CLOUD ATLAS

1. Who is the protagonist?

Although somewhat debatable, I would say Hank’s character Zachry is the main character. The style of the movie revolves around many.

2. Who is the antagonist?

Themselves, often enough—but some serve as another’s antagonist in a given lifetime. The strictures of society and what life throws at them often bring out or create our evils.

3. What is the driving conflict?

Throughout time we manifest our own particular evils, enabling a cycle that never leads to true transcendence.

4. What is the theme?

Human frailty in that we’re both predator and prey.

5. What can I take away from this film to help me develop my own movie idea?

I like that the 6 separate storylines give you insight to different possibilities, and reversed roles. Makes you think more deeply on personal evils and how we devour our own best intentions. I like that idea.

PSYCHO

1. Who is the protagonist?

Marion Crane, a woman who steals $40K in an effort to buy off unhappiness.

2. Who is the antagonist?

Norman Bates, an isolated man who runs a motel.

3. What is the driving conflict?

Figuring out who truly killed Marion, and the nature of the individual’s particular evil.

4. What is the theme?

The suspense in the uncertainty that you don’t know the nature of what may/may not be after you.

5. What can I take away from this film to help me develop my own movie idea?

That suspense is often found in the fears of our subconscious. That’s definitely something that I can use.

THE GODFATHER

1. Who is the protagonist?

Michael Corleone.

2. Who is the antagonist?

The volatile nature of their relationships with the other Families.

3. What is the driving conflict?

Getting vengeance for his father’s hit, and attaining control of the family—after years of not wanting any part of the business.

4. What is the theme?

That life often seems to almost make our choices for us.

5. What can I take away from this film to help me develop my own movie idea?

I like that there’s a current to the direction of the storyline, that brings out certain qualities in the different characters--especially Michael. A sort of self-discovery he never wanted.

GODFATHER II

1. Who is the protagonist?

Micheal Corleone.

2. Who is the antagonist?

Himself. He’s on a road to self-destruct everything he used to be.

3. What is the driving conflict?

Discovering who it was who put a hit on him.

4. What is the theme?

Sometimes it is your family that self destructs.

5. What can I take away from this film to help me develop my own movie idea?

In the context of my story I’m not sure the same theme can be applied—perhaps in a vague sense for the secondary character, who goes against his family’s wishes.

GODFATHER III

1. Who is the protagonist?

Michael Corleone.

2. Who is the antagonist?

The life he’s chosen. It won’t him go, and it takes what he values most.

3. What is the driving conflict?

Trying to find a legitimate way to continue his life, and to try to teach his nephew to do better. But that way of life won’t let him go.

4. What is the theme?

It’s hard to leave the life you’ve chosen behind. Once you’re in , there’s no going back.

5. What can I take away from this film to help me develop my own movie idea?

I could incorporate the sense of regret that he has. The tone between the movies is drastic, but a sense of regret can be a powerful element.

P. S. I LOVE YOU

1. Who is the protagonist?

Holly, a woman who struggles with where her and her husband are in life—and then later on, struggling with living on without him.

2. Who is the antagonist?

It could be considered that the conflict and the antagonist are the same.

3. What is the driving conflict?

Holly can’t let go of her husband. She is letting her grief be yet another reason to not take charge of her life.

4. What is the theme?

Life keeps rolling on without or without you. You have to keep walking ahead.

5. What can I take away from this film to help me develop my own movie idea?

Your grief, regrets, and fears can’t hold you back. You have to have the courage to keep going. And sometimes, to try something new.

My Story Premise:

1. Who is the protagonist?

Mari, a young woman struggling with past grief and dissatisfaction in her life.

2. Who is the antagonist?

The struggle to overcome herself. She has been so long caught in an endless cycle of self-doubt and grief she doesn’t even know what her problem is anymore.

3. What is the driving conflict?

Mari has lost her job and must overcome every self-doubt to embrace the new one, and succeed.

4. What is the theme?

Life takes the most unexpected turns, and rises up as a challenge—it is up to use whether or not we will meet it.

5. What are my key plot points?

Mari loses her job.

She decides to take a job that thoroughly challenges her comfort zone.

During a travel mishap Mari runs into an acquaintance and agrees to travel with him. In the effort to reach the work site they have to be creative, and it leads to them challenging each other about their personal choices.

Mari discovers how much she loves getting to know the locals and their cultural stories. She starts to make headway with her blog as she shares her adventures.

Upon her return to the States, Mari realizes her job will require her to be yet another journalist selling destinations and ads, rather than sharing anything truly human, and real. She decides to go off on her own.