

**REVENGE. ALL IT  
TAKES IS A DOLLAR  
AND A DREAM. AND  
THE HELP OF A  
WOMAN SCORNED.**



# LOGLINE

Left for dead after bungling a petty scam on a sadistic gambler, a lowly racetrack stooper fights back with the help of the gambler's ex-girlfriend to regain his dignity and recover a valuable lottery ticket that rightfully belongs to him.

# SUMMARY

**Length:** Feature film (90-110 minutes)

**Genre:** Crime / Revenge: Driven man turns the tables on his tormentor

**Audience:** Adult; likely PG-13 (language, violence)

## **Characters:**

- 3 Leads (2 male, 35-45, 1 female 25-30)

- 2 Supporting (male, 35-45)

- 2-4 Tertiary players

**Locations:** 4; primary shoots – betting parlor, bodega, diner, bar, apartment

**Time:** Contemporary

**Budget:** Estimate low: \$1M - \$2M

# WHAT'S THE APPEAL?

Plot elements that audiences appreciate

- An underdog vanquishes his tormentor and wins the girl
- A scam goes well, until it turns horribly wrong - thanks to a turncoat
- An assassin thinks he killed his quarry, giving the surviving victim options

Easy to shoot: all interior scenes can be done on a lot

Expense benefits from small cast, limited locations, contemporary setting, no special FX.

Opportunity for actors to take a role against type: good guy plays a sadistic thug, e.g.

# STORY

Larry begins supplementing his meager income as a dishwasher in a diner by stooping for discarded horserace tickets. Hardly glamorous, Larry's life could be OK if not for the torment meted out by thuggish gambler Vic.

Vic begins a relationship with Maddie; he pays her rent so she can quit her hospital job. Eventually, Maddie recognizes Vic's sadism. A strident argument turns violent. Fearing for her life, Maddie leaves the city and takes a job at another hospital.

Larry finds a discarded race ticket worth \$700. Instead of paying some bills, Larry spends it all on lottery tickets. After losing his diner job thanks to Vic, Larry discovers one of his lottery tickets is worth seven grand. Before Larry leaves town, he tricks Vic into buying a fake ticket that looks like the real one. Angry at being conned, Vic tortures the real ticket out of Larry. As a "trade," Vic stuffs the bogus ticket in Larry's shirt pocket. Vic's goon Ray shoots Larry in the back of the head, killing him – or so he thinks.

In a hospital, Larry meets Maddie, and the two develop a relationship. Unknown to Larry, the bogus ticket in his pocket bears the numbers of a multi-million dollar jackpot. Concluding Larry is still alive possessing the valuable ticket, he sends in Ray who takes the ticket – and Maddie – to Vic. Before Vic can drive off with both, Larry rushes his car, incapacitates Ray and takes the wheel. A fight and a car crash ensue. Larry and Maddie walk away from the crash scene. Leaving unconscious Vic in a compromising situation. Larry and Maddie cash out to a life of luxury while crippled Vic rots in jail.

# MAIN CHARACTERS

## LARRY

Middle-aged urban man down on his luck, scrapes by washing dishes in a diner.

Meek, but harbors fantasy of revenge for Vic's torment.

Clever and industrious when the situations calls.

Possesses an inner strength that enables him to overcome adversity.

## MADDIE

Young artist/painter new to the city living on her own. Cleans facilities in a hospital.

Thoughtful and caring, inexperienced with society's dark underbelly.

Easily impressed by wealth and power, but quickly learns the negative sides.

## VIC

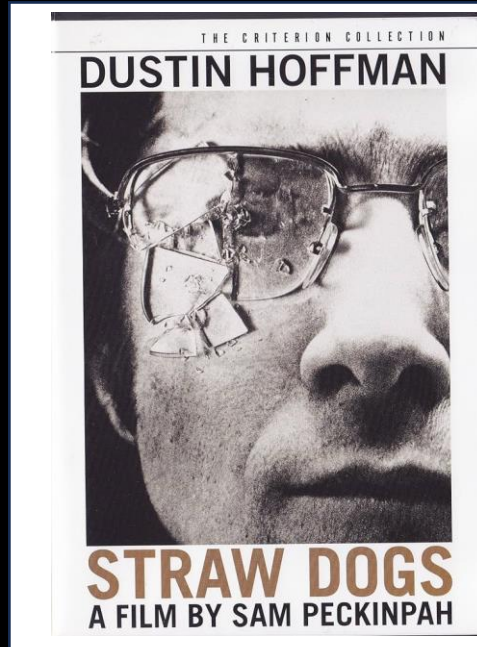
Middle-aged, powerful man who derives quasi-criminal income from gambling, loan-sharking.

Employs an entourage of ruffians who enforce his rules.

Treats weak people poorly, especially Larry whom he encounters frequently.



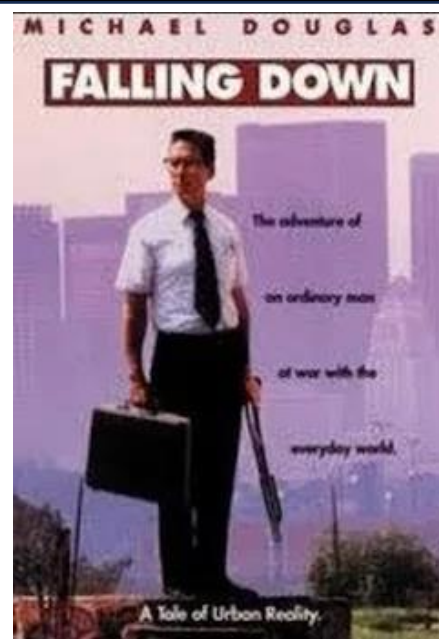
# COMPS: TORMENTED MEN TURN THE TABLES



## Straw Dogs

WW gross - \$8M

Kansas City Film Critics  
Circle 1971 Winner,  
Best Director



## Falling Down

WW gross - \$41M

Edgar Allen Poe 1994  
Winner, Best Picture



## F/X

WW gross - \$20.6M

Edgar Allen Poe 1986  
Nominee, Best Picture



## Marathon Man

WW gross - \$21.7M

Academy Award 1977 Nominee,  
Best Supporting Actor

Golden Globe 1977 Nominee, Best  
Screenplay

# WRITER BIO

## Herb Schultz

Former marketing executive for Supercomputing at IBM, now retired.



### Writer of five spec scripts

*Architect's Rendition* – An architect enlists three associates in a complex scheme to murder his wife, and each other.

*Double Blind Test* – A woman conned by identical twins gets revenge.

*Tempus Fu\*it* – The life of a scientist who hunts for the thief of his invention is upturned by the invention itself.

*The Stoooper* – A racetrack stoooper fights to recover a valuable lottery ticket that rightfully belongs to him.

*Stalled* – Imprisoned in a bathroom stall, two disabled men plot an escape from their sadistic captors.

### Author of three novels, a collection of short stories, and a collection of essays

*RonnieandLennie* about conjoined twins who are saddened after becoming separated.

*Architect's Rendition*, a story of a Machiavellian man who gets random people to kill each other for his benefit.

*Double Blind Test*, a tale of deceit, romance and lex talionis.

*Sometimes the Sun Does Shine There and Other Stories* - Winner of the 2012 Indie Reader Discovery Award for best short story collection

*Culture Justly Scrutinized: A Take on Six Years of Virtue and Venality*

[www.majorterata.com](http://www.majorterata.com) for more.



# THE SCRIPT AND MORE

Read the script at

[www.majorterata.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/The Stooper C1640842701\\_script.pdf](http://www.majorterata.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/The_Stooper_C1640842701_script.pdf)

Read the serialized story on Wattpad

<https://www.wattpad.com/story/283100471-the-stooper>

Table reads



Vic confronts Larry in the diner



In the hospital, larry begs for help

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THANK YOU