

Dog Machine

Treatment written by

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Logline: A loner named Tom loses his only companion, a dog named Fritz, to a mystic who needs him to complete a ritual and build the dog machine.

Film Synopsis:

Opening scene and Act 1: Tom gets home from work and greets Fritz, who jumps into his arms. He lets Fritz outside and makes himself dinner, eating it alone in front of the television. He gets a text from his ex-girlfriend asking for money, and he transfers it to her. He doesn't know how to say no to people.

Inciting incident: Tom hears commotion outside, then Fritz yelping. He runs to the backyard but can't find his dog. He sees the gate has been left open and footprints leading to an abandoned building down the road.

Act 2: Tom initially hesitates but decides to break into the building. He finds The Mystic in the basement with Fritz. A small dome made of bones is on the floor and it's clear The Mystic wants to harm Fritz.

(Climax): The Mystic explains that to save his daughter, he needs an animal with a close human bond for a ritual and begs Tom to let him sacrifice Fritz. Tom stands up for himself and Fritz and says no. He punches The Mystic, scatters the bones, and runs away with his dog.

(Act 3 and final image): Tom can now set boundaries. He receives a call from his ex, but hits decline and texts her to "go fuck herself." He and Fritz walk back up the street as the sun sets.

Character List

This section is for your character list. Don't make it too long or include too many characters. Summarize your main characters in the episode with hints at backstory,

demons, and what makes them unique. Try to create imagery that conjure images in the reader's head. Here is an example from Lost.

Tom: Push-over, depressed, loves his dog. Tom will say yes to anything asked of him for fear of disappointing people. He had a messy break-up and the only living thing he considers a friend is his dog, Fritz.

The Mystic: Desperate, manic, dying daughter, occult knowledge. The unnamed mystic is willing to do evil and disgusting things to cure his daughter of the plague. He's deceptive and will only try and talk things out when caught.