

Chapter 14 Quiz

1. What is the purpose of breaking down a script?

You break down a script so you know exactly what is needed to bring it to life, and how to budget for it.

2. At what stage in the production process is a script broken down?

A script is broken down going into pre-production.

3. Write a 500-1,000 word synopsis of your finished script.

Logline: Trapped in a coma after a violent car accident, a young woman finds herself caught between the real world and the afterworld. She is forced to confront her turbulent past, slowly realizing that she may have murdered someone.

Outline:

After sustaining life-threatening injuries, ALEX BRADLEY, 24, is rushed to the hospital. Though her doctors did everything possible, she is left in a coma, which projects her into her own personal purgatory.

Scared and confused, Alex explores the empty hospital corridors, where she meets an OLD WOMAN who seems to have all the answers.

Though unconscious, Alex sees and hears everything that happens in her hospital room. Through a series of visitors and revealing flashbacks, she slowly begins to put the pieces of her life back together.

In particular, her younger brother TIM's presence jogs her memory. She recalls their abusive mother, who gave them a life of fear and violence. All of the regret Alex has carried for years comes rushing back to her: she should have done more to protect Tim.

A flashback reveals what she was running from at the time of the accident. She violently attacked an abusive mother in order to protect a young boy. Fearing that she may have killed the woman, Alex begins to feel that she does not deserve to wake up.

When NATHAN, the young boy she was protecting, comes to see her, Alex listens in on a conversation between him and Tim. She learns that she did not kill his mother, but that she died of alcohol poisoning. Regardless, Alex is consumed with self-loathing for how ruthlessly she beat the woman. Despite the old woman's encouragement, Alex feels like she has no reason to live. Soon after that, her heart stops.

As she begins to transition between realms, she finds herself in a room with her own abusive mother. After a painful confrontation, Alex realizes that she can no longer allow fear and regret to dictate her life. In order to move on, she has to forgive her mother and let go of the past.

In doing so, Alex discovers that life is in fact worth living. She wakes up.