

## SCENE ANALYSIS STEPS:

### Step 1:

Read the script several times, then figure out the two conversations.  
(The two sides to the story)

**A + B**

**A** Story

**B** Story

Theme = A vs B

THEN, Figure out which character represents which conversation.

### Step 2:

Ask yourself those story questions:

**COR(E)**

**C**IRCUMSTANCES: What has happened up to now (backstory) and what happens after this? (forestory)

**O**BJECTIVE: For each character ask: "What does my character consciously want? What are they seeking from the other in the scene?"

**R**ELATIONSHIP: What does each character mean to the other character?

## SCENE ANALYSIS STEPS (PART II):

### Step 3:

Now ask yourself these questions about structure:

#### **ARC**

**A**RC: Who wins the scene? (Attains their conscious objective)  
And who loses the scene? (Fails to attain their conscious objective?)

WINNER OF OBJECTIVE = Positive Arc

LOSER OF OBJECTIVE = Negative Arc

One Character WINS

One Character LOSES

**R**EALIZATIONS: What are the TWO major realizations within the scene?

**C**UT SCENE IN 3: The two major realizations; define the three act structure. Break down script into it's threes.

## SCENE ANALYSIS STEPS (PART III):

You've figured out:

- Two conversations (A vs. B)
- COR(E)
- ARC

Now work out the counterpoint formula:

$$\frac{A}{B} = \frac{B}{A}$$

My point is your counterpoint...  
...and your point is my counterpoint.

## OTHER WAYS TO SAY COUNTERPOINT:

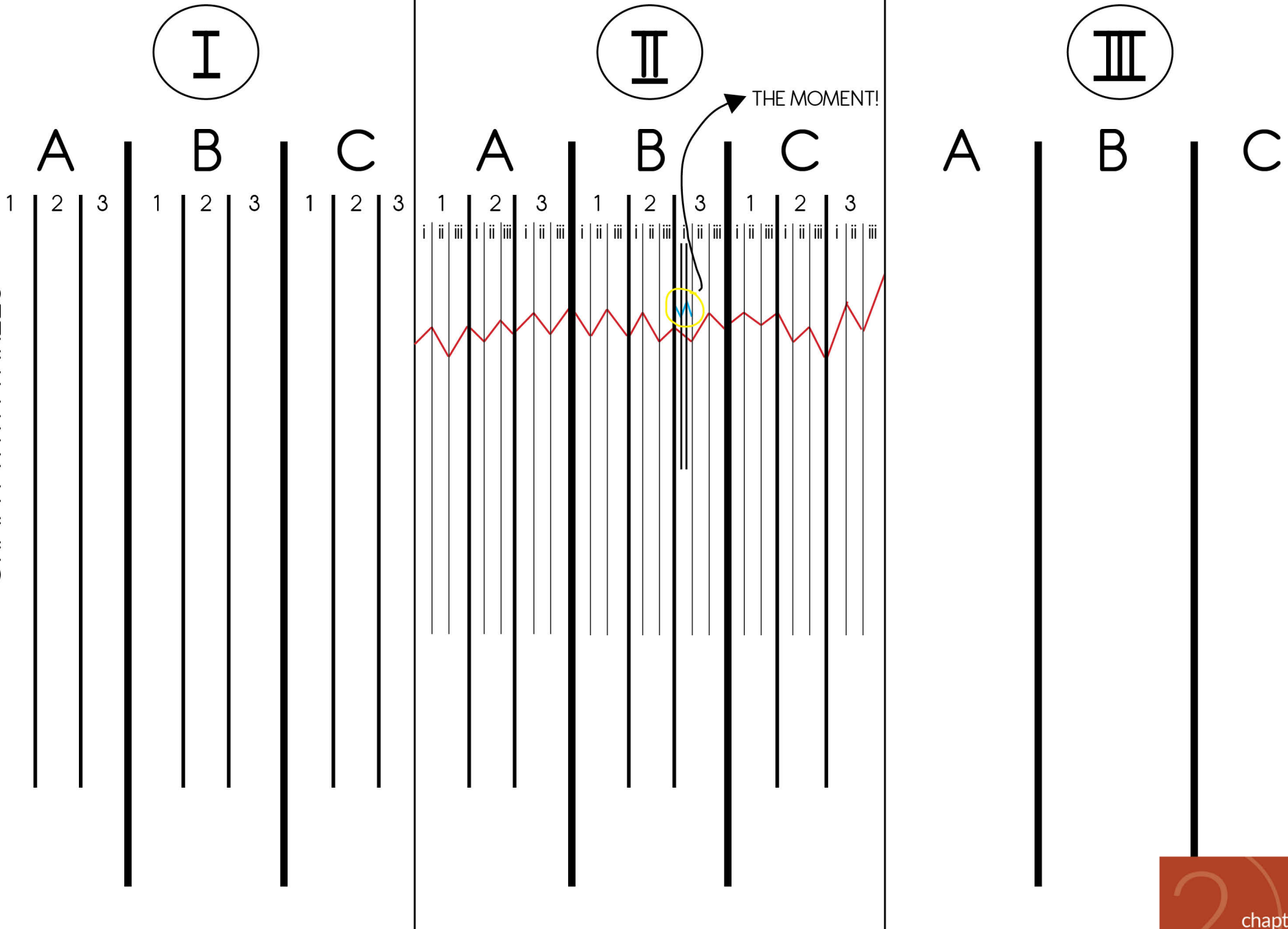
- UNDERLYING TRUTH
- INNER SECRET
- PLAY-AGAINST
- SHADOW INSIDE
- INTERNAL CONFLICT VS EXTERNAL CONFLICT
- SUBTEXT

All of those terms can be confusing -

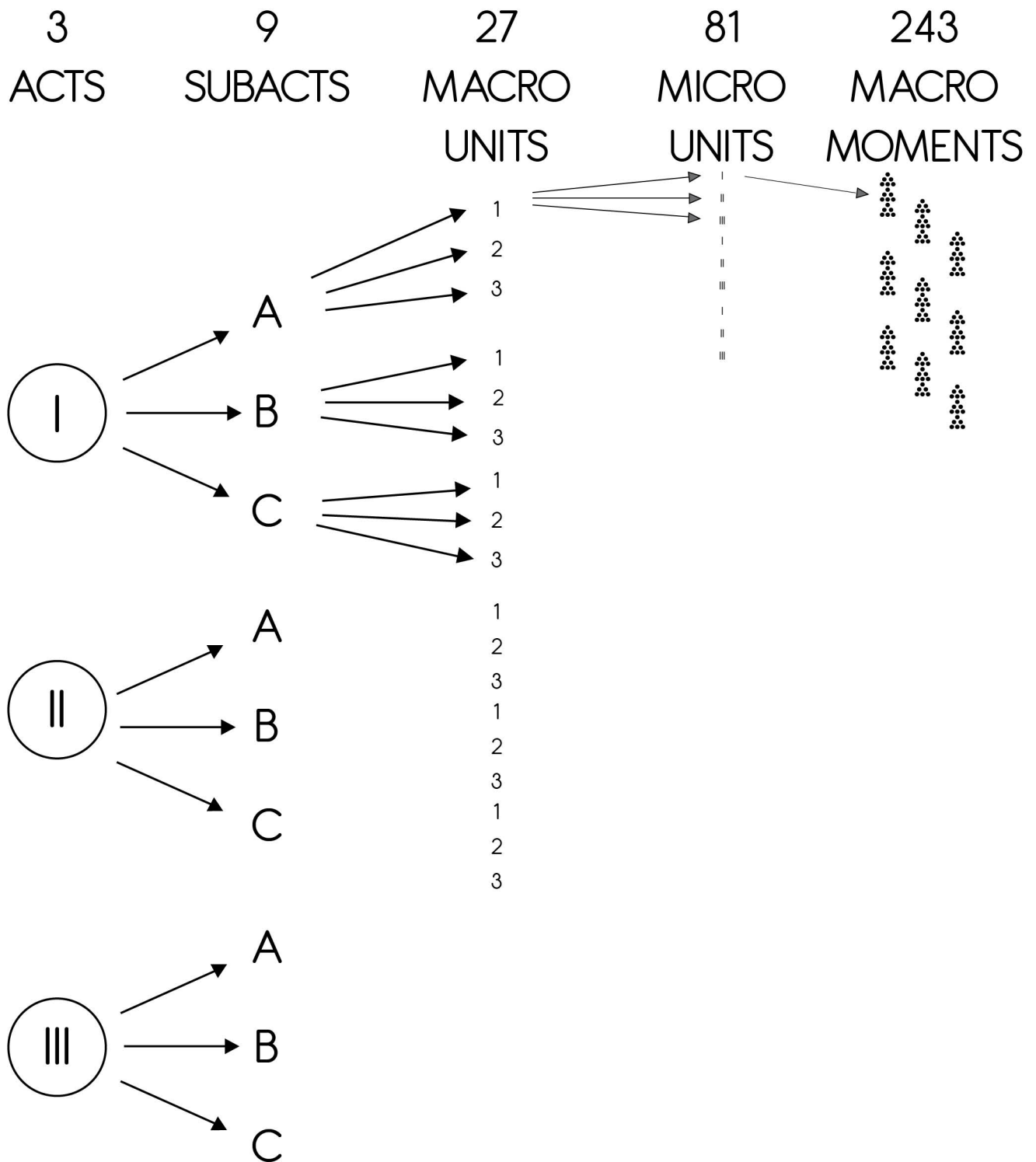
Use the "Law of Counterpoint"

It is clear and precise.

GRAPH WITH THREES



# Breaking Script into 3's



ART

UNIT

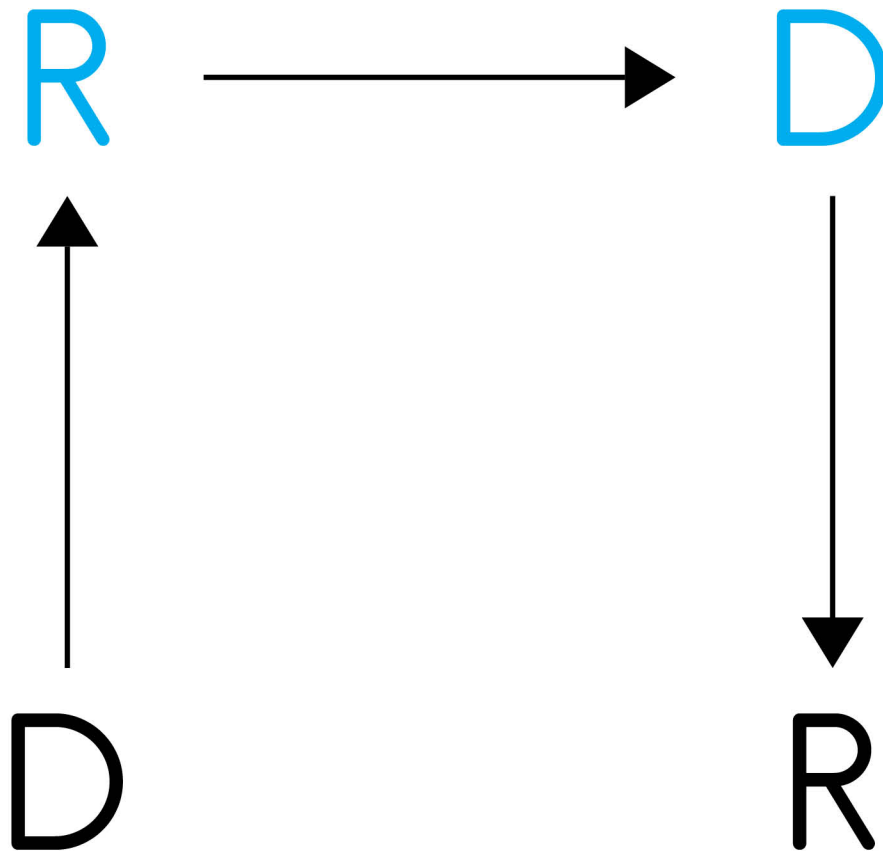
MUSIC	=	SOUND	=	NOTES
DANCE	=	MOVEMENT	=	STEPS
ACTING	=	LIFE	=	<b>VERB</b>

VERB = PARTNER-RELATED TRANSITIVE AFFECTIVE

**"I VERB YOU"**



A moment is the juxtaposition of two  
realizations (R) and Decisions (D)



CHARACTER is the sum of  
all the actions taken

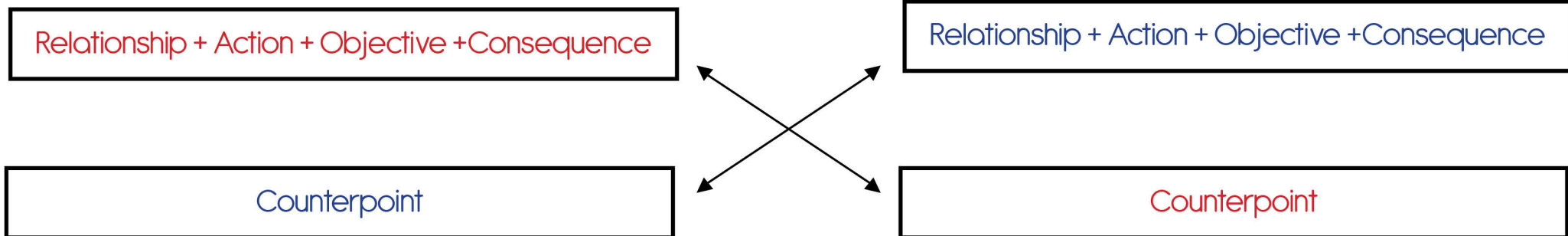
Character is how the character  
acts and counter-acts to the other  
character(s) under the circumstances

character IS what  
character DOES

# Opposing Character Statements

$$\frac{A}{B} = \frac{B}{A}$$

“My point is your counterpoint, your point is my counterpoint.”



## Character Statement:

Relationship + Action + Objective + Consequence

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Counterpoint

“You are the one who (RELATIONSHIP) and I have to (VERB) you in order to get/make (OBJECTIVE) otherwise (CONSEQUENCE OF FAILING) ... despite the fact that the truth is (UNDERLYING TRUTH).”

**A:** Relationship + (action + objective + consequence)

**B:** counterpoint

You are the one who (relationship) and I have to (partner related verb) you to get/make (my objective) otherwise (consequence of failing objective) will happen...despite the fact that (counterpoint).

*GOOD WILL HUNTING:*

SKYLAR: You are the only man I've ever loved so much that I've wanted to commit to full-time (relationship) and I have to invite you (action) to come with me to California (objective) otherwise we won't spend our lives together (consequence)...despite the fact that I am afraid of giving my love.

WILL: You are the one who ignites my fear and asks too much of me, pushing me with your lies of love when I know that love abuses you (relationship), so I have to call bullshit on your advances and smash apart your romance (action) to end the possibility of our having a future (objective) otherwise I will be hurt again like I always have been (consequence)...despite the fact that you are the only woman who has ever gotten into my heart and I'm dying to come to California with you.