

Assignment #7:  
TELLING A STORY IN THREE ACTS

By

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Original Screenplay

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INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY

ECU SAM SMITH. He can barely hold his eyes open.

INSTRUCTOR  
(O.S. drone)  
...as you read in chapter ten, 19th  
century political parties debated  
agrarian reform and Manifest  
Destiny...

ANGLE ON wider shot of SAM struggling to stay awake. The INSTRUCTOR'S voice slows down and becomes difficult to understand.

ANGLE ON profile shot of SAM to reveal PETE and SALLY snickering about SAM'S dilemma.

INSTRUCTOR  
(O.S. cont.)  
...and can anyone tell me how  
European socialists influenced the  
American political process in  
certain midwestern states...

OVERHEAD shot of SAM shows a small stack of books perilously close to the edge of his desk. SAM'S head drops back in frame to reveal his closed eyes. He jerks awake.

ANGLE ON profile as SAM'S head snaps forward. PETE and SALLY stifle their laughter.

INSERT CU of books being pushed closer to the edge of SAM'S desk.

INSTRUCTOR  
(O.S. cont.)  
...come on, people. Has anyone  
read the assignment?

ANGLE ON SAM from the floor -- shooting through a transparent desk. SLOW MOTION as SAM'S head moves toward the desk.

INSTRUCTOR  
(O.S. cont.)  
What about you, Mr. Smith?

SAM'S face squishes up against the camera lens. SAM answers the INSTRUCTOR with a loud, Biblical SNORE.