

Movie Madness

What's your favorite movie? Why? Is there some award winning acting? Should the actors have won awards? Is there a scene in there that really speaks to you?? Can you get your hands on that scene? Is it in your collection right now? Netflix, Hulu, Vudu, Blockbuster? Is it famous enough for that one scene to be on YouTube? Would a friend have a copy? Download it from Amazon?

Great. Now find that scene in the movie. Make sure it isn't too long, just a couple of minutes of high energy acting will do.

Watch the scene at least twice before you start. Now pause it and write down the dialogue, exactly as it is spoken. Now watch every move the actors make and record it in the appropriate place in the dialogue. Great. Now turn off the video player and read what you have. Think about the emotions the actors were trying to convey. Can you add dialogue cues and internalization to depict what the actors are trying to convey? Can you change the dialogue, wording of the actions, body language to convey that emotion?

Turn back to the video. How did you do? How much was body language and how much was dialogue? Could you bring that sort of power to your writing with more body language and dialogue cues? Did you capture the essence of the scene? Show us the scene and tell us how you think you did. Don't forget to tell us the movie and about where the scene is in the movie. Let us know if you got it over the internet so we can go back and look at the scene if we want.