

THE IDEA GENERATOR

An 8-page workbook to help you
choose your next idea, get motivated
& create a plan of action

ANY POSSIBILITY

WHAT INSPIRES YOU?

What motivates you? What inspires you? The experiences, people, stories, etc... that make you want to write.



Favorite Movies	Favorite TV & Digital	Favorite Books	Favorite Writers

When you feel low on energy or ideas, indulge yourself in a new experience. Go to an art exhibit, hike a mountain, try a new restaurant, people watch in the park, talk to a stranger... the littlest things will liven up your "idea bank." List a few *new* things that you would like to try:

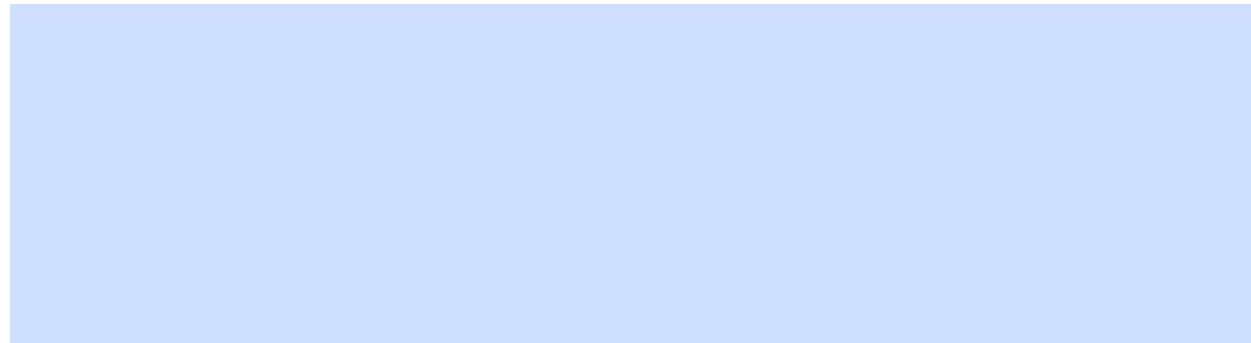


Create a list of podcasts, website and such. When you need to look up information or if you just want a source of motivation, this list will come in handy. *Examples would be anything from the Scriptnotes Podcast by John August to the Reddit screenwriting forum.*

Resource Name	Website Link

START YOUR NEXT IDEA

What have you written? A screenplay, a short story, blog posts or a novel?
If you haven't written anything, what type of script do you want to write?



List out 5 ideas that you are most interested in pursuing:

IDEA 1	
IDEA 2	
IDEA 3	
IDEA 4	
IDEA 5	

Which of your ideas has the strongest story? Can you picture the plot from beginning to end? What happens? Write out a short synopsis here:



What about this idea do you still need to flesh out?



CREATE A PLAN OF ACTION

Do you have a writing routine?

How long does it take you to finish a script? Do you want to change that? *If you haven't written before, try three months on a pilot script, six months on a feature. It may take longer, but those are "efficient writing" averages if you're not procrastinating.*

What's every excuse you have, both valid and frivolous, that stands in the way of your writing? No judgement. Maybe it's Netflix, excruciating work hours, family obligations, being generally tired, or washing your hair. Get it all down here:

Despite everyday obligations, where can you find time for yourself to pursue your writing? *In the morning before work? After dinner? On a lunch break? Every Sunday?*

Realistically, how much time can you give yourself to write per day or per week?

Choose four times this week that you can sit down and write.
An example would be Monday at 7:00pm for 20 minutes.

DATE	TIME A.M. OR P.M.	AMOUNT OF TIME ALLOTTED

Is there anyone that can hold you accountable? A friend, fellow writer, family member? Facebook group? Do you have any extra incentive to keep to the times you just wrote for yourself?

One year from now, what do you hope to have accomplished in terms of writing? *Examples: a finished script, to have completed a screenwriting course, a new network of people, a trusted writing group, a short film, two written pilots, to have submitted to a screenwriting competition, etc...*

What are three things you can do THIS MONTH that will bring you closer to your year goal?

What can you do today in the next 20 minutes that will bring you closer to your year goal?

EXTRA CREDIT

If you have time right now, open your screenwriting software and type the first scene that pops into your head. Keep writing until you have two pages. *Turn off your wifi and cell phone.*

If you want a prompt, try one of the following:

SITUATION

- A big shot lawyer gets sued.
- A nature enthusiast believes she's a pinecone that speaks Latin.
- A team of ninjas battle a zombie invasion.
- A group of aging high school teachers have to take the SATs alongside their students in order to keep their jobs.
- After a priest blesses the nearby river, the townspeople start to die.
- A ship sails over the edge of the world.

SCENE

- They got there first, but only minutes before it would arrive.
- She lets go of his hand, avoiding eye contact.
- The door swings open to reveal a steep set of stairs.
- The tiger changes direction, bounding straight for them.
- A spider scuttles across the pavement and right up her shoe.
- His fist pounds on the door. He looks over his shoulder, but it's too late.
- Her face falls when she sees that there are only 6 of them.
- It's 10:30. They always arrive at 10:30. Everyday.
- The closet creaks open. It slithers into the room.
- She hovers in the doorway, not wanting to leave.

Whether you have your own idea or choose one above, get writing!!!