



Feature Screenplay Scores & Comments

Analyst: C. Farber

Writer: [REDACTED]

Genre: Historical Drama

Category: Feature

The following scores and comments are objectively presented and intended to be illustrative, instructive, and helpful in guiding the writer along a professional path. Scores and comments are in accordance with current professional film and television industry standards.

Scores/Comments:

Concept/Originality: 7

Structure: 6

Plot: 6

Pacing: 6

Characters: 4

Dialogue: 4

Tone: 5

Conflict: 4

Emotional Response/Investment: 5

Marketplace Potential: 7

Final Comments:

██████████ is a historical drama with an original and marketable concept. With the recent success of historical films focusing on racial inequality, such as *One Night in Miami*, there has proved to be a space in the market for a story like this, as there should be. Most viewers won't know the story of Will Brown, making it an even more original premise and a story viewers need to see.

The opening hook in the field sets the scene very well as it establishes Will's work and social situation even before he speaks about it. Then quickly, the writer introduces his objective to get to Nebraska to earn a better wage, a clear, driving character force. While it's a story about Will, it's still important to make sure the minor characters don't feel like minor plot points. The writer might consider giving Bobby, Noble, and Louise clearer and more individual purposes to develop more original characterizations. The characters speak in a distinctive and consistent dialect, but their cadences are identical, making their voices all sound the same.

While there's little conflict in these first ten pages, the writer artfully sets the scene for later conflict by introducing small instances like the cop stopping Will and his friends. It's smart to keep the tone fairly light in this opening and not come down too heavy on the reader right away. It's unclear if the writer intends to place the opening quote about Will at the start of the film, but the reader would suggest moving it to the end, so it doesn't ruin the plot but instead verifies the historical accuracy of the film.

The plot moves very quickly in these opening ten pages, keeping the pace alive and not wasting any time on extraneous details. By the sixth page, our protagonist is on his way to Nebraska. While the pace is quick and engaging, it did leave the read wishing they knew more about Will and his background. Does he have any family he's leaving behind? A love interest? We need a few more details about him to invest in his story and make this the emotional film it has the great potential to be.