

The Seedling

The Seedling works because of how it structures its plot and delivers the pacing. In a narrative with this many twists and turns, the slow drip of information and the feel of escalation are pretty key. This script manages both well, tantalizing the reader with more gripping scenes right away to capture attention and pose the central questions of the narrative. We later get the introduction to the world of normalcy and the hero's setup, but the opening moments know how to capture the tone and hint at the concept. Hint is an operable word, because the writer doesn't give away core details by frontloading the script with exposition. We discover secrets and the deeper mysteries alongside characters, and there always seems to be some dangling carrot of information to drag the whole story forward. There are still the opportunities to guess at future plot points with clues scattered about, but I suspect most readers won't see the bigger reveals coming.

Really the characters were another highlight of the script. For all the excitement the plot generates, it wouldn't amount to much without characters that we genuinely care about. Fortunately they're all well realized. Everyone has a distinct personality and feel like three-dimensional beings. It's easy to imagine these characters going about their lives outside these pages. Their relationships feel very "lived-in" not like roles were created just for the sake of this story.

With memorable characters and a premise I've never heard before, *The Seedling* managed to entertain me the entire time through. This is a script that succeeds because it does all the fundamental things right. It knows when to slow down and draw out a moment for dramatic effect, how to implement 3-act structure, how to properly introduce the themes and tone. The formatting is spot on and pacing leaves slow moments for character growth. In short, this script has big memorable moments with its concept and plot points, but also does the little things to produce a complete and professional script.