

My "Aha! Moment"

1 INT. MS. BAUER'S OFFICE- MAY OF SOPHOMORE YEAR

NICOLE, a high school sophomore, is presenting her independent study proposal to MS. BAUER, the independent study coordinator. She endeavors to spend some time exploring writing during her junior year.

NICOLE

...and for the third quarter of the year, I am going to do some script writing.

MS. BAUER

Okay. And what do you hope to accomplish? Are you writing for TV or for the stage?

NICOLE

I think it will be an interesting exercise, nothing serious. I want to experiment in writing for TV.

The two move on to talking about the rest of the plan. All the while, NICOLE is thinking about writing poetry or flash fiction during the third quarter of next year instead, as she is not particularly interested in screenwriting.

2 CUT TO: INT. SCHOOL LIBRARY- THIRD QUARTER OF JUNIOR YEAR

NICOLE is sitting at a table in the library toiling over her script, which she has been working on for about a week. She has taught herself the formatting and technicality of script writing and learned how to convey her intended message to both the actors who are reading the script as well as the viewers who are seeing the actions on the screen. Though she is only on the introduction of what will be the script for a half-hour long show, she feels that she is making great progress, not only on the plot and stage directions of the script but also as a writer with the potential to work in any profession. Something clicked in her head, and she realized that screenwriting, the genre that she was not looking forward to working in, was something that she truly loved doing. The decision to study it turned out to be one of the best choices she had made in planning her independent study. As she continued working, she thought of all that she had to tell her mentor the next time they met.

3 CUT TO: INT. MS. BAUER'S OFFICE- TWO DAYS LATER

NICOLE is visiting MS.BAUER to discuss how she has been doing in her independent study.

MS. BAUER

How is it going? What do you think of script writing? Do you like it?

NICOLE

I love it! I always enjoy taking on new challenges, and I have found that screenwriting comes with obstacles that have helped me to grow as a writer in general.

MS.BAUER

How so?

NICOLE

Conveying the events of the plot in a way that the viewer can understand without having a copy of the script is something that I struggled with at first, but I have come to realize that showing instead of telling is a vital skill for a writer to have. When I work on my script, it is like I am watching a TV episode in my head and writing down what I see.

MS. BAUER

Is this something you are considering as a potential profession?

NICOLE

I would love to become a screenwriter! But I am open to other career paths as well.