The Story Maps HORROR & THRILLER Seminar

March 10 – April 4, 2025

SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES ARE PST)

WEEK ONE: Concept, Genre, Loglines

Monday, March 10:

5-6 pm: Dan Calvisi live class #1: Introductions. Concepts, Genre, Loglines and Basic Story Map. How to generate an original concept (with the Story Maps Horror Concept Generator™!).

6-7:30 pm: Guest Speaker #1: Writer/Director/Producer Christine Conradt (*Summer's Moon, Dead at 17*) on *The difference between Horror and Thriller, the importance of Loglines, TV vs. theatrical distribution* + Q&A

> **In the Google Classroom**: Workshop loglines, discuss several case studies of horror and thrillers, including *Get Out, The Substance, Drag Me To Hell, The Sixth Sense, Final Destination, Blink Twice, It Follows, Longlegs, A Quiet Place, Rebel Ridge,* etc.

Friday, March 14:

5-7 pm: Dan Calvisi live class #2: Live Q&A and discussion of class concepts and loglines.

Assignment due Monday: 2 loglines.

WEEK TWO: Loglines, Templates, Archetypes, Character, POV

Monday, March 17:

5-7 pm: Dan live class #3: Logline notes, Theme, Protagonist, Archetypes, Beat Sheet, personal experience, capturing the zeitgeist, etc.

> **In the Google Classroom**: Pro notes #1 on class loglines. Open discussion threads. Pros and cons of the different mediums: film, TV, novel, etc.

Friday, March 21:

5-6:30 pm: Guest Speaker #2: Producer Evan Astrowsky (*Cabin Fever*) on *Thinking Outside the Box with your story, your first film* + Q&A

Assignment due Monday: Choose your best Logline and polish it, basic Beat Sheet.

WEEK THREE: Loglines, 4-act structure, beat sheets, budget considerations

Monday, March 24:

5-7 pm: Dan live class #4: Logline notes. Story engines, one-pagers and beat sheet case studies: *Get Out, Drag Me To Hell, The Substance*, etc.

In the Google Classroom: Pro notes #2 on class loglines. Discuss new loglines, beat sheets and one-pagers.

Friday, March 28:

5-6:30 pm: Guest Speaker #3: Writer/Director/Producer Rick Bosner (*The Manor, Devoted*) on *Pitching to producers, keeping budget low, using proof-of-concepts to get funding* + Q&A

Assignment due Monday: One-pager.

WEEK FOUR: One-pagers, pitch decks, shorts and franchises

Monday, March 31:

5-7 pm: Guest Speaker #4: Jeffrey Reddick (*Final Destination*) on *Creating a franchise, classic vs. modern genre films, adapting a short into a feature* + Q&A

In the Google Classroom: Discuss one-pagers, sequels, finalize your materials.

Friday , April 4:

Final Assignment Due 12 noon PST: Final loglines and one-pagers.

5-7 pm: Dan Live Class #5: Dan and class final read-throughs and discussion.

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*Note: If you can't make a session, they will be recorded and posted in our Google Classroom.