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MCA 276  
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#### Writer's Log

This topic is important to me because I am a Volunteer Firefighter in my home town. This story was mostly inspired by the stories I have heard regarding firefighters and their families following 9/11. In our firehouse we have many photos of fireman at the World Trade Center after it's destruction doing rescue and recovery work. In the firehouse gym we have a flag that was raised at Ground Zero. Members of my department volunteered in the days after 9/11 and assisted in rescue and recovery efforts. These stories have left a profound impact on me, as a result I sought out 9/11 documentaries. Viewing them provided me with information and offered varying perspectives surrounding the event, as well as the experiences of survivors and family members.

#### Writer's Log

The reason I chose to take photos of pastelles is because they are a traditional cultural staple in my household. Being of Puerto Rican descent, pastelles have been a constant presence throughout my life. I remember my grandparents making them from scratch. Ironically, I didn't begin eating pastelles until my teenage years. From that point on I was hooked. Any opportunity I have to eat them I take it. Yep, depending upon who makes them or where you buy them from, pastelles can be that good. What I find special about pastelles is not what they are made from but, how they are made. My grandparents made pastelles with alot of passion and love. Knowing this, it made them taste even better. That's whay they are important to me. They signify the love my grandparents have for my family and the love I have for them.

#### Writer's Log

The reason why I chose this statistic is because I was shocked and impressed by what the Houston Astros accomplished last season. The Astros have been perennial losers for years before the 2015 season. I never imagined that this organization would be able to transition from being an armpit to a team to be reckoned with. When the Astros faced the New York Yankees in the Wild Card game of the 2015 MLB playoffs is the moment I realized they are actually good, what a surprise. I am a big Yankee fan and as most Yankee fans I am arrogant and entitled. I was confident the Yankees would win the game, because that's what they do. And really, who are the Houston Astros? How wrong I was. Not only did the Astro's win but, they embarrassed the Yankees on their home field with a three hit shutout. To make matters worse, the Yankees had the second highest payroll in baseball at over 200 million dollars. You would think with a monetary investment of that magnitude, the Yankees would have no problem beating the Astros! It just goes to show, mo money more problems. Ending with a corny joke.

### Writer's Log

The reason I chose this topic for my podcast proposal is because I am a huge basketball fan. There is just something about the sound of the ball swishing through the net, the sneakers squeaking on the court, and the ball bouncing off the court that pump me up like no other sport can. Growing up I tried playing other sports but failed to feel the enjoyment I felt for basketball. For example, my mom registered me for a soccer camp when I was eight years old, I attended for all of one day. I hated it, so soccer was out. Then I tried baseball for a few years. I enjoyed playing it but, I sucked at it. Playing baseball made me a huge fan of the sport but, I knew I would never run onto the field for a competitive game. The inspiration behind the podcast came from the youtube channel Screen Junkies. The channel was created by film fans who produce fun videos and a weekly podcast for other film fans. The channel is very interactive with its fan base. It allows fans to be guests and submit questions for its weekly podcast. The questions submitted create fun and entertaining debates.

### Writer's Log

The reason why I choose my mother as my personal story is because my mother is my hero. She came from relatively little to be able to provide my brother and I with an amazing life. We are able to live in a nice neighborhood in a beautiful home, have nice things, and most importantly go to good schools all because of hard work and determination. I am extremely proud of my mother and I can only hope to be as hard working and accomplish as much as she has in my future. I was able to present a pretty detailed and accurate picture of my mother, and her journey without editing out important facts. The use of descriptive terminology and truthfully depicting certain details of her life helped me to transition a personal story into a public one.

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I came up with the idea for my story from my love for trains. I have had a fascination with trains since I was a little boy. My family and I have enjoyed many exciting train excursion in a few states. Each was different but, all were thrilling and enjoyable. We always researched the train's history before riding on them and that made the rides even more memorable. I applied the three structure act in my story by beginning my documentary with a train ride that would take the viewer through the state of New York. The middle structure act would find the viewer in the midpoint of their wondrous train journey. The end structure act would conclude the documentary at the final train destination.

### Writer's Log

The reason I decided to pitch this T.V. series is because I want to confront the idea of ethnic validity. In my life experiences and through listening to the experiences of others I have found that there is a tendency by many individuals to shame and belittle others whom they view as lacking a full ethnic culture or being ethnically different. For example, someone who is Puerto Rican might frown upon the culture of someone who is Dominican. Similarly, individuals who are biracial often times are not completely accepted by either of their ethnic cultures. That is, someone who is Irish and Puerto Rican may experience racism from Puerto Ricans for being part Irish and vice versa. As a Puerto Rican and Latino I desired to use my culture to represent this conflict. I have heard people amongst my ethnic group be annoyed at those who decided to date,

marry, and have children with individuals who are not Latino or from other Latino groups. Children who are either half Latino or a mixture of different Latino groups are teased by their families and others for not being Latino enough or not being one Latino persuasion enough. This can cause an identity crisis for these children. I want the two man characters to figure out their ethnic identities together. Through this journey I want them to realize that while they are Latino, ultimately the most important factor is that they are people first and foremost.

#### Writer's Log

I'm a bit of a romantic. Yes, I know that sounds corny, but it's true. I'm also someone who enjoys the story of an underdog. Probably because I sometimes think of myself as an underdog. David is an underdog, and his financial situation is pretty bad. Many times guys like are not supposed to have a romantic relationship with someone in Serena's social status. At least that's what many people believe. But, he did. I'm a true believer that it does not matter how much money someone has or where their family comes from. If you love that person then everything else should not matter. The way I applied the three act structure is, the first act will occur in the restaurant, the second at Serena's house during the party with the two main characters expressing their feelings for each other, and the third is David's walk home, where he realizes he too can find love in spite of his insecurity and shame.

#### Writer's Log

The reason I choose *Slam!* for an on screen adaption is because I believe the book has an important story to tell. Greg *Slam!* Harris can come to represent many young men and women who are growing up in crime and poverty stricken urban environments. They can take inspiration from Slam's story by witnessing him learn how to overcome his weaknesses and become a motivated young man with the desire to obtain a better life. These young men and women can be taught that their environment does not dictate their destiny. They can learn that they can overcome this obstacle and achieve anything. When writing the story treatment I kept it as close to the original source material as possible. I believe the book was well written and the plot does not need any subtractions or additions. When writing the screenplay I will change some dialogue between the characters so it would better formatted for the screen. Despite these slight changes the screenplay overall will be faithful to the book.

#### Writer's Log

I chose this story because I was a boy scout. As a boy scout I learned many skills and had a great experience. When I learned about the Boy Scouts of America's "perversion files" in the fall of 2012 I was shocked. I never imagined that there was such rampant child sexual abuse within the B.S.A. I was further surprised to learn that the B.S.A on multiple occasions covered up cases of sexual abuse. Throughout the fall of 2012 I followed the story. Then, the story's coverage began to dwindle until it stopped. Since the story of the B.S.A's "perversion files" broke media coverage of child sexual abuse within scouting has been sporadic. In my opinion this kind of coverage is doing a disservice to the children who were abused. I feel the children

who have been abused deserve to have the stories heard. That they have the opportunity to expose the monsters who committed unspeakable crimes against them. I want other children who were abused to watch this documentary to be inspired into telling their stories. I believe that by telling the stories of the abused children it will bring a heightened level of awareness to child sexual abuse in scouting. These stories will hopefully motivate people to take action against child sexual abuse in scouting and work towards prevent other children from being victimized.