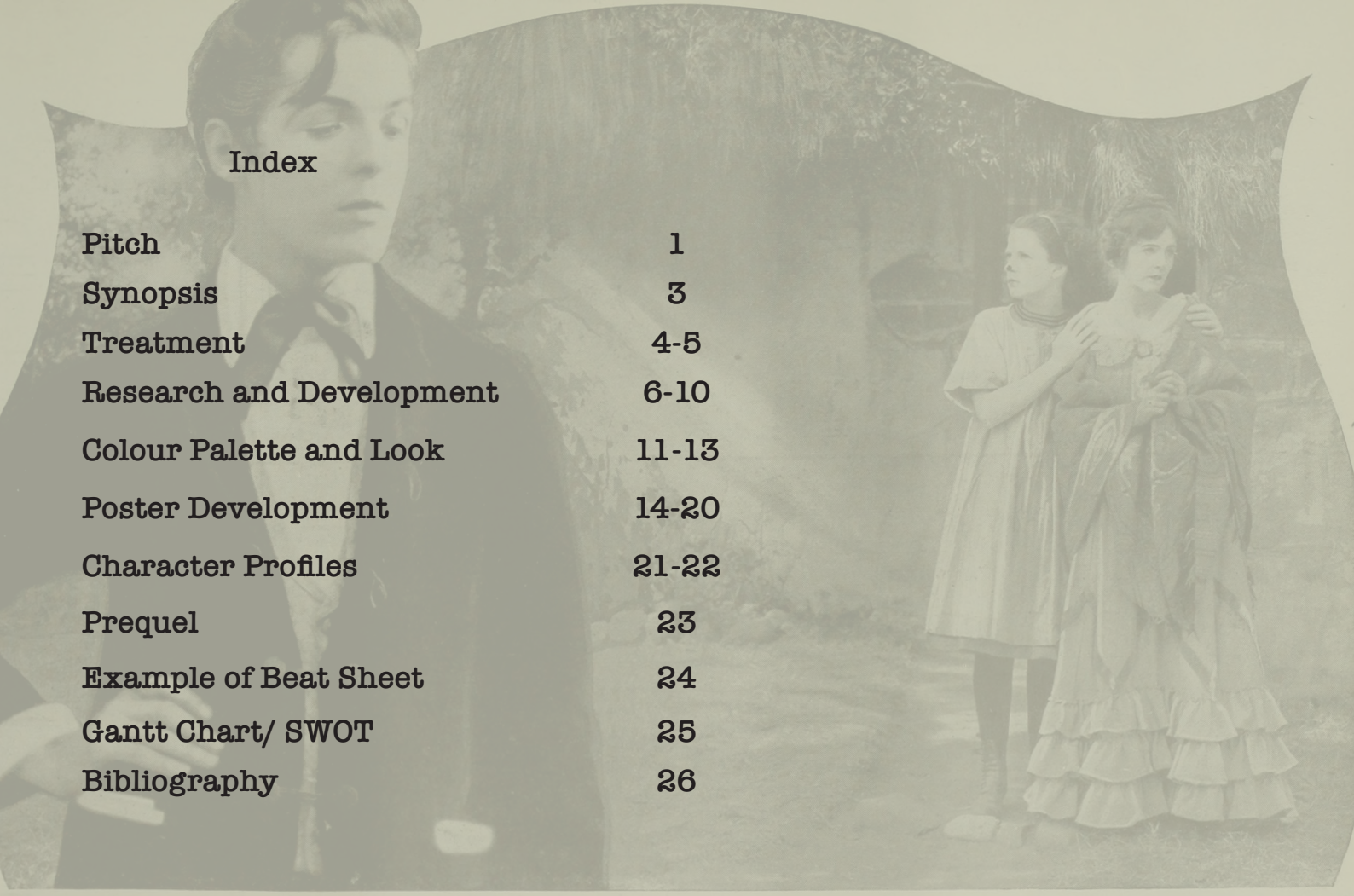
Kelvin Guy Student Number 1704517

Creative Project Portfolio

CAMF6001

Star in the Desert





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Adolph Zukor presents . . . . . SIR JAMES M. BARRIE'S

"Sentimental Tommy"

with GARETH HUGHES, MABEL TALIAFERRO and MAY McAVOY

"The Seventh Wonder of the Film World"

NO motion picture before has ever received such unqualified praise as the New York critics gave "Sentimental Tommy." And after a week of packed houses at the Criterion it has started its second week with the largest Sunday night's business in the theatre's history!

A few criticisms:

"It is the seventh wonder of the film world. In its line it is the outstanding film achievement of the year."—*New York Herald.*

"Seems destined to rank as the best thing produced by an American director thus far."—*New York Telegram.*

"The most worth-while picture of the season."—*New York Tribune.*

"Will go down in the annals as one of the year's best pictures."—*Wid's Daily.*

A John S. Robertson Production

Photoplay by Josephine Lovett

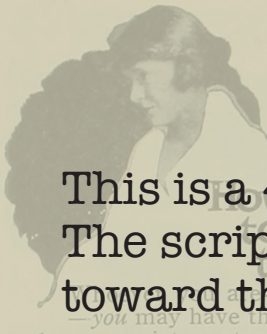
A Paramount Picture

FAMOUS PLAYERS-LASKY CORPORATION

1

This is a 48 page script for a neo noir short film.
The script is based on a real event that shook Hollywood toward the end of the 1920's.

The Murder of Film Director William D Taylor



—*you* may have the qualities that will make you a picture star. Read *Mae Marsh's*

"*SCREEN ACTING*"

The only authoritative book on the art of motion picture playing.

MAE MARSH, the little heroine of "The Birth of a Nation," the child-mother of "Intolerance" ("The Mother and The Law"), the star of "Polly of the Circus," "The Cinderella Man" and other screen classics, defines—.

the SEVEN QUALITIES necessary for success before the camera;

discusses—

costumes, make-up, camera-consciousness, photographic "angles," expression vs. beauty, long intermediate close-ups and thousand

This is for For today States and Canada; $2.00 in foreign countries.

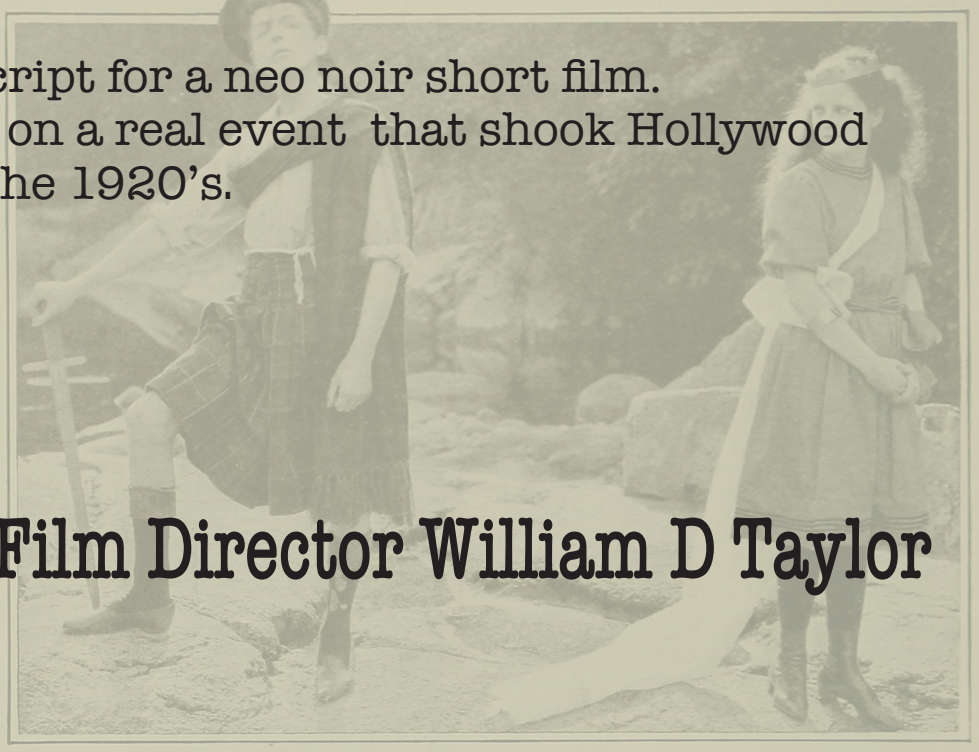
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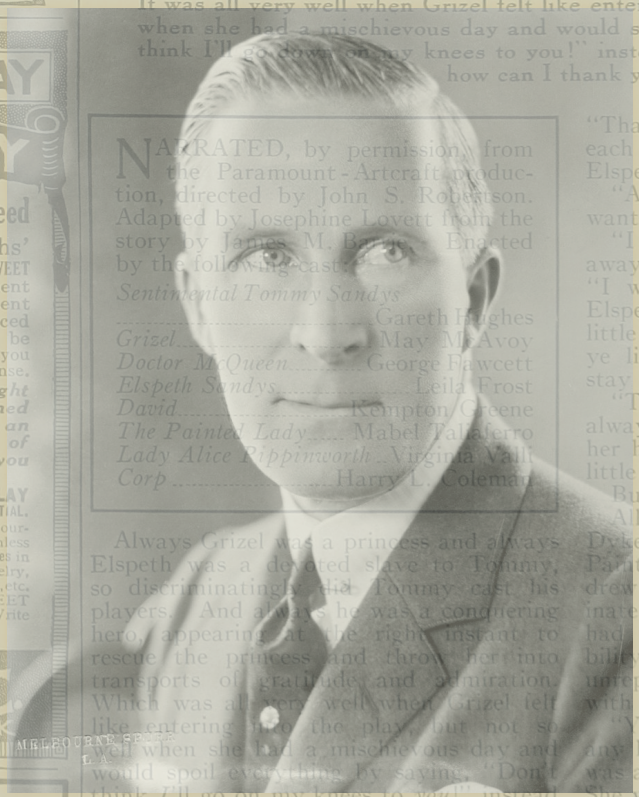


Fig 1. William D Taylor. (IMDB,2019)



Movie Stars
Original Photos

Size 8x10, 35c each. Post card photos, 50c per dozen. Send for largest and best lists of most beautiful girls of motion picture capital of the world. Money-back Guarantee.

Homer E. Howry Co., 424 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif.



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CARTOONISTS ARE WELL PAID

We will not give you any grand prize if you answer this ad. Nor will we claim to make you rich in a week. But if you are anxious to develop your talent with a successful cartoonist, so you can make money, send a copy of this picture, with 6c in stamps for portfolio of cartoons and sample lesson plate, and let us explain.

The W. L. Evans School of Cartooning
850 Leader Bldg., Cleveland, O.

Every advertisement in PHOTOPLAY MAGAZINE is guaranteed.

MYSTERY GUNMAN KILLS FILM DIRECTOR TAYLOR

Deseret News Feb. 2, 1922

MOVIE DIRECTOR SHOT AND KILLED AT LOS ANGELES

BODY IS FOUND NEAR DESK IN VICTIM'S HOUSE

Actress Reports Seeing Mysterious Man and Hearing Report When Weapon Was Discharged.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 2.—William D. Taylor, director in chief for one of the largest film companies operating here and nationally known in the motion picture industry, was found dead at his home here today, under circumstances that the police said indicated murder. He had been shot through the neck. After the first investigation, it was thought he had suffered a hemorrhage but closer examination disclosed the bullet wound. The body was found near a desk [illegible]

Drama Program Is Enjoyed at Century Club

Five Attending Junior Session Of Red Cross

Five Reno and Sparks girls a attending the Junior Red Cro conference at Sacramen delegates Red Cro

Lolita Hi school; Be hurst juni Sparks juni Reno hi Nevin, Spar ston LaRue or corps a ting Red Cro companied t

orning were assembly, f and sectior win was to ta ession of Juni dising. Cross enrollme conducted ols from Nov.

Evening Group to Hol Tea

mittee of the Nev hapter, Daughters Revolution, will gi r tea Wednesday home of Mrs. La Mark Twain avenu nvited. will be prepared p raise funds for j luding communi sponsoring of a G t Orvis Ring school served from 2 to Mrs. Ellen Prince Nc W. J. Atkinson, pa Mrs. J. E. Beaupeu t; and Mrs. Charl ier regent, pouring. h Coppa, evening co rman, will be in charg

Anniversary Timer Club

sixth anniversary of t art club will be observ hen members hold th nner at the home of M rooks. Plans for the easion were made Tuesday wh the group met at the Roberts home of Mrs. F. M. Young. Miss Myrtha McCarthy presid. Others present were Mesdames W. Brooks, W. A. Huffman, Har Bond, Vera Byrnes, C. W. Pier Miss Mattie Conner and the h tess.

Past Guardians Enjoy Meeting

Post Guardian Neighbors Woodcraft enjoyed a seven o'clo supper meeting and social ti recently at the Ryland st. home Mrs. Lillian West.

Present were Mesdames J Dell'Acqua, L. I. Nixon, F. Menante, J. C. Lancaster, W. Fuhrman, R. G. Ward, R. J. Sco W. H. Berg, Laura Combs, Sa Verran, Bessie Elliott, Christi Nelson, and the hostess.

28 KILLED AS BLAST WRECKS MINE, IS REPORT

W. D. Taylor, Director, K

Famous Players F Chief Shot in Hom

Body Found Near Desk in Angeles House — Bulle Fired From Behind

Los Angeles, Cal., February 2. William D. Taylor, director in chief for the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation and nationally known in the motion picture industry, was found dead at his home here today under circumstances that the police say indicated murder. He had been shot through the neck.

Mr. Taylor was director in chief in Taylor's room, upon which there was a cancelled check. The wound, according to the police, indicated that the shot was fired from behind Taylor by some person who was standing up, while Taylor, apparently, was seated before the desk, examining the check. The bullet went through the neck, ranging downward and penetrating the heart.

Mr. Taylor was Director in Chief for the Pacific Coast of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation. He was born in Ireland in 1877 and came to this country in 1900. His first picture with the Famous Players was "Tom Sawyer." He had since produced "Up the Road With Sally," "Huckleberry Finn," "The Furnace," "Sacred and Profane Love," and other pictures. He was engaged on the production of "The Great Temptation," with Betty Compson as heroine, at the time of his death."

Fig 2. New York Post (1922)

Synopsis

Gareth Hughes was my grandmother's cousin and star of the Hollywood silent screen.
Hughes was one of twelve suspects questioned over the death of Taylor.
Why did Hughes disappear from this world of high society only to reappear in the Nevada Desert twenty years later as a missionary?

Taylor had a man servant by the name of Edward Sands who disappared after the murder of Taylor, Sands was never found!
Was Edward Sands an alias of Gareth's?
Was he just playing another part, the part of Taylor's man servant, just to get close to him? The name does sound very similar to Tommy Sands, which was the name of the lead character Gareth played in the very successful film 'Sentimental Tommy' only a year before.

Edward Sands was never seen or heard of again, was he one and the same?



Dorothy Phillips in the recent Allen Holubar production, "Man-Woman-Marriage"

Treatment of Opening Scene

A man is standing outside a telephone box, he is dressed in a priest's habit. There is a well-dressed lady inside on the telephone, she is looking around and describing something or someone to the person on the other end of the line. She looks directly at the man and smiles at him, he nods his head and smiles back. She finishes her conversion and comes out of the telephone box, as she walks away, she turns sharply and looks at the man.
The priest is the former Hollywood silent actor Gareth Hughes and the lady is Phyllis Haver, also an actor during the silent era. This is one of many chance encounters Gareth has with his past life. A life he thought he had left behind many years ago, and one he wanted to forget about.



Fig 3. University of Nevada,
Special Collections Department Reno.

Treatment

A body is lying on the floor, someone is standing over it.
Cigarette smoke fills the room, the cigarette drops out of hand of the person smoking it.
They step on it, grinding it into the floor.
They smile and turn away leaving the room with satisfaction.

NEWS HEADLINE

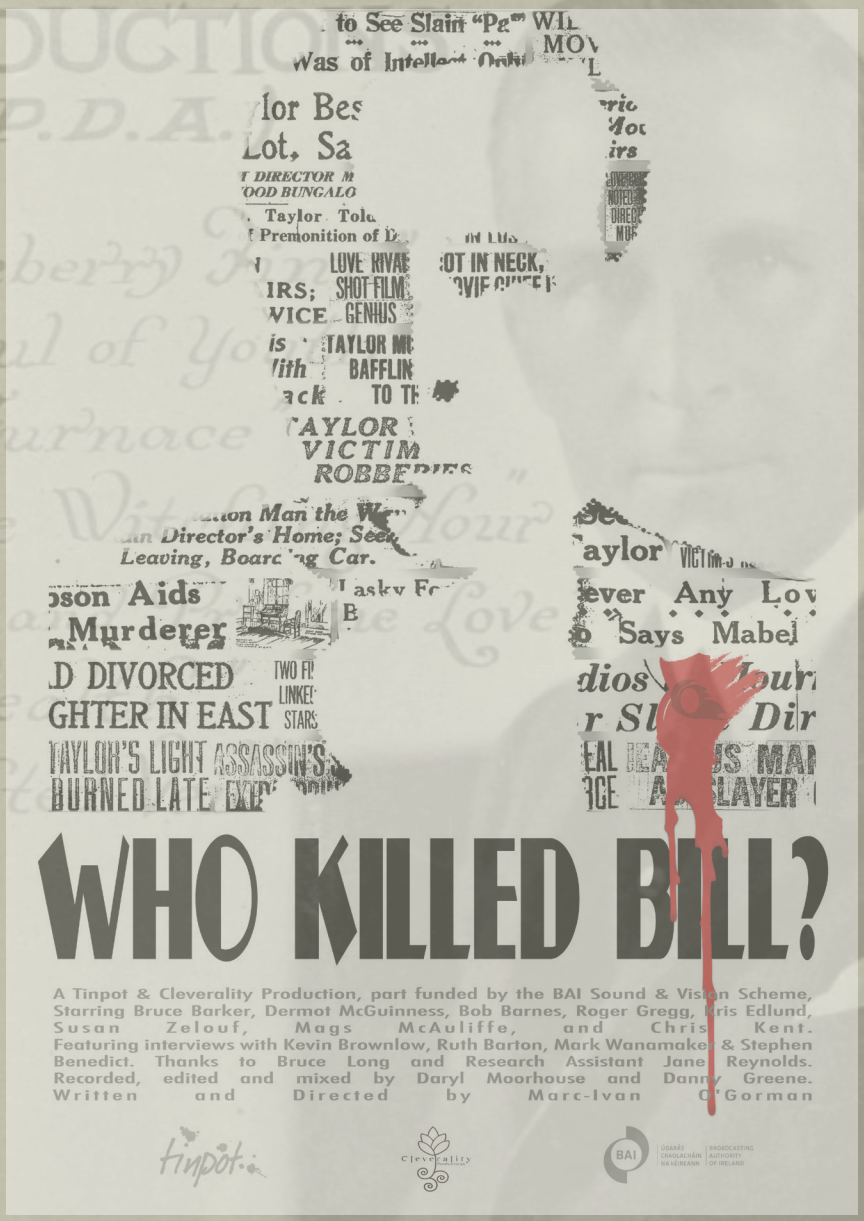
“WELL KNOW DIRECTOR FOUND DEAD AT HIS HOME IN BEVERLY HILLS”

A man is standing outside a telephone box, he’s dressed in a priest habit.
There’s a well dressed lady inside, she’s looking around.
She’s describing something or someone to the person on the other end of the phone, she’s smiling.
She looks directly at the man and smiles at him, he nods his head and smiles.
She finishes her conversion and comes out of the telephone box, as she walks away she turns sharply and looks at the man.
“You look just like someone I once knew” she pauses, “Gareth Hughes?”.
The man smiles at her, he looks at her for a while “Your right I was Gareth Hughes once, but not any more.”
“They call me Brother David in these parts, I haven’t been called Gareth for a long time, since”. He stops himself saying too much.
The lady looks puzzled, she wants to know where he’s been for the last twenty years.



Fig 4. University of Nevada, Special Collections Department Reno.

Research and Development



The Cleverality and Tinpot production; 'WHO KILLED BILL?', is a Radio Docu-Drama on the life and murder of William Desmond Taylor funded by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland and airs on the National Radio station Newstalk 106-8FM on Saturday 12th May at 7 am and Sunday 13th May at 8 am GMT/UTC.

The radio programme will feature a dramatised reconstruction of events coupled with interviews from world authorities on the subject, including exclusive interviews with Hollywood Historians such as, Trinity College's Dr. Ruth Barton, Bison Archives' Marc Wannamaker, as well as, Oscar-winner and recognised world authority on silent cinema, Kevin Brownlow.

WHO KILLED BILL? is written and directed by Marc-Ivan O'Gorman and produced by Daryl Moorhouse.



ARTHUR SAWYER A HERBERT LUBIN PRODUCTION

HELD FOR MURDER

Sacramento Star Feb. 2, 1922

FILM DIRECTOR IS FOUND SLAIN

W. D. Taylor, Dominant Figure in Famous Players-Lasky Corp'n, Is Found Dead In His Home in Los Angeles; No Clue

By FRANK H. BARTHOLOMEW
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Feb. 2.—Mabel Normand, film comedienne, was in consultation with Wm. D. Taylor, motion picture director, who was shot to death here during the night, a few hours before Taylor met his death, neighbors told detectives investigating the tragedy today.

Taylor accompanied Miss Normand to her machine, which was parked at the curb, the witnesses said. Miss Normand and Taylor had been chatting about production of a future photoplay, Harry Peazy, Taylor's negro valet, told detectives.

Slipped Into House

Police believe that when Taylor accompanied Miss Normand to her machine, his murderer slipped into the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas MacLean, motion picture stars, who live next door to Taylor, said they heard a shot fired at about 8:30 last night.

Mrs. MacLean said she opened the door and saw a man leaving Taylor's residence. She could furnish no description of him.

Taylor was a dominant figure in the picture business and influ-

TAYLOR MURDER SUSPECT TRACED TO, FROM HOUSE.

Asked Oil Station Man the Way to Slain Director's Home; Seen Leaving Boarding Car.

Tracing the movements of a man suspected of being the slayer of William Desmond Taylor, internationally known film director, who was shot to death in his Alvarado-street apartments Wednesday night, investigators for The Times last night located four witnesses who saw the man before and after the tragedy. Actuated by motives of revenge due to jealousy, the police believe, the murderer fired the fatal shot as near as can be calculated a few minutes before 7:45 p.m., as Mr. Taylor was seated at his writing desk or just as he returned and closed the door when he returned from escorting Mabel Normand, actress, to her car.

MOVIE DIRECTOR SHOT TO DEATH

William Desmond Taylor's Body Found in Home — Mabel Normand One of the Last to See Him Alive

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 2—William Taylor, director-in-

Map of Taylors Aparment

ALLEY

man pacing behind MacLean home 7:15 p.m.

GARAGE

406B MacLean

406A Jessurun

408B Forve

408A Harrington Dumas

GARAGE

exit path of killer approx. 7:50 p.m.

404B Taylor

404A Valentine Graves

402B Cooley

402A Purviance

400B Ensign

400A Lawrence

410B Reddick

410A Schaffer

412B Buckner

412A Wachter

414B Cox

414A Pratt

MARYLAND

ALVARADO

Updated 5/3/09, with information courtesy of Aimesley Jordan

Suspect: Edward Sands

Possible Motive:

Blackmail (sex related) or Robbery

Evidence (circumstantial and otherwise)

Worked as Taylor's valet and cook up until seven months before the murder. While Taylor was in Europe the summer before, Sands had forged Taylor's checks and wrecked his car. Later Sands burgled Taylor's bungalow, leaving footprints on the film director's bed. Following the murder, Edward Sands was never heard from again.

Source:
William D Taylor, His Life, Work & Murder. Available at: https://williamdesmondtaylor.wordpress.com/celebrity-suspects/ (Accessed 19 Nov 2019)

The above helps to support my theory that Edward Sands and Gareth Hughes may have been one and the same.

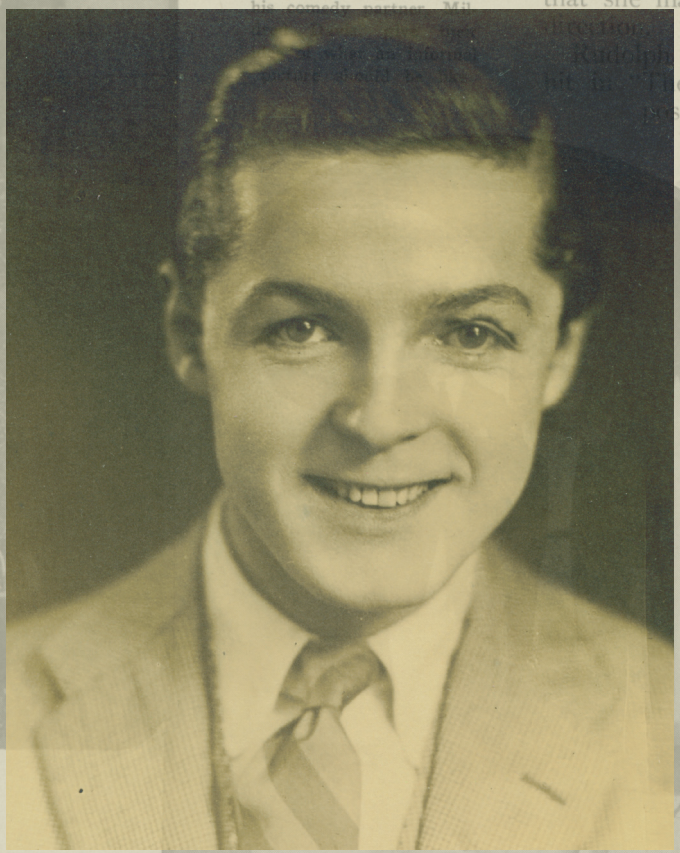


Fig 5. Guy Family Archive

9 a.

The Masonic Touch

The Brotherhood of Free Masonry had a significant influence on Gareth's life from a very young age; his father was a prominent member of the Masonic lodge in Llanelli. So it was taken for granted that Gareth would also become a member, which he did. I believe that the Free Masons may have played a part in Gareth's earlier success in Hollywood. I also believe that the Masons may have played a role in covering up some of the evidence in the murder of William D Taylor. They may have even helped Gareth disappear shortly after the death of Taylor, and set up a new life for him in Nevada. Gareth was quite a high ranking Mason; he was a 32nd. degree mason,which is quite an achievement.
So it may have been to everyone's advantage for Gareth to disappear.

Gareth was a member and pastor of the local Masonic lodge in Fernily, which is a couple of miles from Nixon, NV.

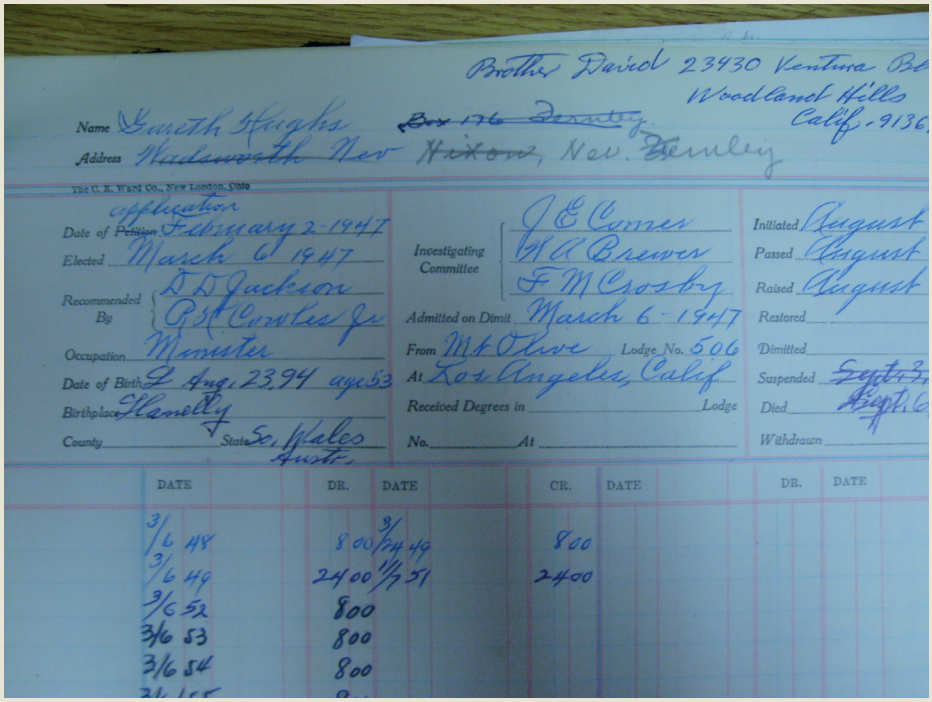
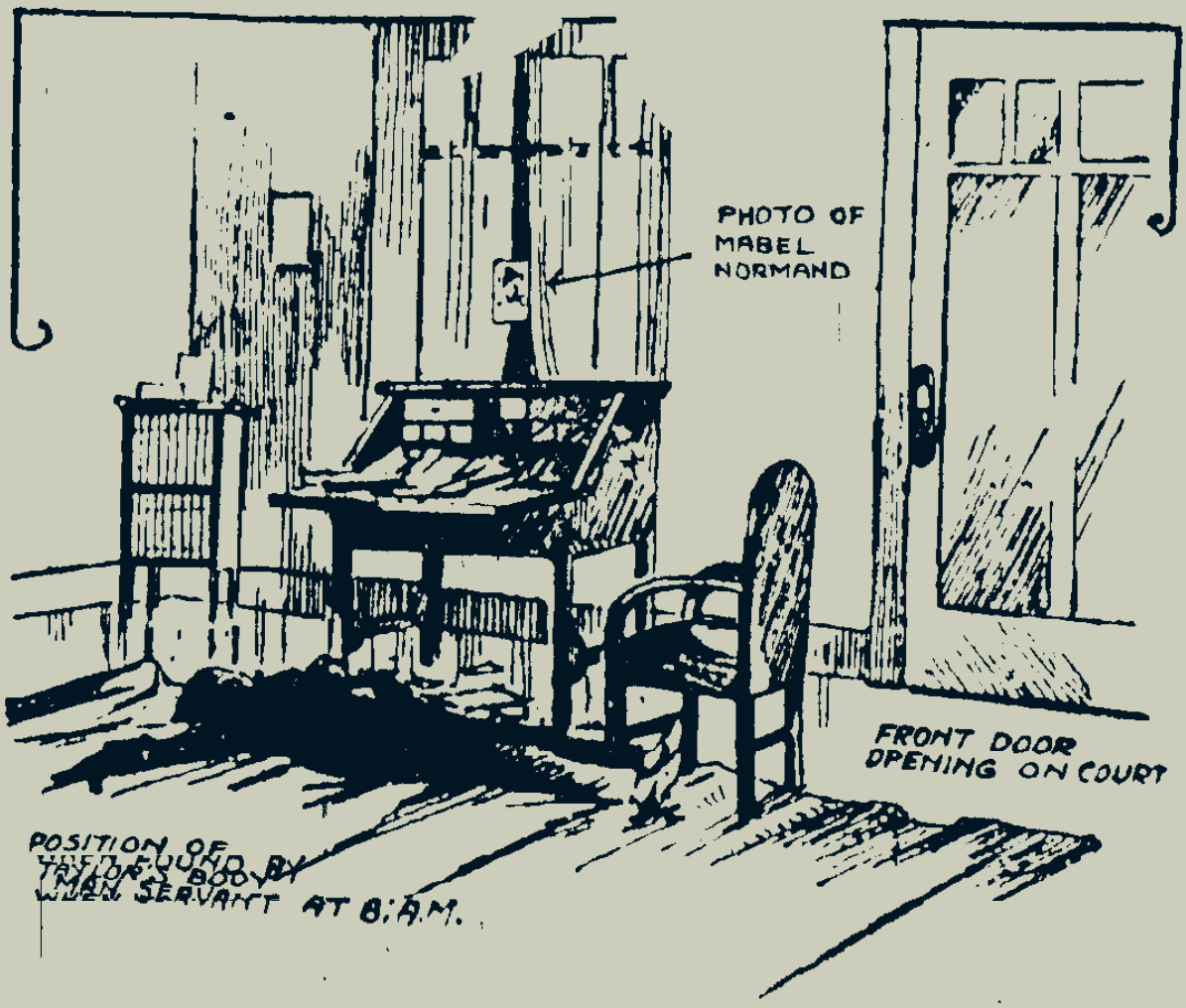


Fig 5 a. Guy Family Archive



Drawing of the murder scene, published on the day Taylor's body was found, February 2, 1922.

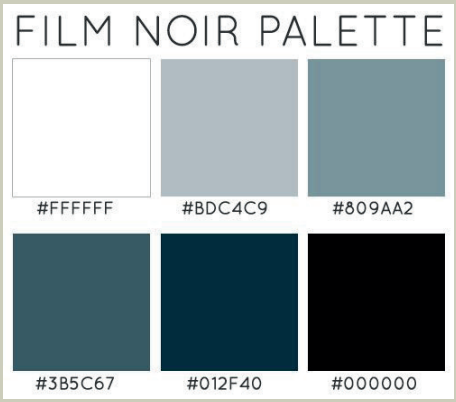
Colour Palette and Look of Star InThe Desert

Interior of Talyor's Apartment Openeing Scene



Examples of colour Palettes for opening scenes in Talyor's apartment.







Above is a example of the lighting, look and feel of Taylor's apartment.
This image also represents Hughes and Taylor arguing.



The above image represents a exterior shot of Taylor's apartment, after the murder has taken place.

Colour Palette for Pyramid Lake Nixon and Fallon Nevada



Blade Runner (Scott,1982)



Into the Wild (Penn,2007)

The above examples of colour represent, a sense of loss and of being lost in an alien environment.

Pyramid Lake,Nixon Nevada
Then and Now



Fig 6.Paiute Tribal Archive



Fig 7.Paiute Tribal Archive



Fig 8.Paiute Tribal Archive



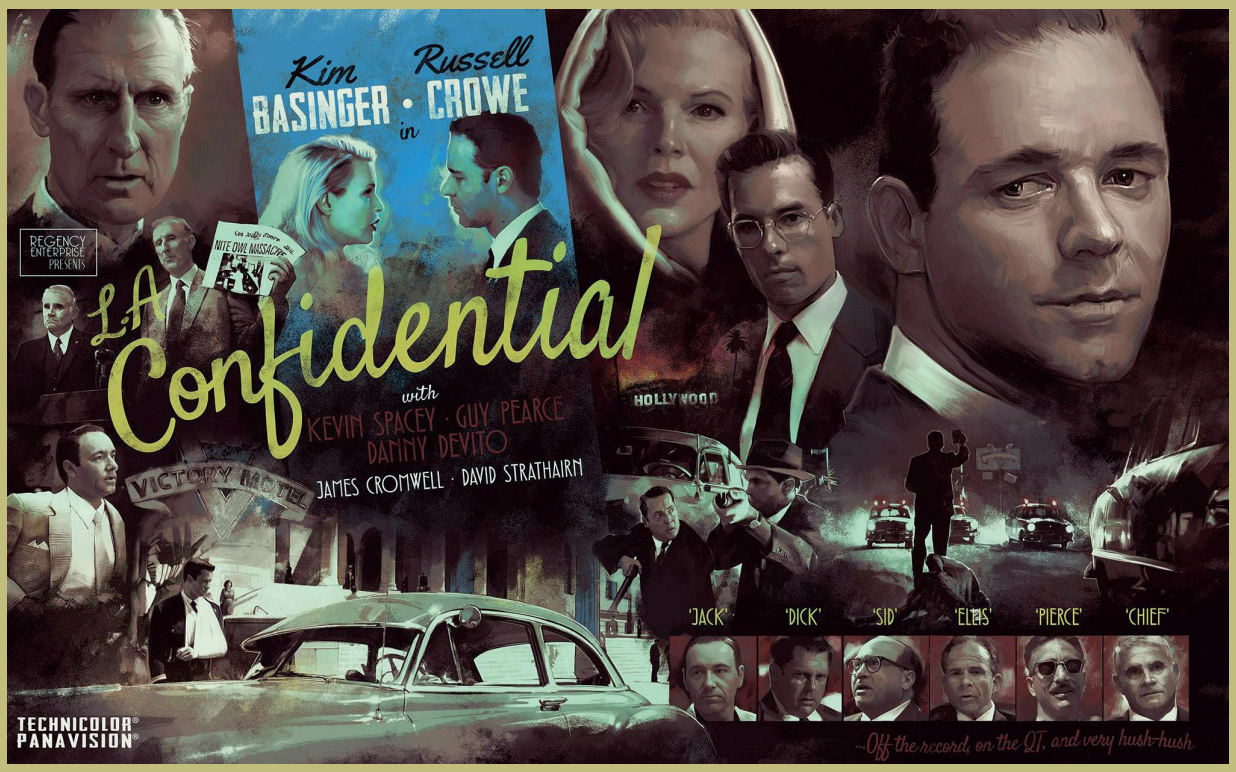
Fig 9.Guy Family Archive



Fig 10.Guy Family Archive

Fig 6 to 8 are photographs of St. Mary's Church and School House, circa 1950.
Fig 9 to 10 are photographs of St. Mary's Church and School House,circa 2008.

Poster Development

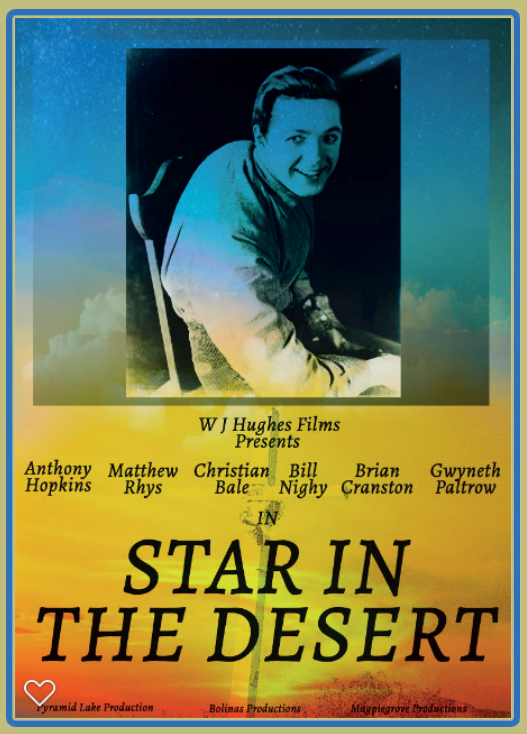


Above is a examlpe of a stylised neo noir film poster. The poster uses colours and fonts that have inspired the design for the Start In The Desert poster.



L.A. Confidential (Hanson ,1997)

Design Stages of Poster







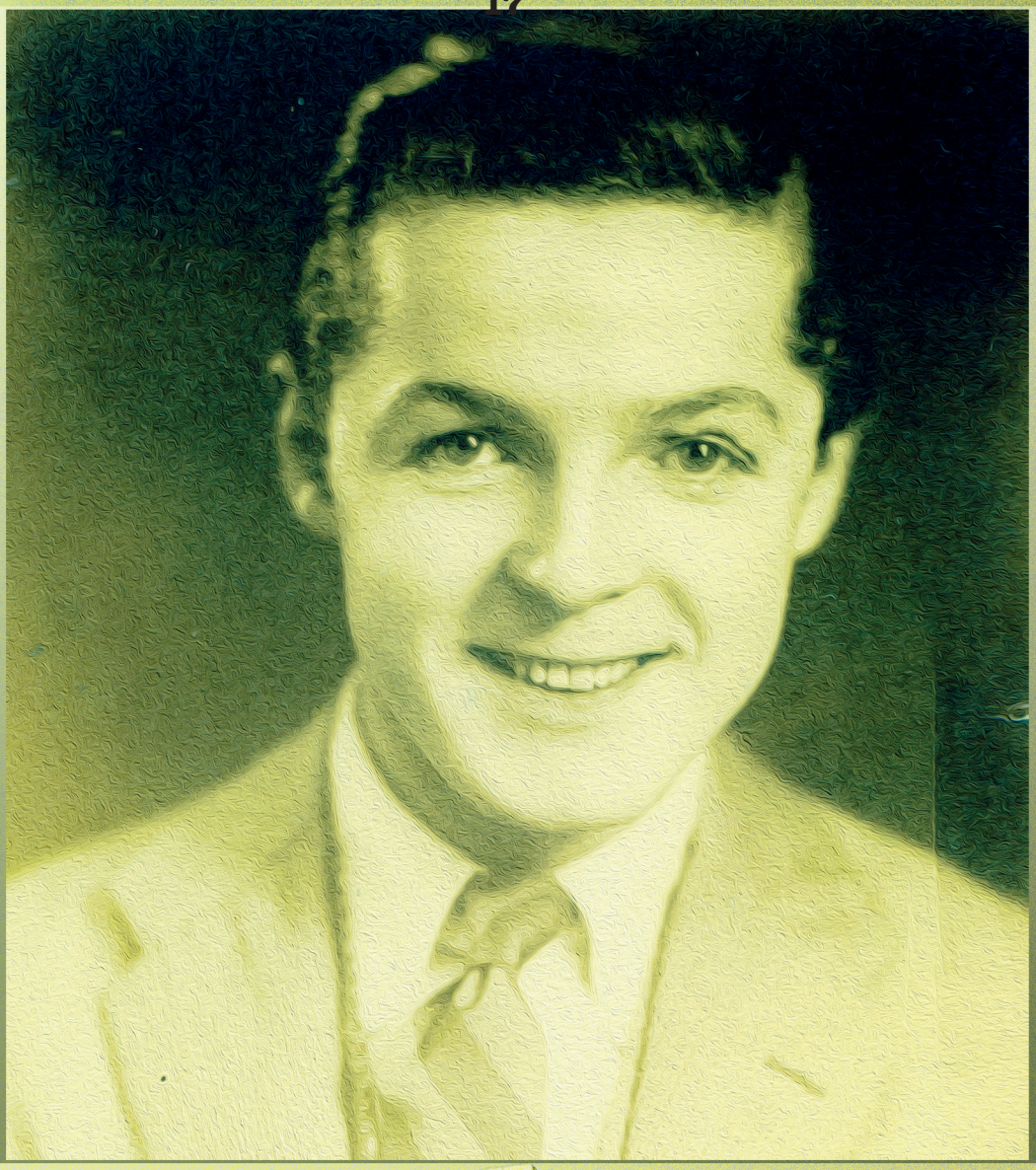
W J Hughes Films
Presents

Anthony Hopkins *Matthew Rhys* *Christian Bale* *Bill Nighy* *Brian Cranston* *Gwyneth Paltrow*

IN

STAR IN THE DESERT

Pyramid Lake Production *Bolinas Productions* *Magpiegrove Productions*



W J Hughes Films
Presents

Anthony Hopkins *Matthew Rhys* *Christian Bale* *Bill Nighy* *Brian Cranston* *Gwyneth Paltrow*

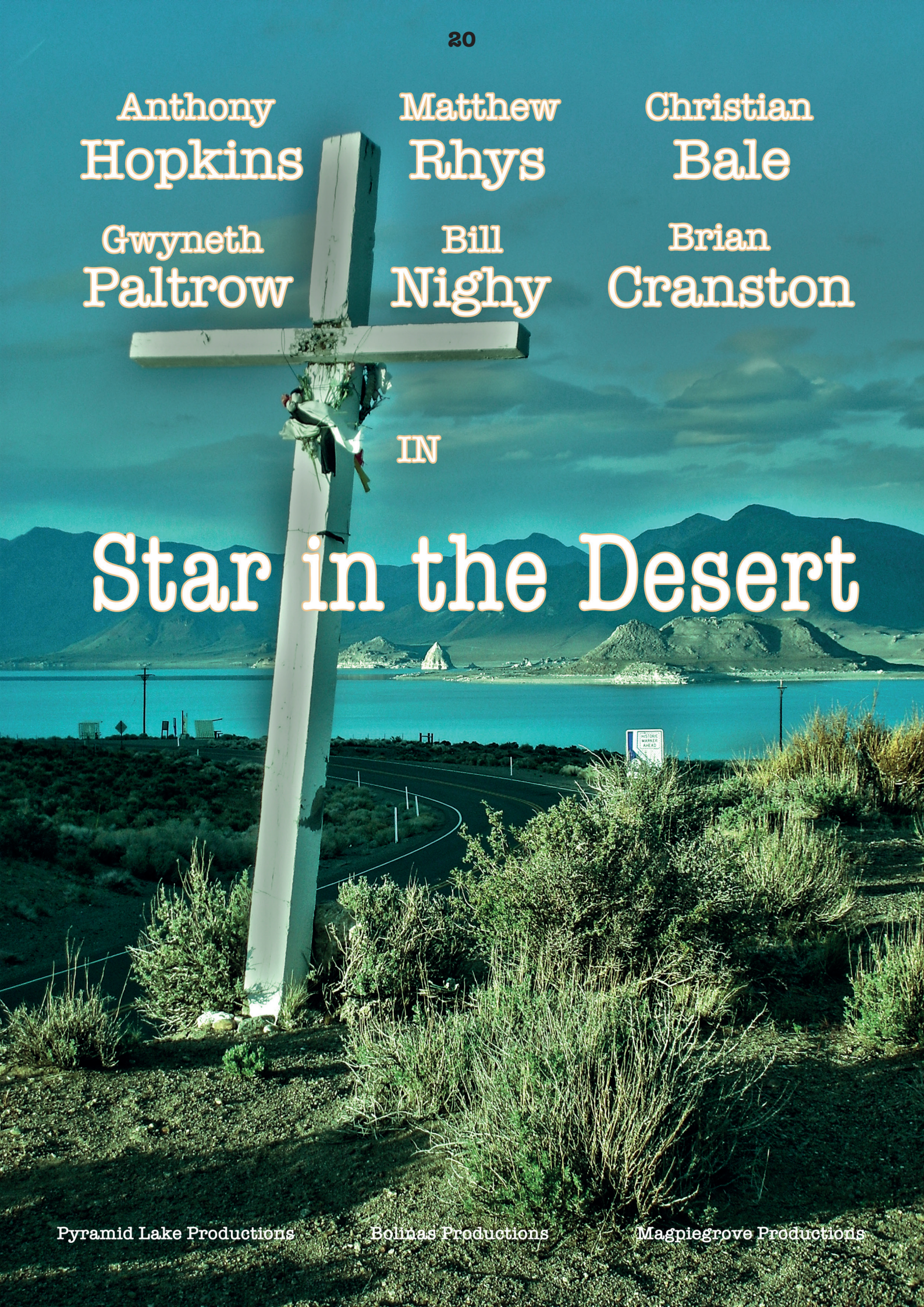
IN

STAR IN THE DESERT

Pyramid Lake Production *Bolinas Productions* *Magpiegrove Productions*


Anthony
Hopkins
Matthew
Rhys
Christian
Bale
Gwyneth
Paltrow
Bill
Nighy
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Cranston
IN
Star in the Desert


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Cranston
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Bolinas Productions
Magpiegrove Productions


Anthony Hopkins
Matthew Rhys
Christian Bale
Gwyneth Paltrow
Bill Nighy
Brian Cranston
IN
Star in the Desert
Pyramid Lake Productions
Bolinas Productions
Magpiegrove Productions

Character Profiles

Gareth Hughes the film star played by Matthew Rhys
Gareth Hughes/Brother David played by Anthony Hopkins

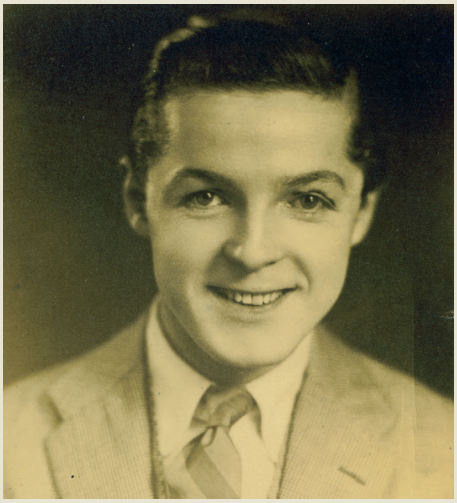


Fig 11. Guy Family Collection



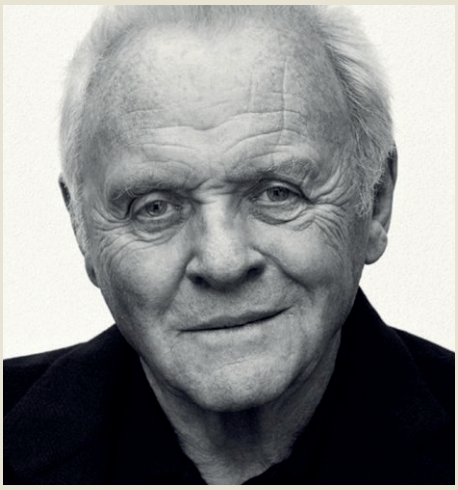
Fig 12. University of Nevada, Special Collections Department Reno



Fig 13. Guy Family Collection



Matthew Rhys
Courtesy of IMDB



Anthony Hopkins
Photo courtesy of Gregory Harris



Fig 14. University of Nevada, Special Collections Department Reno

'As I start learning (a part), the character becomes like a photographic plate. The image begins to show itself to me...If I can hear the voice and begin to see how he moves, then all I have to do is become that image or imitate that image and bring it to the screen.'
A quote by Sir Anthony Hopkins taken from Frensham (1996)

Character Profile of Gareth Hughes/Brother David

Gareth was born in a very industrial working-class town in Wales in 1894. He was brought up in a hard-working class environment, both parents were strict but very loving towards him and his brother Brinly. From a very young age, Gareth knew he wanted to be an actor. It was in his blood.
He started smoking at a very young age, he had always liked the idea and thought it made him look more mature and sophisticated.
Gareth's mother died when he was only 6 years of age,losing her would have a significant impact on his life. It would affect him for many years to come.
Gareth is, very flamboyant and confident person. He can also be, at times, self-doubting and melodramatic. He enjoys being the centre of attention and always likes a good gossip.

Character Profiles

Phyillis Haver played by Kirsten Dunst



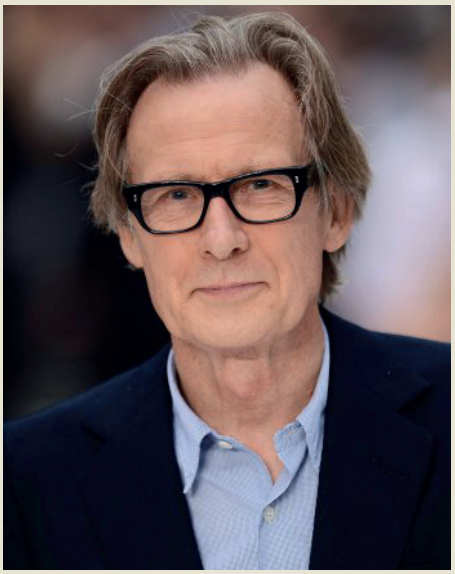
Courtesy of silenthollywood.com

William D Taylor played by Christian Bale



Courtesy of IMDB

The Bishop of Nevada played by Bill Nighy



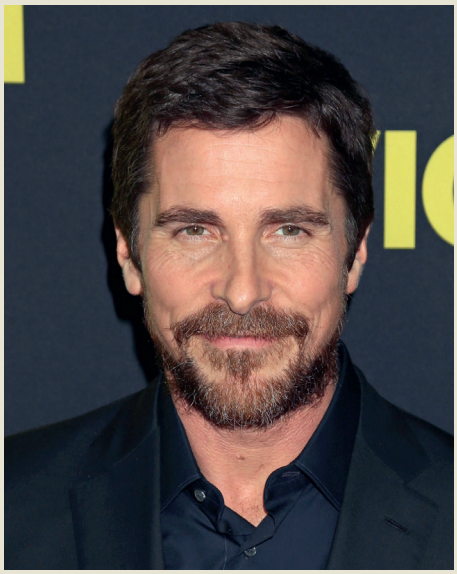
Getty Images

Frensham (1996) explains that, 'Sometimes you will find your characters changing the direction or thrust or your original story. Don't be afraid of it.'

Father Paul played by Brian Cranston



photo by Camilla Morandi people.com



Copyright:Backgrid USA / Bestimage

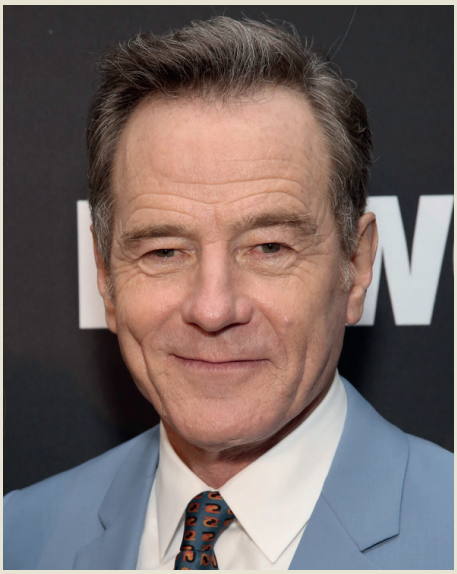


photo by Walter McBride

23
Prologue

Here is a example of a script I started writing in 2008 based of Gareth's story. I have been inspired by this previous script to develop the idea further.

WILLIAM

Just laying there not speaking

MAN C

Tell me who is he? I want to know.

Just then Andrew appears from the bathroom.

MAN C

You!

Man C fumbles in his pocket and pulls out the revolver.

WILLIAM

What do you think you're going to do with that?

MAN C

Settle things once and for all. You've used me for the last time. No more.

WILLIAM

I still love you, please don't do any thing stupid.

MAN C

It's to late, for I still love you. I can't take it any more.

Man C turns to Andrew and smiles at him, Andrew smiles back at him, there are to loud cracks. Andrew falls backwards into the bathroom.

WILLIAM

Why, why kill such a beautiful

Before he can finish his sentence, there are two more shots,he looks down to where he's been shot. He looks back at Man C, Man C smiles at him and fires the gun again another two shots.

MAN C

He sighs.

MAN C (CONT'D)

It's over!

He puts the revolver back in his coat pocket, its still warm. He gets out his cigarette case takes out a cigarette and lights one. He stands looking over the body of William,takes a couple of drags from his cigarette,drops it to the floor and steps on it.

There's a smile of satisfaction on his face , he turns towards the door and starts to open it, as he starts to go through the door he turns sharply. He wants to make sure that their both really dead, so he goes back in and takes a second look. He shudders, but is relieved and goes back towards the door.

CUT TO:

HOTEL LANDING

The hallway seems different somehow. He can't get out of there fast enough,there's a fire escape at the end of the hallway,he decides that's the best way to make his exit. He opens the window and climbs through onto the fire escape.

CUT TO:

BROTHER DAVID

Your right, but I haven't been called Gareth for years.

PHYLLIS

I knew it, I knew it

PHYLLIS (CONT'D)

Hang on what do you mean, you haven't been called Gareth for years.

BROTHER DAVID

I'm called Brother David in theses parts, I'm the local priest.

PHYLLIS

Sounding shocked

Brother David!

BROTHER DAVID

Yes that's right I haven't been called Gareth since.....
(Stopping suddenly)

PHYLLIS

Since when?

BROTHER DAVID

I am (Pauses and scratches his head, sounding a bit pleased with himself) I am.

I needed to get away that's all (pause) .

PHYLLIS

She looks at him slightly puzzled, she doesn't know what to make of this man she hasn't see for 20 years

I must say it's been a real shock to run in to you like this, after all these years.

There were all kinds of rumors my love, I didn't know what to think!

BROTHER DAVID

That's okay I'm used to rumors.

PHYLLIS

I don't understand!

BROTHER DAVID

I don't expect you too.

BROTHER DAVID

Have you ever tried to explain your feelings to someone you really loved Phyliss?

PHYLLIS

At one time or another.

Beat Sheet Example

Planning Beat Sheet

Beat Sheet

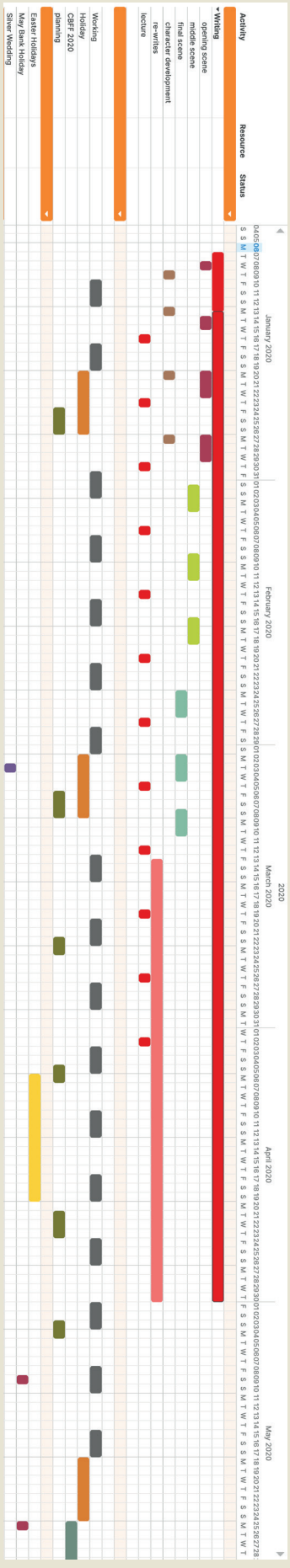
Working Project Title:	**Star in the Desert**
Basic Logline or Premise:	you can never hide from yourself
Word Count (update this & rest will auto-calculate):	20,000
Page Count (assumes Times New Roman):	48

ACTS & BEATS	DESCRIPTION	PAGE (approx.)		WORD COUNT	
Act One	Introduce Gareth in the desert	1	12	1	5000
Opening Image/ Hook	Opening scene or sequence of story; create empathy with characters by showing how they lack for something	1	1	1	500
Inciting Incident	Give a glimpse of how *right* the characters could be for each other (Essence), but they're not ready yet (Identity)	1	9	1	3950
End of the Beginning	External Relationship Arc: What happens that forces the characters to spend time together? Internal Relationship Arc: What decision do the characters make that reflects their desire for each	10	12	4000	5000
Act Two	The protagonists react to the new desire, but suffer from one step forward and two steps back	13	36	5000	15000
Pinch Point #1	How does the Pinch Point affect their relationship?	18		7500	
Midpoint	External Relationship Arc: What visible sign of commitment do the characters make to each other? Internal Relationship Arc: How are the characters still in their Identity (and thus doomed to fail)?	24		10000	
Pinch Point #2	How does the Pinch Point affect their relationship?	30		12500	
Crisis	External Relationship Arc: What triggers the characters' fear about their relationship (& their retreat to Identity)? Internal Relationship Arc: How do the characters realize the relationship *can't* succeed (at least with Identity)?	33	36	13650	15000
Act Three	The protagonists summon the courage to overcome inner obstacles and remove their emotional armor w/the	37	48	15000	20000
Climax	External Relationship Arc: How does fear threaten the potential of the relationship one last time? Internal Relationship Arc: How do the characters prove they don't want to continue without the other anymore?	37	48	15000	19820
Final Image/ Resolution	Show how the characters are now fully in their Essence and perfect for each other	49	48	19820	20000

Films Outside the Box. (2017) states that,

'A beat sheet is a tool that writers use to help them plan and sequence their story. Rather than crafting full sentences, you use bullet points to outline the action taking place at pivotal points in your plot. These beats can then be used as a basis to craft your outline.
By properly planning your screenplay, you take a lot of the hard work out of writing. Imagine the beats of your protagonists and you begin to inhabit their universe. Once you have a clear picture of how they think, work and act, creating your outline should be a cakewalk.'

Gantt Chart


Activity
Resource
Status
Writing
opening scene
middle scene
final scene
character development
re-writes
lecture
Working
Holiday
CBFF 2020
planning
Easter Holidays
May Bank Holiday
Silver Wedding
January 2020
February 2020
March 2020
April 2020
May 2020

25a
SWOT Analysis

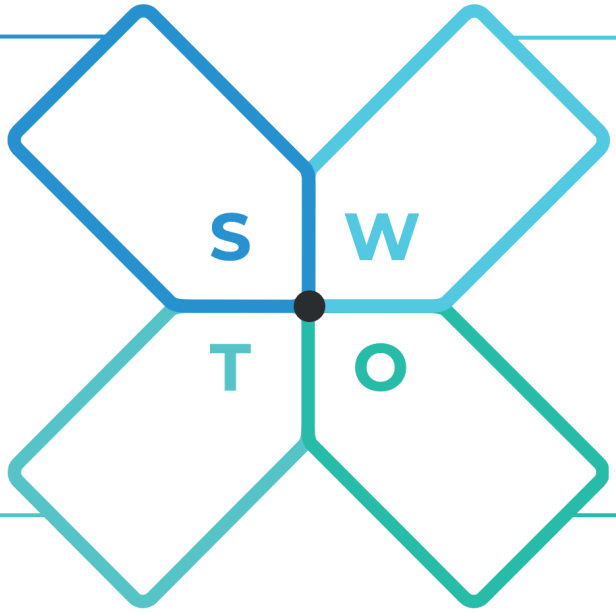
SWOT ANALYSIS

STRENGTHS

- Personal Knowledge
- Visited many of the locations
- Access to Archive
- Relevant story for today's audience
- Research

WEAKNESSES

- Lack of understanding of the Nevada dialect
- Correct use of grammar
- Proof reading



THREATS

- Making the project too long
- Not being able to finish the script on time
- Not formatting the script correctly

OPPORTUNITIES

- Developing the. script further
- Improving my writing skills
- Increasing my knowledge and understanding of Gareth's life

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