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THE SCRIPT JOINT

Title: ***
Author(s): ***
Form: script
Pages: 121
Genres: Crime Thrillers, Sports
Elements: n/a
Time Period/Locale: *** /Atlanta, GA

Prepared By: **
Submitted To: The Script Joint
Submission Date: ***
Submitted By: ***
Coverage Date: ***

Overall Rating	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Character		X		
Concept			X	
Dialogue			X	
Plot			X	
Structure		X		

LOGLINE:

Ready to redeem his boxing career after 5 years in jail, Raymond finds he is still a pawn in the ATL drug trade that led to his incarceration.

SYNOPSIS

A boxer packs his belongings into a duffel bag, burns his penitentiary ID, and boards a Greyhound bus heading to Atlanta. In 8 weeks RAYMOND (31) is set to fight ATL's undefeated homeboy, MARIO, in a chance to redeem his career after serving 5 years in prison. Elsewhere, a group of gangsters led by MESSIAH (30s) raid a drug house belonging to VINCE (34), ATL kingpin and old friend of Raymond. ***FULL VERSION REDACTED***

COMMENTS

Concept/Premise:

The concept of this story, being a sport redemption narrative, does not fully match up with the premise of the story about a drug/gang war in Atlanta. Because of this mesh, there was a loss of quality on the sports narrative side of the story. It seemed unrealistic for Raymond to arrive to Atlanta and get ready in 2 months for such a big fight. On top of his training, which should be taking up most of his time so close to the fight, Raymond had to juggle his job at the nightclub, connection with Vince's illegal

business, and his love connection with Heaven. At an earlier part in the story Raymond had a run-in with Vince that made him realize he needed to succeed in boxing to get out. Then a few scenes later, he's going on a trip with Heaven to Augusta, which would then take him out of the gym for a few days. It seemed like the boxing match was Raymond's ticket of redemption out of the gang world but not the main focus of the film. As far for the drug war side of the premise, the story needed to be stronger... ***FULL VERSION REDACTED***

Characters:

While Raymond's character comes around full circle at the end of the story, I felt that he was not strong enough to rely on the progression of the story. There are very few scenes in which Raymond is not present, which means his character is being used to tell the entire story. I think if the story still focused on Raymond, but put a little more slack in Vince's direction then the plot would feel much more balanced. In this scenario Raymond's screen time would be lessened, but we would still get the sense of his conflict with the gang while keeping the focus on his boxing comeback. Then we follow Vince a little more through his own story which paints a better picture of the drug war we see unfold.

I found Heaven to be a good character for Raymond's love interest despite her name being such an obvious symbol for hope. Characters like Heaven are usually used for the purpose in being a catalyst for the main character's transformation. Given that Heaven was introduced as the ying to Raymond's yang, it somewhat bludgeons the point giving her a name with such a strong symbol attached. Other characters like the detectives and gang members that were introduced seemed cliché by nature... ***FULL VERSION REDACTED***

Dialogue:

Given the class and demographics of the characters in this story it was expected that the language used would be very colorful and also broken at times. While the author tried to catch the lingo used in intercity areas, like Atlanta, I felt it was... ***FULL VERSION REDACTED***

Plot/Structure:

As I mention previously, Raymond's character comes around full circle at the end of the story in terms of plot. He is able to stun the city with his victory over Mario, find his way out of criminal world he is stuck in, and, as always, get the girl. From the beginning of the story Raymond always had the intention to right the wrongs that lead him to serving time in jail. The only problem was he found himself still attached to the trouble that put him in jail in the first place. The end of the story serves as a good overall redemption to the story of Raymond, but as mentioned with the premise of the film, the structure lacked... ***FULL VERSION REDACTED***

Writing Style

Since the story felt inconsistent between the sports and gang war narratives, the writing style exhibited felt very basic and general... ***FULL VERSION REDACTED***

PROJECT: ***

WRITER: ***

THE SCRIPT JOINT - CRIME THRILLERS - COVERAGE SAMPLE