# **Chapter 1 - Intro to Genre - Quiz**

What is an auteur? Who popularized the idea?

An auteur is an individual who knows what the film is going to be and has a clear vision for the film. From the time that it is announced in preplanning phase of the making of the movie this person knows everything before a frame is shot. An auteur knows the character, where it is going to be filmed, the tone, the motivations of the character, and how to accomplish it. An auteur is militant is their mind about it; they eat, sleep, inhale their films. They want to connect with people through film and allow it to tell a story.

Truffaut popularized the idea of the auteur. He was a true auteur and it showed in body of his work. He was genius really. He was like a mad scientist about his passion. It is notable that Andrew Simms introduced idea in American film vernacular.

What effect did the lack of formal education have on Truffaut's career?

The lack of formal education did have an effect Truffaut’s career. He was first a film critic and he was known as the grave digger of French Cinemas. He had such a passion for his job that he was the only critic not invited to the Cannes Film Festival of 1958. It is so easy to shun the Debbie Downer of a group. I think this was the kick that he needed because  later he became the genius that headed the French new wave movement despite his silence during this time. He created some of the most bodacious work in history. His passion made him famous. He was the embodiment of an auteur.

Being a good director requires what?

A good director has the ability to direct the cast and crew. He dominates the direction of the film. He imparts the vision to the cast and crew and guides them to the end. He must know the strength of everyone and delegate task in accordance to the strengths of his people. They take written scripts and compose sound and images. They take what is abstract and make it concrete.

Compare and contrast the way Sam Raimi made Evil Dead and the way Tarantino made Reservoir Dogs.

Sam Raimi is an interesting go getter who had real tenacity and sheer faith in what he was doing. He saw a niche in the market. He had a very small budget for the film. He told the actors that it would be done in one month and it was two months in and had crew members to quit. He had to shoot blood shots literally with Karo syrup everywhere including on him and on the camera. He suddenly had to film and supervise props and scheduling. The Evil Dead was supposed to be a pilot film to begin. It was created to allow investors to see that he could do this kind of work. He was in Detroit where steel industry and music was booming but, investing in movies was just asinine. He used his crew and lots of props and tried to get distributors but his was turned away from every major distributor in America. He eventually hired a film sales agent that took the work to the Cannes Film Market. Stephen King saw it  and screamed and it was the endorsement that set the stage for the success of the movie. The movie was successful wherever it was sold. He was a true auteur.

Quentin Tarantino work at video store and he learned history of film by watching film and becoming acquainted with what was happening in film. He wrote many scripts but was unfortunate when it came time to find someone who was willing to take a chance to produce his movie. He saw an opportunity in the film industry about making movies about heist and he decided to write a script about it. It was the right moment in time when the universe lined up and the door was opened. He saw a need because of his intricate knowledge of the movie industry and he capitalized on it. Lawrence Bender's acting teacher's wife read the script and loved it. She gave it to Lawrence Keitel whom she knew from the acting studio. Harvey Keitel called Tarantino 3 days later and let him know that he wanted to produce the movie. Tarantino agreed but Harvey wanted him to go to New York to do casting there.  Harvey had to pay because Tarantino was a struggling artist at the time. They found some really good talent and the rest is history.

In contrast, Sam Raimi and Quentin Tarantino were both were consumed by their knowledge of the need of the industry and they both were opportunist to capitalize on the gap that they saw. Sam Raimi was not afraid to capitalize on blood and gore. Quentin Tarantino was not afraid to take a chance on a heist movie that was much needed and not seen in film for some time. They both had a slow start but continued to do the work that they believed in and continued to develop their artistic ability.

In comparison, I can definite state that Sam Raimi was a go getter that put his money and faith in what he knew was his if he only dared to do it and show people that he is worthy. He embodied that American can do spirit with hard work and perseverance Tarantino did not give up he knew that his luck was going to happen at a time that was just a calculated time. The door was opened he was there to fulfill the need. It was just his time. They both were turned away from people. It is different with Sam Raimi because he put his money on the line and he just did not take no for an answer even if it had to sell overseas first to be successful he allowed it to happen and his art was accepted elsewhere.  Tarantino was like a local guy trying to do it locally and hoping for some success in the movie industry in  the US.  They both endured trials and their stories were that on person believed in them and took chances with their art.