

## SCRIPT COVERAGE FORM

TITLE: Out of Death

AUTHOR(S): Bill Lawrence

GENRE: Action Thriller

FORM/LENGTH: Screenplay/ 99 Pages

CIRCA: Contemporary

LOCALE(S): Rural New England, Woodlands

ELEMENTS: None

DATE SUBMITTED: 10/18/18

DATE RETURNED: 10/23/18

READER: Charlie Thomson

LOGLINE: A young but intuitive young woman, Shannon, is hunted by not so lawful cops after accidentally being involved in her childhood abuser's death, a cop, and must use her raw survival skills to stay alive.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Premise		X		
Plot	X			
Characters			X	
Dialogue		X		
Setting	X			
	Consider	Pass		
Script/Book	X			
Writer	X			
	High	Medium	Low	
Budget			X	

## SYNOPSIS:

A young woman, Shanon, has set up a trap to get revenge on her childhood abuser. Disguised as a hooker, she wait in her car. Her friend, Howie, hides under a blanket in the back seat. When her abuser, Bob, enters her doesn't recognize her at first, but realization soon hits. He tries to escape but Shannon locks the door and Howie leaps forward to hold him down in his seat belt. Shannon wants to make him feel guilt for what he did to her seven years ago, but never intends to hurt him severely. As Bob tries to apologize a heart attack onsets and he passes away in Shannon's car, leaving her and Howie terrified. Howie takes a hit from a meth pipe.

During this time, a cop happens to drive by and notice them, he pulls up behind them. As the cop asks the two to exit the vehicle, Howie has a panic attack. He tries to grab his meth pipe from his pocket, but the cop mistakes it for a gun and shoots Shannon in the chest. Shannon, not wanting to cause anymore of a conflict listens to the cops orders. The cop proceeds to search Shannon's car, discovering Bob's body hidden under a blanket. It is revealed Bob was a cop as well.

During Shannon's investigation, she tries her best to tell the cops she did not kill him, but they refuse to believe her. Bob was related to two of the cops in the force, because of this, the two cops, Butch and Doug are met with rage and want Shannon dead. Hank, the police chief, helps them set up a way to kill Shannon. They get into contact with a hitman, Jerry, who send one of his people, Reed to help get the job done.

Shannon is brought to a forest in the middle of nowhere. As Doug and Butch use the road as a bathroom, Shannon tries to plea with Reed. At first he remains unfazed, but as she explains her story, he looks in her eyes and can see she is innocent. The three, Doug, Butch, and Reed set up to kill Shannon. They make it look like her death was out of self defense. As Reed is about to pull the trigger on Shannon, he can't. He no longer wants to be involved in the life he has been living. Butch takes over, but ends up shooting a hunter who came across the scene. In this moment of surprise, Reed tackles Butch and tells Shannon to run. She complies and runs for her life, still in restraints, Reed is quick behind her. Butch kills the hunter and the two run after Shannon and Reed.

Shannon and Reed gain some ground. Shannon takes over telling Reed what they need to do to lose their trail; her intuition is effective. Once far enough from the two, Shannon asks what is going to happen, but Reed isn't sure as of yet. Impatient, Shannon takes off without him, giving away their location. As Reed chases after her, he trips and almost falls onto a spear trap, he uses this to his advantage, hiding it once again and getting Doug to fall onto the spikes, it impales his thigh. Reed escapes and searches for Shannon.

Shannon reaches a stream and looks at her reflection, she realizes she needs Reed to stay safe and waits for him. When Reed reaches the stream he trips and knocks himself out. Shannon decides to save him, she drags him to a hunter's shack and ties him up. As well as freeing herself from her restraints as well.

Meanwhile Doug goes back to the entrance to get help from Jerry who has arrived to correct their mistakes. They free Doug and try to stop his bleeding. Seeing that this is useless Jerry has Butch kill Doug.

When Reed wakes she demands answers. As Reed explains, he gets a text from Jerry saying Chloe. Shannon calls Jerry and Jerry says to get Shannon to him or he will kill his sister. As Shannon hears this she runs from Reed. He breaks his hand to escape his restraints and gives his location to Jerry. As it sends, Shannon appears and knocks Reed out.

Jerry changes his plans again and ends up killing Butch as well. He sends a picture to Reed. Reed calls him back Jerry tells him he has nine minutes now. Reed searches the grounds frantically for Shannon. Shannon is hiding in the cellar of the shack. She emerges and looks at her reflection. Distracted Reed tackles her they fight and end blood at a stand off. Reed tells her one more time, how she can escape alive. She listens to his plan.

His plan doesn't work, Jerry has already killed Chloe and he now kills Reed. Reed figures his death is fair for the crimes he's done. Shannon tries to escape on her own, stealing the cop car. She sets up Jerry to get caught and becomes free. Jerry is arrested. Shannon's innocence had died, but out of her death and struggles came her life and will to survive.

## COMMENTS

Overall the screenplay was very interesting, the plot and action was engaging, though the character development was bit lacking.

### Characters:

Shannon's backstory was given in bits and pieces, she was a broken person who did something stupid and now her life depends on her ability to trust as well as her instinct. We don't get to know her childhood and why she knows the woods so well which I thought could have helped the story.

Reed backstory was also a bit lacking. He was a hitman disguised as law enforcement, but we don't see enough of Reed's inner demons in my opinion.

### Plot:

The plot was extremely interesting considering a fairly easy premise. Once they get to the woods it's practically all one big chase scene, but the action involved kept me engaged throughout. The plot twist of Jerry having already killed Reed's sister Chloe wasn't very surprising but forgivable since I was already invested in what would happen. Maybe after having left the woods, the story seemed a bit rushed, but only slightly.

### Action Slugs:

The action slugs were very effective in describing what I am seeing. Very descriptive which I feel is important with a thriller like this one.

### Dialogue:

The dialogue was good, it was used in appropriate places and did not feel overbearing nor inappropriate for the actions in the scene.

### Other:

This can be a very easy and fairly cheap film to make being a majority happens in one main location, the woods. One thing that may need to be taken into account is if every bit of violence is necessary or if it can be toned back a bit.