

SCRIPT EDITOR

GLITCHES

WHAT THE SCRIPT EDITOR SAYS ... AND MEANS

what the writer hears

1 "YOU'VE GIVEN US A LOT TO WORK WITH."

Script editor means

"It's an unholy mess, but there's some semblance of a story."

Writer hears

"Tear it up and start again."

2 "WE THINK IT NEEDS ONE LAST BIG PUSH."

Script editor means

"I've got nothing left to give. Please God, do your job."

Writer hears

"Nail it in this draft or we'll get you rewritten."

3 "I ESPECIALLY LOVED THE DOG IN SCENE 21."

Script editor means

"I especially loved the bit with the dog in scene 21."

Writer hears

"This was literally the only thing I liked in your script."

4 "COULD WE DIG A LITTLE DEEPER IN THE NEXT DRAFT?"

Script editor means

"Could you write a little better in the next draft?"

Writer hears

"Make an effort, you lazy bastard."

5 "THIS IS JUST A SUGGESTION. I'M SURE YOU'LL THINK OF SOMETHING BETTER."

Script editor means

You're being paid so much more than I am. I'm not doing your job for you."

Writer hears

"I think you should write it exactly like this."

6 “I WONDER IF THIS WILL READ TO AN AUDIENCE?”

Script editor means

“I have no idea what you’re trying to do here.”

Writer hears

“Time to dumb down your intellectual vision for the lowest common denominator.”

7 “FEEL FREE TO IGNORE IF YOU DISAGREE.”

Script editor means

“Take this note unless you want your script to suck.”

Writer hears

“Feel free to ignore if you disagree.”

8 “SOME OF THE CHARACTER VOICES ARE A BIT OFF.”

Script editor means

“Have you watched this show?”

Writer hears

“Time to bland out your dialogue.”

9 “WE’RE SO NEARLY THERE NOW...”

Script editor means

“Two more drafts should do it.”

Writer hears

“A couple of line tweaks should do it.”

10 “JUST A FEW SCHEDULING NOTES. NOTHING TOO BAD.”

Script editor means

“Please God, don’t throw your toys out of the pram at this stage.”

Writer hears

“Cancel your weekend plans. Time for a rewrite.”

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