- 1. The purpose of breaking down a script is to ensure that everyone in the production crew is on the same page for the finished product. Importantly, a script breakdown is needed before anything can be budgeted. Each scene is divided into eighths and color coded to ensure everyone on set knows specifically what aspects of the script apply to their job on the set. Finally, the script will have a breakdown sheet that is a list of elements needed to schedule and produce the script, such as characters, page count, location, wardrobe, etc. This is a very important tool that will serve the screenwriter and other members of the crew very well.
- 2. Every script must be broken down going into the pre-production phase. This is important to do during this stage so the script can be adjusted properly during the filmmaking process.
- 3. This story is about family and isolation and how they affect us and who we become as human beings. The story revolves around a relationship between two brothers (Max the older and Doug the younger by 5 years) and Max's best friend, Chester, whose life has been altered and changed due to gang activity and other criminal acts. Max and Chester are initially best friends and are in the same street gang. They are both equally violent, hyper-aggressive, and full of rage. Chester is an orphan. His family background isn't discussed, only that he never knew his parents. Max has a small support circle around him: his mother Anne, his younger brother Doug, his girlfriend Lilly, and the family dog Hank. Max's father left the family before Max was born. Max goes to prison for killing someone in self-defense during an altercation while trying to protect Doug. While in prison, Max undergoes a change from his violent ways into a more peaceful man. He is paired with a wise cellmate, Ronnie, who acts as a mentor to Max in prison. Ronnie also had a violent past but has now turned to religion to change his ways and advises Max to do the same. At first Max seems disinterested, but ends up taking in all the bits and pieces of Ronnie's advice to become a better man. While Max is in prison, Doug has fallen in and become part of Chester's game, picking up Chester's worst habits (violence, sadism, destruction, etc.) and being influenced by the worst. When Max is released from prison, he finds that his world/community is nothing like when he left it. Chester is a monster of chaos and Doug has grown increasingly violent and volatile. Lilly has left him for Chester too and Anne has grown increasingly worried and anxiety-ridden, particularly about Doug's change in character. Max must persuade Doug to leave Chester's gang while risking the lives of their family and friends. Max realizes it is going to take a return to his former self as a violent, sociopathic, brutal, fighting machine to save himself and what is left of his family. However, in prison he vowed that he turned a new chapter in his life and promised to never change his ways. Max must choose between his faith and his family in order to have any chance at redemption, along the way leading him down a path of self-destruction or self-discovery. Max seems to be at odds with everyone upon release from prison, he's changed into a better person. At the same time, everyone in his life seems to have changed for the worse. After attempting to persuade his brother to come back to the family and taking a beating from Chester willingly due to his committal to non-violence, Max's mother Anne (who has always been opposed to their gang lifestyle and violent habits) pleads for Max to defeat Chester and reunite their family again. Chester kills Hank in a botched robbery attempt at Anne's

house, when Max is not home, out looking for Chester and Doug. Anne is completely somber over Hank's death and pleas and begs for Chester to do something. Chester finally realizes that the only way to get Doug back out of Chester's gang and keep Anne and what's rest of his family safe is to return to the person he vowed he'd never be again: the raging, sociopathic, violent, and destructive version of himself that couldn't be stopped. In the climactic scene, Max journeys to Chester's lair to confront him and save his brother. There are too many men, Max takes down many but he's outnumbered. Chester hands Doug a gun and tells him to finish off his brother "the biggest threat to their gang." Doug points the gun at Max's head and seems poised to pull the trigger until Max mentions Hank's death at the hands of Chester. Doug seems visibly upset after hearing this. Doug pulls the trigger, but purposely aims for one of the goons who are holding Max down on his knees. This buys Max time to escape from the grasp of Chester's goons. Max finishes off the rest of Chester's goons using martial arts and a variety of self-defense mechanisms. Lilly confronts Doug, (who, unknown to Chester or Max, has been having a secret affair since with Lilly since Doug became part of Chester's gang). Lilly snatches the gun from Doug, which causes Doug to reveal their secret relationship. This angers Chester, who kicks Lilly to the ground, tripping Doug, and they both fall to the ground. Chester takes the gun from Lilly and asks Max who he should kill first, Lilly or Doug. Max tackles Chester, knocking the gun to the floor. A struggle for the gun ensues. Lilly and Max wrestle for it on the floor with Lilly's back on Max's stomach and Max's back on the ground. Max takes a knife from his pocket and stabs Lilly and in the chest, the blade piercing his skin as well. Lilly dies and Max rips the knife out of his chest, takes the gun and shoots Chester in the knees. The police are called to the scene where Chester is escorted away in laughter. The final scene has Max and Doug walking back into the house and being consoled by their mother, Anne, who is overwhelmed and relieved at the return of her two sons.