**Ideal Scene Sequence from Chapter 10 of *Anatomy of Story* by John Truby**

Descriptions:

1. Position on the character arc: Where does this scene fit within the hero’s development (also known as the character arc) and how does it further that development?

2. Problems: What problems must you (the author) solve in the scene, or what must you accomplish?

3. Strategy: What strategy will you (the author) use do to so?

4. Desire: Which character’s desire will drive the scene? [This could be the hero or some other character.]. What does he want? This desire provides the spine of the scene.

5. Endpoint: How does that character’s desire resolve? By knowing your endpoint in advance, you can focus the entire scene toward that point. The endpoint also coincides with the point of the inverted triangle, where the most important word or line of the scene is positioned. This combination of the endpoint of the desire with the key word or line creates a knockout punch that also kicks the audience to the next scene.

6. Opponent: Figure out who opposes the desire and what the two (or more) characters fight about.

7. Plan: The character with the desire comes up with a plan to reach the goal. A direct plan is one in which the character states directly what he wants. This increases conflict and drives characters apart. An indirect plan is one in which he pretends to want one thing while actually wanting something else. This decreases conflict initially and brings characters together, but it can cause greater conflict later on when the deception becomes clear.

The opposing character will have one of two responses: he will recognize the deception and play along OR he will be fooled and end up giving the first character exactly what he really wants.

Remember - the plan refers to how the character tries to reach a goal *within a scene*, not in the overall story.

8. Conflict: Make the conflict build to a breaking point or a solution.

9. Twist or reveal: A self-revelation moment in a scene that might not be final or even correct.

Copy/paste Template:

**BEAT/ACT/SCENE**:

MAGIC COOKIE?

DATE:

SETTING:

POV: Hannah

1. MC’s change (in one line):

2. Desire/Goal:

3. Plan:

4. Opponent:

5. Conflict:

6. Endpoint:

7. Twist or reveal:

OTHER NOTES:

-What problem(s) will I solve as the writer in this scene?:

-What strategy will I use as the writer to do so?: