



## **Sample: Script Notes on the First 10 Pages**

(Below is only a sample portion of the script notes.)

\*\*\*\*\* has potential to be a good comedy script, but the characters need to stand out more. Their actions and words should not only reflect their personalities but their personal goals. Johnny must show a strong and unrelenting desire to relive his “bachelor” moments with his guy friends. He must be able to transfer that same energy to his friends and convince them to eagerly go with his plans. The obstacles that stand in their way, their wives, need to be clearly introduced in the story sooner. This will trigger the reader to wonder if these guys will manage to break away to Vegas.

Derrick and Amelia don't truly shine until around page eleven. There are moments in the bar scene where the dialogue exchanges become casual chit-chats. The scene to scene progression and the dialogue within each scene should help propel the story. Don't let meandering dialogue exchanges prevent the characters from budding out of their shells. Get to the main point of the story. Introduce the main characters to the reader and present their problems. What's standing in their way? Who are they up against? Likewise, further develop the female characters. Make the wives unbearably challenging to the main characters.

“They are *playing* darts on a very expensive piece...” can be revised to reflect a more action-oriented verb such as “shooting” or “throwing” darts. By tweaking the verb, you will add more energy to the “playing darts” scene. Action-oriented verbs inject stronger images in the reader's mind. Make your scenes come alive.

Try to give each character distinctive names. “Darren” and “Derrick” have the similar “D” sounding names. The names can mix up their identities, especially when the characters don't act too differently from each other. If the writer were to pitch the story in a meeting, characters with similar sounding names could confuse studio executives. The more unique the names, the easier it is for executives to follow the story and remember the characters.