

#2 Screenplay:
Window of Opportunity
by
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Current Revisions by
Clayton Emmer, October 8

Beginning Screenwriting
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WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

by Clayton Emmer

EXT. - ISLAND - MIDDAY

Aerial view of tropical island. Several buildings huddle around a large open-air pavilion.

INT. - PAVILION - DAY

About ninety people populate folding chairs, arranged auditorium-style. A center aisle separates men and women. STEPHEN WALKER, 38, psycho-spiritual naturalist, speaks to the congregation.

STEPHEN

This weekend, the Nine Omega Foods have opened new vistas of our consciousness. Let's hear some testimonies. Josh, how about you? Come forward and tell us how powerful this weekend has been.

JOSH WILLIAMS, 32, muscular former Marine, walks to the front.

SUSAN ROSINI, 24, graduate nursing student with a single long braid, fidgets in the first row, crossing her legs and then her arms.

JOSH

Brothers and sisters, this weekend has been a real trip. I've been here since '74, and I've never known anything like..

Susan darts out of the pavilion.

Stephen whispers in Josh's ear. Josh walks out of the pavilion, then breaks into a run chasing Susan.

EXT. - ISLAND - DAY

A cloud of dust plumes behind Susan as she dashes for the beach. Josh trails by about 100 yards. Meanwhile we hear Stephen addressing the congregation.

STEPHEN (O.S.)

Let's stop for a moment to focus our energies on Susan. She needs to feel our Omega energy.

Josh gains ground on Susan as they race down the dirt road toward the shore.

Susan pivots sharply to the right, following a trail leading into a thick forest.

Josh angles toward the forest, not hesitating to find a convenient entry. He plunges into the underbrush.

EXT. - ISLAND FOREST - DAY

Josh blazes through the trees and blocks the path ahead of Susan. Susan runs into view within seconds. Seeing him, she about-faces. Josh pursues. His face reveals scratches from the underbrush.

EXT. - ISLAND BEACH - DAY

Susan runs toward the dock, looking back for a moment without breaking her pace. She throws off her t-shirt. At the dock's end, she dives and breaks into the front crawl.

Josh sprints onto the dock shirtless. A large stray dog catches the excitement and rushes down the dock with him, BARKING. Josh lunges into the water and alternates between the crawl and a side stroke.

EXT. - OCEAN - DAY

The ocean swells gently. Susan gains distance from Josh as she swims. Reaching a sandbar where the water is only three feet deep, she forces her way forward, walking.

When Josh meets the sandbar, Susan is only five meters ahead. They both slish ahead with difficulty.

JOSH

Susan, wait up!

SUSAN

Are you out of your mind?

JOSH

You don't understand!

Josh suddenly dives underwater.

UNDER THE OCEAN SURFACE - DAY

Josh swims up to Susan under the surface and grabs her legs. She sinks and struggles to free herself, but he leeches on tightly. She lets her legs go limp, then suddenly kicks him in the face. He releases her and surfaces.

OCEAN SURFACE - DAY

They are both swimming again, now only a body length apart. White caps surface and the sky has grown dark. A small sailboat approaches. Susan bursts forward and reaches the boat. She grasps a metal loop at the rear of the boat and begins to tow in the boat's wake. Josh latches on to her ankles. She tries to kick him off, but she cannot due to the force of the wake.

EXT. - SAILBOAT - DAY

A MAN on the boat looks back and sees Josh and Susan towing. He ties the sail cord and rushes to the back, SCREAMING at them. Josh lets go of Susan. Susan holds her grip for a few seconds, then releases.

OCEAN - DAY

The boat shrinks into the distance as a storm rises. The shore, now only a hundred feet away, offers a narrow sand beach in front of a two-story boulder field. Susan bodysurfs the waves toward the beach with Josh surfing the crest behind her.

Between two crests, she suddenly hunkers down on all fours and holds her breath while the waves wash over her. Josh is several crests beyond her toward shore before he realizes that he has passed her.

She begins surfing the waves again, angling as far up the shore away from Josh as she can. She reaches shore beyond some large boulders.

EXT. - BOULDER FIELD - DAY

Susan scales the slimy boulders as quickly as bare feet allow. Half way up the boulders Josh pops into view below her. She races upward, but her feet slip on a large boulder near the top. Unable to secure a grip, she slides down until she is side by side with Josh. In the distance, a JET SKI can be heard approaching.

Josh squints and turns to look out over the ocean.

JOSH

It's Stephen.

Susan drops her head in despair. Josh scrambles up the boulder and reaches down to offer her a hand. She looks up, but hesitates.

JOSH

Without you, I'd still be trapped out there. (Beat) Hurry, he's getting close!

Susan grasps his hand and he pulls her up the boulder. They dart out of the rocks and into the distance through driving rain.

FADE OUT