

SCRIPTS - HOWARD SEWELL - As of 10/10/2023

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***More information - pitch decks & Conceptual videos - www.starrhythmmentertainment.com**

FEATURES (Copyrighted)

HARMONY - pitched. Quarterfinalist in LA Screenwriting Competition Spring 23 & 2nd Round Austin Film Festival. In negotiations with small Dallas studio for rights.

In 2004, Black Englishman, Desmond Howard's performing arts school in Chicago closes, but an unexpected move to Harmony, Texas sets the stage for a real culture clash. Desmond, his wife, Karis and their daughter, Haley move to Karis' parents property in Harmony to establish a performing arts school for teens. Their competition in town is from Karis high school rival, Lucy Dunn - who happens to be engaged to Karis old boy friend, Billy "The Kid" Payne.

Their quest for talent takes them to a fair, church, salon, restaurants and the local high school. Their charisma and passion lure a group of vastly different, but talented teens to their studio: Jake, Jerra, Callie, Molly, Ray Jean, Nate, Jose, Danitha and Chucky. Desmond and Karis must organize a great performance to keep their business.

A tornado hits the town, creating devastation, but also team unity. The Howard's show broadens its goal for their show - to heal a town. The performance is a hit! As the story ends, it is clear that the Howard's studio is on the rise and that Lucy and Billy are on their way out of town "on a rail."

THE WHITE DIAMOND - pitched. 2nd Round of Austin Film Festival.

In 1974, fourteen year-old, African American RJ Jackson moves to rural Georgia with his mother (Cicely), while his Air Force father, Ray Jackson is stationed overseas. RJ becomes fast friends with his white schoolmate and neighbor, Cordell Berger. Cord's father (Lyle) is a bigot and opposes the friendship. Additionally, as a baseball coach, Lyle continues to perpetuate the practice of excluding black kids from playing in the Babe Ruth League.

Although RJ is seen as an outsider by both black and white kids at school, his relationship blossoms with Cordell. They forge a relationship through fun teen experiences like seeing girls, roller skating, and playing sports. However, when baseball starts, RJ confronts Cord about playing along with the league's discrimination. Cordell's soul searching leads to his decision to quit the team.

A double crisis occurs: Ray Jackson is killed in a training exercise, RJ's world is upside down, his innocence is lost and he is full of anger. The second crisis: Cicely rescues Cord from a near death accident. This event causes Lyle to re-evaluate his values, subsequently leading to RJ's placement on the Babe Ruth team. The combination of RJ (Hammer) and Cord (Hustle) is a formidable duo that takes them to the county championship game, where they face the Giants.

SERIES (COPYRIGHTED)

SEARCHING FOR HOME

Logline - During the US Civil War, three young men - Confederate deserter, runaway slave and Cherokee native unexpectedly meet, all headed west on their own journey. With challenges and differences aplenty, the men find brotherhood along the way in search for their new home.

Rating - PG 13

Format - TV Series

Genres - Drama, Historic, Race, Action-Adventure

Similar Movies/Shows - 1883, How the West was Won

Themes - Different races and cultures have commonalty and can forge strong relationships. Home is not always where you expect. There is a family you are born from, and the family you choose. Adversity and teamwork creates opportunity creates understanding and acceptance.

Synopsis (projected 9 episodes)

In September of 1863, a series of events bring together three displaced young men, who risk everything to search for a new beginning. After hearing that Lincoln signed The Emancipation Proclamation, Nigerian born Tanimola (Tanner), escapes from his North Carolina plantation. Kana ti, a Cherokee whose family avoided the 1839 Indian relocation, buries his last relative and turns West to find his people. Eli Logan, the last man in his Georgia family, deserts the Confederate Army after The Battle of Chickamauga.

The three men's paths cross one night in Tennessee. Dealing with distrust and hatred of "the other," they realize that they may be safer together on their journey. Each one holds a vision of their goal: Tanner settling in a Black community in Kansas, Kana Ti in Eastern Oklahoma with other Cherokees and Eli making it to Yellowstone.

Using Eli's Pappy's map, from the Lewis & Clark expedition, for their journey - they encounter many seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Crossing the Mississippi River, engaging soldiers from both armies, dodging slave catchers, as well as native and animal attacks. Each challenging encounter forces the trio to the brink, creating tension between disbanding and working together. The outcomes reinforce the brotherhood. Sometimes you realize that the home and family you search for - is closer than you think.

SHORTS: 7-15 Pages

- ***RUN, TIGER, RUN - copyrighted - "R Rated" currently. Action -Suspense Drama***

Present day "cat and mouse" chase - setting in a national park (can be a state park). A vet with PTSD uses running to self-treat, along with his plastic tiger "mascot." On his solo trail run just before dawn, he witnesses a ranger shot by cartel criminals who are transporting drugs. The chase is on! There are some flashbacks to explain the Runner's story along the chase, which ends at the edge of a cliff.

- ***YELLOWHAIR & BLACKFEATHER - PG, PG 13 - Action-Suspense Drama***

Set in Montana (could be moved elsewhere) in 1973, just after Wounded Knee. A cocky white guy (Yellowhair) shoots off his mouth about "Injuns," in a small town cafe. Thomas Blackfeather, just back from Wounded Knee hears the comments and plans to teach the man a lesson. Yellowhair's there to climb or conquer a mountain. As his journey unfolds, he learns a lesson about humility and survival.

- ***SERMON SONG - PG, PG 13 - Drama***

No specific setting, rural or small town, present day. The story is about a preacher father and rebel daughter who have suffered the loss of spouse/mom. The father gives his daughter an ultimatum - return to church or get out. She has plans for her own creative future. The script culminates at the church when she interrupts service to sing her own song and go her own way.

- ***BAKLAVA & BISCUITS - PG - Drama with some Comedy***

Coming of age film, set in the 80's, could be later. Two different individuals find themselves together in the same college dorm room. One is Arab, the other is a rural Christian white kid. Conflict and misunderstanding occurs. It takes a Grandma to begin to fix things through a weekend stay for the boys and a serving of her homemade biscuits. The favor is returned with baklava from the Arab.

- ***SNOW FALLING - PG - Heavy Drama***

Present day. A father is dying and needs his son's help. Prior conflict and family drama interferes with the "ask." The two must find ways to work this out, ease their pain and find peace with death.

- ***I SEE YOU, DO YOU SEE ME - PG ish - Dramady***

Present day. Ugly girl meets ugly boy on a "blind date." Others see them who they are, but they only see beauty in each other. Scenes showing what others see, blended with how they see each other produces comedy.

- ***SONNY & CHER TANGO - PG - Comedy***

Two spies encounter each other (again) in a bar. They work for different agencies who try to beat each other to the punch. This man and woman have history and sexual chemistry, as demonstrated by the Tango performed in the bar. Suddenly, the criminal appears and they are both off to the races, competing again.