

Lawrence Atkinson's  
Great Ideas

Set:

*Simple. Typewriter, chair.*

Movie screen:

*Can be real or fake. Action can be live or recorded.*

Characters:

**BEN.** *A young, struggling screenwriter. Clearly poor.*

**ALL OTHER CHARACTERS.** *Can be modified to follow (or not follow) the movies from which they are molded.*

*(Lights Down. The THX SOUND is played, along with something mocking its slogan, "the audience is listening." Lights up on Ben at typewriter.)*

**BEN**

This sucks. It's a screenplay in progress. Of course it's going to suck to begin. Oh, I just can't think of anything. Okay. I got one. A cyborg is sent back through time to kill the mother of his future enemy.

**START OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 1**

**EXT. HOUSE. DAY.**

**BEN**

A knuckled hand reaches up and knocks on the door of the house. A 'WOMAN' appears and opens the door a little. Through the crack in the door, a MAN wearing sunglasses and a black leather jacket stares back at

her.

MAN

(Austrian accent)

Sarah Conner?

'WOMAN'

Ummm. No.

MAN

My mistake.

BEN

The man turns around and walks a little way from the door, before stopping to look at a piece of ripped out phone page. He turns around and walks toward the door again.

INT. HOUSE. DAY.

MAN (O.S.)

Sarah Conner?

'WOMAN'

Nope sorry. That's still not me.

MAN (O.S.)

Jehovah's witnesses.

'WOMAN'

Oh, thank Jehovah.

*(He pulls out a gun and the woman falls to the floor. He then put the gun away and stands over the helpless 'woman'. He reaches out his hand.)*

MAN

Get down! You need to come with me if you want to live.

WOMAN

I'm sorry; I'm waiting for an important phone call.

MAN

I'll be back.

END OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 1

BEN

No, How about a guy sitting on a bench, talking about life.

START OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 2

*(A guy sits on a park bench eating chocolates. Another MAN is next to Him.)*

GUY

(Southern Accent)

Mama always said, "life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna-

*(Before he can finish, the Man sitting next to him punches him in the Face and steals his chocolate.)*

GUY

Lieutenant Dan!

Man wheels away

LIEUTENANT DAN

Run Forest Run, HAAAA

END OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 2

BEN

No. People won't want to see a movie like that. What about action? A geeky software developer, I can probably see Keanu Reeves in the role, is contacted by a master hacker, who tells him that the world he's living in is not the real world, but rather a computer generated dream world created by computers in the real real world.

START OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 3

INT. OFFICE CUBICLE. DAY.

*(A GEEK is sitting in front of a computer screen typing furiously. He is dressed in black clothing with a black overcoat, and he is wearing black sunglasses. We cannot see the monitor, but the Geek continues to type furiously. A DELIVERY MAN appears with a package.)*

DELIVERY MAN

Thomas A. Anderson?

THE GEEK

Yeah, that's me.

*(The Delivery Man hands him a package and a clipboard.)*

DELIVERY MAN

Okay. Please sign here, and here, and here, initial here and here, girlfriend's number here, PIN number here, and credit card number here.

THE GEEK

Hey, wait a minute!

*(The Delivery Man stops.)*

THE GEEK

What about my insurance number?

*(The Delivery Man comes back.)*

DELIVERY MAN

Oh yeah...Insurance number here.

*(The Geek signs the form.)*

DELIVERY MAN

Thank you. Goodbye, Mr. Anderson.

*(The Geek picks up the package. Instantly it begins to ring. The Geek stands up.)*

THE GEEK

Hello?

*(The package continues to ring. The Geek shakes it and a small cell phone falls onto the floor.)*

THE GEEK

Whoa.

*(The Geek picks up the phone and answers it.)*

THE GEEK

Hello?

THE VOICE (O.S.)

Hello Neon, do you know who this is?

THE GEEK

God?

THE VOICE (O.S.)

No, you moron. My name is Marpheass. I had to revoke my proper name due to copyright issues. You will be called Neon...Due, also, to copyright issues.

THE GEEK

Whoa.

THE VOICE (O.S.)

They're coming for you Neon. They're coming and I don't know what they're going to do.

THE GEEK

Who's coming?

THE VOICE (O.S.)

Stand up and see for yourself.

THE GEEK

But I'm already standing up.

THE VOICE (O.S.)

Then...Sit down, and then stand back again.

THE GEEK

What? Right now?

THE VOICE (O.S.)

Yes. Do it slowly. The elevator.

THE GEEK

What elevator?

THE VOICE (O.S.)

The elevator that does not exist. I'll give it to you straight Neon. The world You're living in is not the real world, but rather a computer generated dream world built by computers in the real real world.

THE GEEK

Whoa. So where are you?

THE VOICE (O.S.)

Right beside you.

MARPHEASS

Come Neon. See for yourself.

THE GEEK

But I have a dungeons and dragons game in five minutes

MARPHEASS

Neon! Behind you!

*(A man comes from the background and fires three shots at Neon. Neon bends back and dodges all three bullets. The man takes four more shots. Neon stops everything and puts it in slow motion. Neon picks a bullet out of the air and drops it.)*

NEON

I know kung fu

END OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 3

INT. COMPUTER ROOM. DAY.

BEN

And there's some shocking twists, slow-motion bullets and fighting. And how about this for a title: "The Mad Tricks". Oh My God... How about dinosaurs?

START OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 4.

EXT. FIELD. DAY.

*(One man sitting in a car. The man starts to drive. A cute dinosaur appears in the back of the car. The man tries to pet it, the dinosaur hisses at him. The man grabs the dinosaur and throws it out the window. The man starts to drive again. Suddenly a T-Rex chases the car for a short time. The man looks up and lets out a scream just as a dinosaur eats him.)*

T-REX

*(British Accent)*

OH MY! Those humans do you give you the bloody heartburn. I'll grab one of my Roloids.

T-REX drops his Roloids

T REX

OH MY! Charlie could you pick that up for me.

*( The other dinosaur hisses )*

T-REX

Well fine. I'll just grab another one.

END OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 4

BEN

You know what that can't be any good. We'd almost have to have 2 sequels to make any money off of it. How about I just do a slasher flick. I got a great idea...

START OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 5.

INT. HOUSE KITCHEN. NIGHT.

*( A young teenage 'GIRL' is preparing a meal, when suddenly the phone rings. )*

'GIRL'

*( Normal voice )*

Hello?

THE VOICE (O.S.)

Hello Neon. I was wondering if you would like to know more about 'The Mad tricks'?

'GIRL'

Who's Neon?

THE VOICE (O.S.)

Oh. I'm sorry, I must have the wrong number. Excuse me.



*(The 'Girl' hangs up and puts the phone back down on the table. Suddenly the phone rings again)*

'GIRL'

(Pleasantly)

Hello?

GHOSTFACE

Hello Sarah. Do you like scary movies?

'GIRL'

Who is this?

GHOSTFACE

I can see you.

'GIRL'

Leave me alone you psycho!!

*(She hangs up.)*

*(The doorbell rings right after SARAH hangs up the fun. SARAH answers the door and a man is standing there)*

THE TERMINATOR

Sarah Conner?

'GIRL'

Yes.

*(The Terminator cocks his gun and blows the 'Girl' away.)*

TERMINATOR

I was back

END OF MOVIE SEQUENCE 5.

Ben

**NO! NO! NO! NO! NOOO! Hey, why don't I leave this until tomorrow. I'll go get a bite to eat or something and forget about making a movie. Or what about a man trapped on a planet full of Apes. Nah... that one's already been done.**

*(Lights down)*