did not understand.

Classic Example – *The Karate Kid*: Mr. Miyagi shows Daniel Laruso how he was actually learning to punch and kick when he was painting the fence and sanding the floor. Daniel realizes his potential for power.

Classic Example – *Rocky*: Rocky punches the meat, showing true confidence and strength for the first time.

Spiderman: Spiderman's first direct battle with the Green Goblin.

Up: Carl throws his old possessions out of the house, declaring war on Muntz to rescue Russell.

As Good As It Gets: Melvin agrees to drive Simon and Carol to visit Simon's parents. He opens up for the first time about his childhood, attempting to make a personal connection.

Sideways: Miles pulls out of his funk, showers and gets dressed up and goes to the restaurant where Maya works, determined to impress her.

Meet The Parents: Greg triumphantly returns Jack's cat Jinxy, winning over the entire family.

The Hangover: The guys work the blackjack tables with Alan's amazing “Rainman” skills, winning the money to pay the gangster to get the groom.

Rainman: Charlie Babbitt realizes that he was the reason Raymond was put in an institution, so he decides to take responsibility for Raymond as his brother.

Frozen River: Ray pulls a gun on the Russian smuggler, demanding her payment in full and standing up for two helpless Chinese immigrants.

The Wrestler: Randy asks his daughter to have dinner; she accepts.