



- Logical relationships from one event to another
- · Provided with a sense of closure
- · Focused on characters.
- Attempt to be realistic or objective

Timothy Corrigan, Film: A Short Guide to Writing About Film, 8th ed., 2012, 39-40.

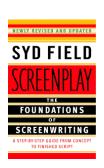
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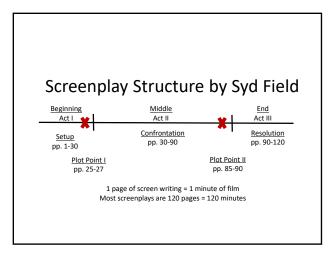
ashback Narrative

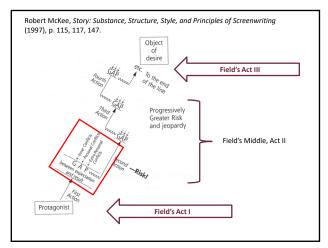
- Explains what a character is saying in a current scene by showing the earlier events
- Provides character backstory and motivation
 Reveal events to another character who did not witness them
- Used to reveal memories intruding on current scenes
- Techniques in transition:
 - Blurring outer edges
 - Change in color format
 - Screen wipe or dissolve sometimes combined with sound
 - Sound might bridge the two or represent a sharp contrast

 $\underline{\text{http://cinewiki.wikispaces.com/Flashbacks+as+a+Film+Technique}} \text{ accessed 29 Jan 2016}$







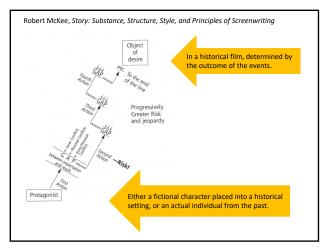


Robert McKee, Story: Substance, Structure, Style, and Principles of Screenwriting (1997), p. 115, 117, 147.

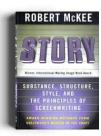
Begin at the End

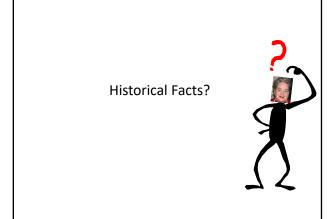
"[h]ow and why life undergoes change from one condition of existence at the beginning to another at the end?" (McKee, p. 115)

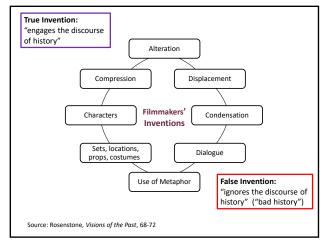
Work backwards from this question: "As a result of this climatic action, what value, positively or negatively charged, is brought into the world of my protagonist?" (McKee, p. 117)

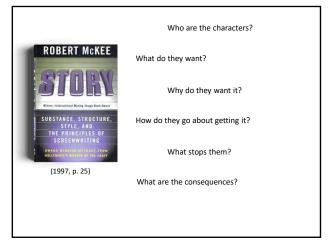


McKee advises writers to know the world of the story. "Research not only wins the war on cliché, it's the key to victory over fear [for the writer] and its cousin, depression." (1997, p. 74)











"History is an inexhaustible source of story material and embraces every type of story imaginable. The treasure chest of history, however, is sealed with this warning: What is past must be present. A screenwriter ... must find an audience today.

Therefore, the best use of history, and only legitimate excuse to set a film in the past thereby add untold millions to the budget, ... to use the past as a clear glass through which you show us the present. ...

"... Historical drama polishes the past into a mirror of the present, making clear and bearable the painful problems of racism in *Glory*, ..."

SOBSTANCE, STREETONE, STREETONE, STREET, AND THE PRINCIPLES OF SCREETONETHING.

(1997, p. 83

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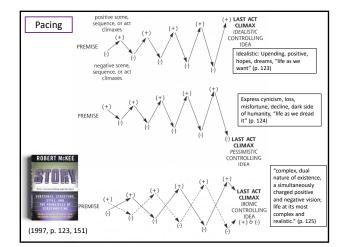
Presentism & Relevancy

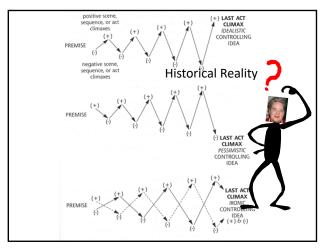
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"[Biography is a] cousin to Historical Drama focuses on a person rather than an era. Biography, however, must never become a simple chronicle. That someone lived, died, and did interesting things in between is of scholarly interest and no more. The biographer must interpret facts as if they were fiction, find the meaning of the subject's life, and then cast [them] as the protagonist of his life's genre ... "



(1997, p. 84)





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Questions to ask:



- 1. Why this story line?
- 2. What is the message?
- 3. Why this structure and genre?
- 4. Why these characters?
- 5. Why this sequence of events?
- 6. Why these sets and locations?
- 7. Why this dialogue?
- 8. Why this pacing?

Authenticity to the screenwriter is the creation of "an internally consistent world, true to itself in scope, depth, and detail. ..."

"Show, don't tell."



(1997, p. 185-86, 334)