Pitching Via Zoom

Session 3

What is a full pitch And When do you use one?

Part One: Chatting. Your only job is to have something more fun to talk about than the pandemic.

THE BAR IS LOW!

Part One: Chatting. Your only job is to have something more fun to talk about than the pandemic. THE BAR IS LOW!

Part Two: Logline. Set them up for what they're really going to hear, or risk disappointing them. Be honest! Because you can't overcome disappointment.

Part One: Chatting. Your only job is to have something more fun to talk about than the pandemic. THE BAR IS LOW!

Part Two: Logline. Set them up for what they're really going to hear, or risk disappointing them. Be honest! Because you can't overcome disappointment.

Part Three: Single Most Important Thing. This falls into the "no one right way" category. Some people skip this, and sometimes the story doesn't need it, but it's a solid way to get their heads in the right place. Test it out.

Part One: Chatting. Your only job is to have something more fun to talk about than the pandemic. THE BAR IS LOW!

Part Two: Logline. Set them up for what they're really going to hear, or risk disappointing them. Be honest! Because you can't overcome disappointment.

Part Three: Single Most Important Thing. This falls into the "no one right way" category. Some people skip this, and sometimes the story doesn't need it, but it's a solid way to get their heads in the right place. Test it out.

Part Four: Share the story. That's what we're doing today.

Part One: Chatting. Your only job is to have something more fun to talk about than the pandemic. THE BAR IS LOW!

Part Two: Logline. Set them up for what they're really going to hear, or risk disappointing them. Be honest! Because you can't overcome disappointment.

Part Three: Single Most Important Thing. This falls into the "no one right way" category. Some people skip this, and sometimes the story doesn't need it, but it's a solid way to get their heads in the right place. Test it out.

Part Four: Share the story. That's what we're doing today.

Part Five: Q&A. You want them to feel some ownership of the story.

Part One: Chatting. Your only job is to have something more fun to talk about than the pandemic. THE BAR IS LOW!

Part Two: Logline. Set them up for what they're really going to hear, or risk disappointing them. Be honest! Because you can't overcome disappointment.

Part Three: Single Most Important Thing. This falls into the "no one right way" category. Some people skip this, and sometimes the story doesn't need it, but it's a solid way to get their heads in the right place. Test it out.

Part Four: Share the story. That's what we're doing today.

Part Five: Q&A. You want them to feel some ownership of the story.

Part Six: Next Steps. Do not leave if you don't know what happens next.

PART SEVEN: FOLLOW UP

PART SEVEN: FOLLOW UP

Soon!

Pitching a Feature Film

Visuals









1. Where is the hero before the story starts?

- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?

- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?
- 3. The hero makes a decision. She will take action and she has a plan.

- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?
- 3. The hero makes a decision. She will take action and she has a plan.
- 4. The plan seems to be working. We meet some allies and some obstacles. Who and what are they?

This is the first half of the second act, BUT DO NOT TELL THEM THAT. Never break them out of the story by signaling where we are. You are enrapturing them, don't break the enchantment.

- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?
- 3. The hero makes a decision. She will take action and she has a plan.
- 4. The plan seems to be working. We meet some allies and some obstacles. Who and what are they?
- 5. Midpoint: The plan fails big time. Note: it's important that the plan fails NOT because our hero isn't good enough, but because we dramatically underestimated what we were up against.

- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?
- 3. The hero makes a decision. She will take action and she has a plan.
- 4. The plan seems to be working. We meet some allies and some obstacles. Who and what are they?
- 5. Midpoint: The plan fails big time. Note: it's important that the plan fails NOT because our hero isn't good enough, but because we dramatically underestimated what we were up against.
- 6. Scramble scramble. We barely make it out alive (truly or metaphorically).

- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?
- 3. The hero makes a decision. She will take action and she has a plan.
- 4. The plan seems to be working. We meet some allies and some obstacles. Who and what are they?
- 5. Midpoint: The plan fails big time. Note: it's important that the plan fails NOT because our hero isn't good enough, but because we dramatically underestimated what we were up against.
- 6. Scramble scramble. We barely make it out alive (truly or metaphorically).
- 7. Self-reflection. Connection. Emotional vulnerability. Then the storm hits.

- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?
- 3. The hero makes a decision. She will take action and she has a plan.
- 4. The plan seems to be working. We meet some allies and some obstacles. Who and what are they?
- 5. Midpoint: The plan fails big time. Note: it's important that the plan fails NOT because our hero isn't good enough, but because we dramatically underestimated what we were up against.
- 6. Scramble scramble. We barely make it out alive (truly or metaphorically).
- 7. Self-reflection. Connection. Emotional vulnerability. Then the storm hits.
- 8. ALL IS LOST. This is where the hero reverts back to who they were at the beginning of the film, not yet heroic enough. Allies may fall away.

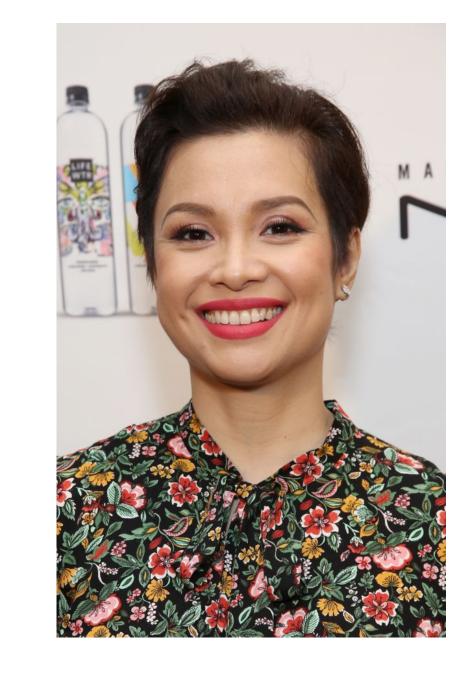
- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?
- 3. The hero makes a decision. She will take action and she has a plan.
- 4. The plan seems to be working. We meet some allies and some obstacles. Who and what are they?
- 5. Midpoint: The plan fails big time. Note: it's important that the plan fails NOT because our hero isn't good enough, but because we dramatically underestimated what we were up against.
- 6. Scramble scramble. We barely make it out alive (truly or metaphorically).
- 7. Self-reflection. Connection. Emotional vulnerability. Then the storm hits.
- 8. ALL IS LOST. This is where the hero reverts back to who they were at the beginning of the film, not yet heroic enough. Allies may fall away.
- 9. New plan. The hero gives in to growth and becomes heroic. Victory ideally in an unexpected but completely fulfilling way.

- 1. Where is the hero before the story starts?
- 2. Something happens that makes this day different from yesterday. What is it?
- 3. The hero makes a decision. She will take action and she has a plan.
- 4. The plan seems to be working. We meet some allies and some obstacles. Who and what are they?
- 5. Midpoint: The plan fails big time. Note: it's important that the plan fails NOT because our hero isn't good enough, but because we dramatically underestimated what we were up against.
- 6. Scramble scramble. We barely make it out alive (truly or metaphorically).
- 7. Self-reflection. Connection. Emotional vulnerability. Then the storm hits.
- 8. ALL IS LOST. This is where the hero reverts back to who they were at the beginning of the film, not yet heroic enough. Allies may fall away.
- 9. New plan. The hero gives in to growth and becomes heroic. Victory ideally in an unexpected but completely fulfilling way.
- 10. Epilogue. What is the new normal?

Each of these is a segment.

How do you say it with pictures?













What is the logline for the series? Not the pilot, but the entire series?

What is the logline for the series? Not the pilot, but the entire series?

IF NEEDED:

The first thing you need to know.

What is the logline for the series? Not the pilot, but the entire series?

IF NEEDED:

The first thing you need to know.

If it's in a world they need to get their head around, you MUST do this. It's optional if it's in the here and now.

Let them know you're not going to pitch the whole pilot.

Let them know you're not going to pitch the whole pilot.

What is the story of the pilot?

* Teaser

* Broad strokes

* How does it launch the series?

Characters:

- * Who are your main characters?
- * What do they want?
- * How are they in conflict with each other (and themselves)?
- * What secrets are they hiding?

Story lines/Episode Ideas and the arc of the season.

You need to create the impression that there is a lot of story to tell – that the show has "legs."

Without telling every little detail, give a broad sense of larger storylines, major complications, and how solving one problem only brings on an even bigger one.

Put it all together:

- Logline
- **❖** Teaser for the pilot
- **❖** Broad strokes
- **❖** How it launches the series
- Characters and their secrets
- ❖ A couple of individual episodes
- ❖ Arc of the first season
- **❖** Take Q&A

Television requires an unsolvable problem.

The BIG UNSOLVABLE PROBLEM has little, solvable problems every episode.

The end of the first season is about fulfilling the promise of the pilot, but launching into a NEW, RELATED problem for the second season.

Ideally, fulfilling the promise of your pilot causes complications that will play out later.

The best way to answer "What do you do?" is with a logline for a project that lights you up.

The best way to answer "What do you do?" is with a logline for a project that lights you up.

What do you do well?
How does a current project show that off?

