“Defying Gravity”

Project Summary

**Logline:** An Adventure Drama about an ambitious young man with a low self-esteem who aspires to become a NASA astronaut until he has an accident that jeopardizes his chances of fulfilling his dream. Upon taking a medical leave he begins an intense soul searching journey that includes forgiving his abusive father and rediscovers his lost love from his childhood.

**Story:** Lawrence McKenneth was training at NASA with hopes of becoming an astronaut when his dream is shattered by an accident that forces him to take a long medical leave. Depressed he decides to go back home to console with his Mother who introduces him to his therapist. He discovers that he has a lot of childhood abuse issues and fears that come out. Along his path to healing he realizes that he still loves his childhood sweetheart and uses his time off to pursue her back. His conclusion: He abandoned love for his success – But he wants them both!

Larry works diligently to apply what his therapist Sue has taught him and after almost considering suicide he soon learns that he has to forgive his father and use the exercises and affirmations he has learned to create a new world of possibilities for himself that starts with loving himself and building back trust with his childhood sweetheart Patricia. After getting transferred out of state with NASA he has to gain all his inner strength in order to continue pursuing his dream of becoming an astronaut and being with Patricia. Through many challenges he has a breakthrough and eventually gets the promotion he needed and finally gets his chance for romance and true love. Larry gets awarded to join the NASA International Space Station crew and Patricia accepts his proposal for marriage.

**Characters:**

**Larry, 30s**: Ph.D. Successful NASA aerospace engineer, nerdy, quiet, academically driven; single, does not have a girlfriend or love life

**Patricia: 30s:** Supporting character; childhood girlfriend next door, grade school teacher, single parent

**Ellen: 50s**: Larry’s Mother, widow, progressive minded, new age, supportive of Larry’s spiritual journey

**Donald 30s:** Larry’s Father**,** Vietnam War Veteran, alcoholic, gets angry easily, abusive towards his wife and children

**Sue 50-60s:** Hypnotherapist and life coach; helps him to overcome his depression

**Koji 30s:** NASA engineer Japanese coworker friend; single; tries to persuade Larry to stay single with him and not get tied down with married life

**Mikhail 40s**: NASA engineer Russian coworker friend; married; encourages Larry to get married

**Stan 50s:** Smart, bold and tough, and U.S. Air Force Commander; very strict but charismatic and well respected by his crew

**Writer:** Steven B. Carpenter