



Christmas UNPLUGGED

This Ain't No Hallmark Movie!

Screenplay by
Tony Jerris
&
Shannon K. Dunn

LOGLINE

After a freak accident, a woman gets sucked into the predictable plot lines of a Christmas movie and desperately tries to find her way back home.

SYNOPSIS

SAM (Samantha) DAVIS, dislikes sappy predictable Christmas movies. So when her mom, KAREN and her friends DANETTE and GINA get together to watch a 'Christmas In July Hallmark Movie Marathon,' Sam comes up with a 'drinking challenge.' Every time a predictable moment happens in the movie, they must chug a shot of tequila.

10 minutes later, Karen and her friends are passed out. When Sam reaches for the remote to change the channel, her foot catches on a power cord and yanks the TV off its stand, which slams Sam in the head.

Sam wakes up in the movie "Christmastime in Christmas Village." Of course, she immediately meets the epitome of every movie's leading man, CLARK and they quickly start a relationship; however, Sam is desperate to find a way back home to reality/L.A..

Sam begins to relive the same day over and over while falling deeper in love with Clark. The big question is: Will she be trapped in the movie forever or finally wake up back in L.A.?

Financial Considerations

- Budget can be between \$500K - \$750K
- Limited locations
- Diverse Cast (background man days would be limited as well and the same people can be used multiple days)
- 10-15 max days to film

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN



Samantha “Sam” Davis 30s – *think Linda Cardellini (pictured). She’s got a great heart, but has been disappointed by the men in her life: her father, her soon to be ex-boyfriend, Greg... the only constant is her gay BFF Connor, who keeps her grounded... that is until she meets Clark and slowly starts opening her heart and her mind to love.*



Alexa 30s – *think Kathryn Newton (pictured). She’s a former National Champion Ice Skater and is a bit of a blonde, literally. She’s threatened by Sam, who is a bit older, wiser and never follows the script, which infuriates her. She also thinks Sam’s trying to hit on her boyfriend, Greg.*



Greg 30s – *Greg (David Cade – pictured) was dating Sam but tired of her negative feelings about everything, especially her hatred of Christmas and Christmas Movies in particular, so when he meets the bubbly Alexa, he decides she's a better fit for him... but he is a guy, so of course, he waits to tell Sam about Alexa until it's been 3-months...*



Clark 30s – *(Jonny Weston - pictured) The epitome of every Hallmark Christmas Movie Leading Man (a Hemsworth would be perfect). He's handsome, fit, has a huge heart and is sensitive, caring and kind. Every woman's dream.*

SUPPORTING CHARACTERS



Monique Deveraux 40s – *Think Sherri Sheppard (pictured). She is the psychic at the party, who also owns Monique's Boutique in Christmas Village. She and Sam become friends despite the age difference.*



Connor 30s – *Sam's BFF (Chris Colfer-pictured). He's fun, flirty and handsome and is a good friend to Sam. They have a great time together and he's usually the one to bring Sam back to reality when she tends to get too caught up in her own drama. He meets Chad and instantly falls in love.*



Karen, Gina and Danette 50s – *Karen is Sam's mom (Eva Longoria– pictured). Gina (Shannon K. Dunn - pictured) and Danette (Archie Panjabi - pictured) are her friends and they all love Christmas movies. They also love their tacky Christmas sweaters and adore drinking wine together...NOTE - GINA AND DANETTE CAN BE ANY ETHNICITY AND IN THE 45-60 AGE RANGE - Margaret Cho may work, Tia Carrera, Justina Machado, Valerie Bertinelli, etc. etc.*

NOTABLE COMPARISONS/SALES

“Christmas Unplugged” is a Rom Com which can be best compared to “Groundhog Day” meets “Palm Springs” at Christmastime

“Palm Springs” was produced for \$5M, with 22 days of filming and sold for \$22M (including all backend)

Cable Christmas Movies - \$500K-\$2M filming budget, License Fee (or straight-up sales) can range between \$1M - \$4M+ for WW perp rights

Streaming Services - budgets vary widely, but sales for finished films can range between \$1M - \$25M+



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Writer Bios



Tony has extensive writing credits for his feature films, including "Pretty Girls Aren't Funny" based on Rhonda Shear's book "Up All Night," which he was hired to adapt as both a screenplay and limited series. It was a recent semifinalist in both The Page Turner & Wiki Screenplay Contests. He has optioned/sold several TV reality series and sitcoms, and placed in a variety of other contests, including The Nicholl Fellowship Awards, Project Greenlight and Writer's Digest Screenplay Contests. He is also a published author and playwright and currently in pre-production with the stop-motion animated movie "The Potters" starring Frances Fisher, Jessie Cave & Kurt Fuller.

www.tonyjerris.com



Shannon has sold four short films and optioned two solely-written feature films and along with Tony has optioned 2 Christmas Scripts. Her solely-written screenplay, "Undercover Grandpa" was a semi-finalist in the Austin Film Festival TRMS contest in 2019 and her TV pilot, "Red Flags" was a quarter-finalist for PTS in 2021- she is an actor first, but has always had a love for writing/creating stories. She and Tony were recently hired to write the cable movie, "Deadly Stage Mom" and are currently in development (NDA) for a comedy TV series they created, which is at a major network.

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