

Academy Nicholl Fellowships

General Information

Title:	Dog Gone Memories	Script #:	3,869
Primary Genre:	Drama	Year:	2022
Modifying Genre:	Family/Kids	Log Line:	Raising a musical family with a beloved dog, a grief-struck young widow butts heads with a dual-identity widower until they agree to perform in the Father's Day Jamboree.
Genre Notes:	Hallmark Romance		
Number of Pages:	109		

Reader Comments

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1st Read Comments

Dog Gone Memories is a fresh look at the life of a family from the perspective of the beloved family dog. The dialogue is smart and the tone is consistent. The characters are well developed and likable. The supporting animal characters add charm and humor to what might have been a formulaic story. Specifically, the scenes with Penelope Parrot are fun and advance the story in an effective, humorous, and spontaneous way. There are plenty of quirky characters in this script and the scenes play to their individual personalities. These scenes not only advance the story but provide insight into the character's past and their current state of mind. Again, the connection to animals serves the story here. The character's interactions and love for the animals add layers and depth to the emotions of their human counterparts. It also elevates what could be a potentially awkward or trite scene and adds realness and connection to the audience. The ending is true to the tone and pace of the script and leaves the audience with a full story arc and a sense of closure. That said, this is a charming script, and I would look forward to more stories about these characters.

2nd Read Comments

The script DOG GONE MEMORIES is ambitious in its scope. The plot focuses on a young widow mourning the loss of her husband, unable to move forward a year after his death. While I understand Jazmin's anger over losing Greg, I found her difficult to sympathize with because of the way she is written. She's cruel to the dog without us knowing why until nearly halfway through the script. She's incredibly rude to Captain MacGrudder/Mack, yelling at him over the fence without even knowing who she's talking to. We need some moments of vulnerability and kindness amidst all the anger earlier in the script, because she just comes across as generally unlikable. The dialogue could benefit from polishing to achieve a smoother flow. Characters often converse in clipped, incomplete sentences, and often speak in cliches. Penelope the Parrot doesn't help. It's clear that it's meant to be comedic when the parrot shouts random tennis terms, and it would be funny if used sparingly and with better timing. As it is, her constant outbursts disrupt the flow of the scenes and make the conversations harder to follow. The description could make the action easier to follow. I'm not even sure what year it is. We see an obituary dated 1996 at the beginning, but no name, so I assume it's Greg's. So, I guess it's the mid-90's? It feels odd that the kids seem to be

completely over their father's death. They talk about it as though it happened many years ago, rather than fairly recently. There are several moments of unrealizable description, for example, "Since his father's death, his mother won't perform in public." And "She hates dog's constant stance." The romance between Jazmin and Captain MacGrudder could develop more organically. The way he's written, he comes across as closer in age to Doc than to Jazmin. Overall, I think the script would benefit from another draft.

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