

ARE YOU STILL SEARCHING FOR THE EVENT?

Q & A:

Q: What is an event?

A: The central emotional occurrence in the scene.

Q: What does it do?

A: It moves the story forward emotionally.

Q: Who does it happen to?

A: Usually the central character.

Q: Should it take a lot of words to articulate?

A: No. The fewer, the better.

Q: Is the event the same as the plot?

A: No. The plot involves observable, surface actions. The event happens beneath the surface. That's why we have to dig for it like truffle hounds.

Q: Why am I having so much trouble recognizing the event?

A: Because it's not easy. Think of it this way: The writer lays down the plot; the director must REVEAL THE EVENTS.

Q: Are they in some way related?

A: Yes. Benedetti says:

“ Each scene contains one major development in the movement of the whole story. This development may be an event which is one link in the chain of the plot; it may be a major change in relationship, or it may be a major thematic development. In any case, every scene contains a ‘milestone’ in the progress of the entire story, and *identifying it will give your work a sense of priority and purpose*”.

Q: Do I find the event so I can tell it to the actors?

A: No. It is your research. You use it to guide all the choices you make while directing the scene. It is what you, the director-as-storyteller, are trying to make happen. It is the goal you are guiding your actors to.

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