

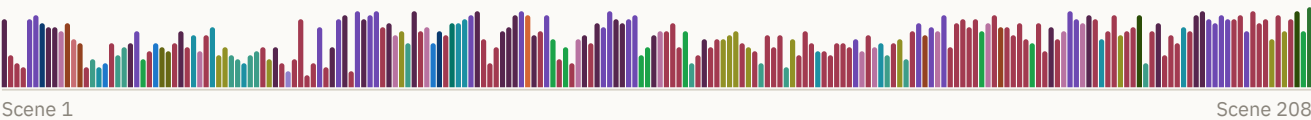
Screenplay diagnostic report

Nope (2022)

Detected genre: Sci-fi horror. Genre drift at scenes 38, 48 and 129.

Dread builds from a traumatic flashback through a slow-burn mystery on a horse ranch, then breaks into sci-fi horror when a predator in the sky swallows a theme-park crowd. OJ and Em's plan to film it leads to a showdown in which they reclaim the family legacy. It ends in exhausted triumph and wonder: OJ alive on Lucky, the photo of Jean Jacket developing.

At a glance: audience emotion, scene by scene



Tier

Feature

Instrument

1

Generated

21 July 2026

Instruments in this report

08  Audience Fit Analysis The shape of your story, and which audiences reward it.

Example analysis of Nope (2022), screenplay by Jordan Peele. Shown for demonstration and commentary. It reads a finished film to show the format, so anything it flags may well be deliberate; on your own draft, treat each flag as a question.

Produced by The Narrative Laboratory, by Many Monkeys: manymonkeys.ai. The measures are the model's estimates, so they are given as bands (strong, moderate or weak; a fit reads strong, partial or weak fit) rather than scores. Scene numbers and counts are exact. An ochre rule in the margin marks what is worth a second look, an ochre underline a line the analysis flags; the notes for the next draft sit behind the same rule.

08 | Vonnegut | Experimental

Audience Fit Analysis

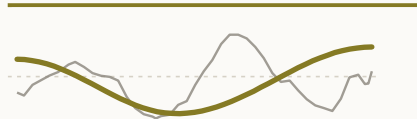
What shape is my story, and which kind of audience is that shape most likely to reward?

A man-in-a-hole arc: fall, then rise

Fall into trouble, then climb back out. Films with this shape: *Die Hard*, *Finding Nemo*, *The Martian*.

Closest shapes

Each shape is drawn over this script's own fortune curve, smoothed, in grey.



Man in a hole fall, then rise

■■■ Strong fit

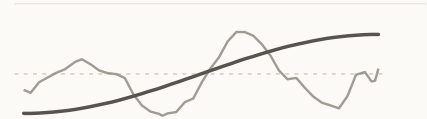
The story opens on a fall (father's death, financial ruin), rises with the plan to capture the alien, dips again with the massacre and the attacks, then climbs to victory. That is the man-in-a-hole shape.



Cinderella rise, fall, rise

■■■ Partial fit

There is a rise-fall-rise pattern (hope, disaster, final victory) reminiscent of *Cinderella*, but the initial state is already low, so the first rise is truncated.



Rags to riches a steady rise

■■■ Weak fit

The continuous upward trajectory from the lowest point to the happy ending superficially resembles rags-to-riches, but the major setbacks prevent a smooth rise.

The story is about reclaiming legacy and agency in a world that erases you. The alien stands in for spectacle and exploitation.

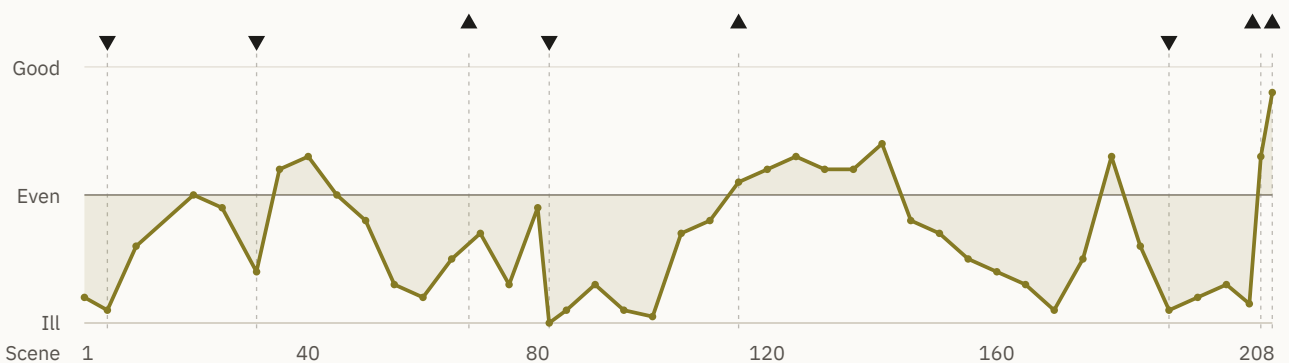
The arc runs from grief and powerlessness after Otis Sr.'s death (scene 5) to Em's win and the Oprah shot (scene 206). Sc. 5, 206

The setbacks are hard, the Star Lasso massacre worst of all. The ending still gives the audience the survival and justice it has been hoping for.

Fortune bottoms out at scene 82 and tops out at 208

It swings widely and leans to ill fortune. The script ends riding high.

Fortune, scene by scene



The line follows the main characters' fortune through the script. Above the middle line things are going well for them; below it, badly. The analysis samples the script at intervals, drawn as dots, and joins the samples. The triangles above the chart are the turning points listed under it, pointing up for a rise and down for a fall.

Scene	Fortune	Turn	Scene	Fortune	Turn
1	At a low ebb		110	Ill fortune	
5	At a low ebb	Fall	115	Good fortune	Rise
10	Ill fortune		120	Good fortune	
20	About even		125	Good fortune	
25	Ill fortune		130	Good fortune	
31	At a low ebb	Fall	135	Good fortune	
35	Good fortune		140	Good fortune	
40	Good fortune		145	Ill fortune	
45	About even		150	Ill fortune	
50	Ill fortune		155	Ill fortune	
55	At a low ebb		160	At a low ebb	
60	At a low ebb		165	At a low ebb	
65	Ill fortune		170	At a low ebb	
68	Ill fortune	Rise	175	Ill fortune	
70	Ill fortune		180	Good fortune	
75	At a low ebb		185	Ill fortune	
80	Ill fortune		190	At a low ebb	Fall
82	At a low ebb	Fall	195	At a low ebb	
85	At a low ebb		200	At a low ebb	
90	At a low ebb		204	At a low ebb	
95	At a low ebb		206	Good fortune	Rise
100	At a low ebb		208	Riding high	Rise
105	Ill fortune				

Sc. 5 **Fall.** A nickel falls from the sky and kills Otis Sr. The family's fortunes drop.
EXT. HAYWOOD RANCH. OUTDOOR ARENA. DAY

Sc. 31 **Fall.** OJ sees the mysterious object in the sky and Ghost disappears. The threat is real.
EXT. HAYWOOD RANCH. FOOT OF THE SOUTHERN HILLS. NIGHT

Sc. 68 **Rise.** OJ survives the shed and Em sees the alien. The team commits to filming it.
EXT. HAYWOOD RANCH. VALLEY BASIN. SHED. NIGHT

Sc. 82 **Fall.** The Star Lasso Experience turns into a massacre as the alien devours the crowd.
EXT. JUPITER'S CLAIM. STADIUM. AFTERNOON

Sc. 115 **Rise.** Holst joins the team and they start on the plan. Hope surges.
EXT. HAYWOOD RANCH. DRIVEWAY. DAY

Sc. 190 **Fall.** The plan succeeds as OJ scares the alien with flags, but Holst is then taken.
EXT. HAYWOOD RANCH. HILLY RIDGE. DAY

Sc. 206 **Rise.** Em defeats the alien with the balloon and gets the Oprah shot.
EXT. JUPITER'S CLAIM. MAIN STREET. DUSK

Sc. 208 **Rise.** Em sees OJ alive on Lucky, and the victory is complete.
EXT. JUPITER'S CLAIM. MAIN STREET. DUSK

Four of seven audiences fit strongly; the other three fit partly

Personal integrators

Seeks prestige, sophistication, and cultural capital.

■■■ Strong fit

All three measures read strong for personal integrators.

Prestige

Em's Muybridge speech in scene 10 ties the Haywoods to the first motion picture. That claim on film history is where the prestige comes from.

Sophistication

The script is about making images, from the commercial set in scene 10 to Holst's hand-cranked camera.

Cultural capital

Knowledge of Muybridge and film history adds depth.

Appeal

Its satire of the film business, from Jupe's Gordy room to the TMZ reporter.

Appeal

References to film history and visual culture.

Appeal

Rewards repeat viewings.

Friction, Sc. 84

Creature-feature gore, such as the victims inside the creature's digestive tract in scene 84, may put this audience off.

Friction

The broad humour may undercut the sophistication for purists.

Social integrators

Values shared experiences, watercooler moments, and broad shareability.

■■■ Strong fit

All three measures read strong for social integrators.

Shareability

Memorable images and quotes make it watercooler-worthy.

Cultural relevance

The TMZ reporter and the hunt for the Oprah shot are about how people watch now.

Accessibility

Accessible genre film with deeper layers.

Appeal

Set pieces built to be retold (the Gordy attack, the sky dancers, Jean Jacket).

Appeal

OJ's one-word 'Nope' is easy to quote.

Appeal

Its take on media exploitation is topical.

Friction

Graphic content may alienate some casual viewers.

Friction

Complex themes may require post-viewing discussion to fully appreciate.

Eudaimonic viewers

Meaning-seeking, tolerates tragedy if meaningful, and values philosophical depth.

■■■ Strong fit

All three measures read strong for eudaimonic viewers.

Meaning and purpose Explores legacy and the human cost of spectacle.

Tolerance for tragedy Deaths are meaningful and serve the larger theme.

Philosophical depth Raises questions about humanity's relationship with nature and media.

Appeal Spectacle and exploitation, traced from Gordy to the Oprah shot.

Appeal The alien as a metaphor for the unknowable and the consequences of hubris.

Appeal Emotional weight of generational legacy and family.

Friction Genre conventions may feel too commercial for some eudaimonic seekers.

Friction The horror surface may obscure the deeper meaning for casual viewers.

Cognitive seekers

Craves complex plots, intellectual challenge, and thematic depth.

■■■ Strong fit

Plot complexity ■■■ Strong Layered narrative with flashbacks and thematic depth challenges the viewer.

Intellectual challenge ■■■ Strong Its ideas about media exploitation and animal behaviour invite analysis.

Clarity of resolution ■■■ Moderate Ending is clear but leaves room for interpretation.

Appeal Plenty of subtext about spectacle and exploitation.

Appeal Non-linear structure, including the Gordy flashback.

Appeal Animal behaviour as a metaphor for human nature.

Friction Horror elements may distract from intellectual engagement.

Friction Some viewers may find the monster logic too abstract.

Affective seekers

Wants to feel strongly, connect with characters and reach catharsis.

■■■ Partial fit

All three measures read strong for affective seekers, but the analysis rates the overall fit as partial.

Emotional depth Family bonds and grief carry it; the heroism lands.

Character connection OJ and Em's relationship feels lived-in and easy to recognise.

Catharsis The final victory provides emotional release.

Appeal OJ and Em's sibling bond feels real, friction included.

Appeal The theme of honouring a father's legacy is moving.

Appeal The moments of sacrifice (Holst, OJ) land.

Friction The graphic deaths may drown out the quieter emotional beats.

Friction Some characters are underwritten (e.g., Holst).

Hedonic viewers

Prefers positive resolution, avoids ambiguity, and seeks uplift.

■■■ Partial fit

All three measures read strong for hedonic viewers, but the analysis rates the overall fit as partial.

Positive resolution The heroes survive and succeed, and the ending is happy.

Avoidance of ambiguity The monster is defeated, and the core conflict is resolved.

Emotional tone Despite horror, the film ends on a hopeful, triumphant note.

Appeal Lead characters survive and achieve their goal.

Appeal The monster is vanquished in a satisfying way.

Appeal Family and survival win, and Em gets the Oprah shot.

Friction Many supporting characters are killed on screen, which may dampen the uplift.

Friction The journey is dark and stressful, and the hedonic viewer's patience may run out.

Tension releasers

Seeks escapism, resolved endings, and low cognitive load.

■■■ Partial fit

Escapism **■■■ Strong** High-concept monster movie provides thrills and spectacle.

Cognitive load **■■■ Moderate** Demands attention to follow multiple plotlines, which may frustrate.

Resolution satisfaction **■■■ Strong** Happy ending with villain defeated satisfies.

Appeal Big set pieces, the Star Lasso massacre above all.

Appeal Clear heroes and monster.

Appeal Definitive, upbeat conclusion.

Friction Viewers have to pay attention throughout.

Friction Dark themes and violence may be too intense for pure escapism.

Theory and terms

Story shape: The trajectory of the protagonist's fortune over time: Vonnegut's shapes, confirmed computationally by Reagan et al. as six basic arcs.

Fortune: How well or badly things are going for the protagonist at a given moment. The report draws it as a line between worse and better.

Audience segment: An audience grouped by what it wants from a story (meaning, thrills, escape) rather than by age or background.

Further reading

[Kurt Vonnegut on the Shapes of Stories \(lecture\)](#)

[Reagan et al. \(2016\) The emotional arcs of stories are dominated by six basic shapes](#)

Where to look next

Other instruments in the lab.

Emotional Rhythm Strip

€8

What the audience feels, scene by scene.

Reads every scene for the emotions it gives the audience, and shows where the intensity builds, flattens or drifts from your genre.

manymonkeys.ai/tools/emotional-rhythm-strip

Structure of Sympathy

€11

Who the audience recognises, follows and roots for.

Shows how strongly the audience recognises, follows and sides with each major character, and where that changes.

manymonkeys.ai/tools/structure-of-sympathy

Character Topology

€17

Who actually holds your cast together.

Maps who shares scenes with whom, to show who holds the cast together and who sits at the edge.

manymonkeys.ai/tools/character-topology

Every instrument has a free example report on its tool page. The full gallery is at manymonkeys.ai.