Chapter 12 - Crappy First Drafts - Quiz[Print](javascript:void)

1. What is the element of your first draft that you’re most satisfied with? What element are you most dissatisfied with?

I wrote more than a dozen of first drafts but still haven’t decide on my main idea yet, as mentioned in this chapter first drafts are usually bad, not refined and has lots of unorganized ideas, however:

Screenwriting is based upon examination, evaluation and self-diagnostic,   
I will test the elements in my fist draft by questioning every decision and evaluate it’s worth, by weighting the pros and cons the elements used will help me make better decisions during and after writing my script.  
  
To assess/evaluate my first draft I have to ask the following questions:  
What was the initial goal of the story? , Is the choice of main character is the best to serve the story? The transformation of the main character was it the best metamorphosis? Was it original?  
, Is there a better way to show the character’s arc  
Last but not least I have to check/revise the story to find what narrative elements which seems out of place and take them out.

1. What is the best single narrative idea that is currently in your first draft?

One of the best narrative ideas I had in a first draft was an idea about a precious stone (those energy/protection stones) that has a super-power only activated when held by a pure hearted person.

1. What narrative area needs the most work? What are you going to do to fix the problems in this area? Why is this area of your script a problem?  
   There are different narrative areas that needed to be worked on (in my previous idea “the stone that has super powers”)   
   First the theme of the movie has to be around the main idea “precious stones and crystal” and the audience has to believe in the science of energy that these crystals/stones provides,  
   Second I have to work/fix on the characters which also the audience has to relate to feel there experience specially the protagonist who will lead the whole story, also it is important to develop the secondary characters which will interact with the protagonist,  
   all characters has to go along the theme.  
   Last but not least the situations/drama the protagonist, antagonist and other secondary characters will face during the film as mentioned in the characters part the drama has to go along the main theme as well
2. What is the theme of your film? During your re-write are you going to change or alter that theme?

As mentioned I haven’t picked the main idea or the theme of my film yet, but if I have to go on with the idea mentioned above (the special stone/crystal) the theme has to be around these stones and I should start by introducing this science and the properties of these stones and I have to come up with different incidents in addition to gathered facts to convince the audience with the main theme   
  
anything can happen during re-writing except for the main theme and the basis of the script (this is one of the reasons that it is taking me some time to pick the main idea/theme) because once the main idea/theme is picked and put into paper it will be very difficult to change it or even re-writing later on because the theme is like the skeleton of the script/idea that you can not change once set, you can change other details in the script but not the main theme.

1. Would changing your protagonist’s gender alter the type of film you’re making?

This will depend on the main idea of the film, there are some situations that both genders can face as protagonist and still have the same impact and resonate with the audience and there are other ideas will not have the same effect or conclusion if the gender of the protagonist is changed,

Example: If I decide that my protagonist is a female that was rapped and abused by her boss then I decided to change the gender and make it a male employee who got abused instead of the female then the story will not be the same, it will not have the same impact on the audience as the first idea in addition the actions taken by the protagonist will differ as a male from a female in this situation.