

SHORT DRAMA SCRIPT TEMPLATE

Vertical 9:16 · one episode · ~60-90 seconds

SERIES: _____

EPISODE #: _____ TITLE: _____

RUNTIME: _____ sec HOOK BY: 0:03

[HOOK]

0:00-0:03

SHOT: _____

Open on the most shocking image or line. The first 3 seconds decide the swipe. Character + stakes, instantly.

DIALOGUE: _____

[SETUP]

0:03-0:15

SHOT: _____

Establish who wants what and why it matters now. One location, one clear desire.

DIALOGUE: _____

[CONFLICT]

0:15-0:40

SHOT: _____

The obstacle lands. Raise the pressure with each line of dialogue. Keep shots tight on faces.

DIALOGUE: _____

[ESCALATION]

0:40-0:70

SHOT: _____

Turn the screw: a reveal, a betrayal, a reversal. This is where viewers decide to finish.

DIALOGUE: _____

[CLIFFHANGER]

0:70-0:90

SHOT: _____

Cut on an unanswered question so they tap the next episode. Never resolve—promise.

DIALOGUE: _____

Vertical 9:16 short-form beat template · keep every shot phone-framed, subject centered.