

CLASS NOTE: When you have completed this class, write a review and send an email to: olaf@defleurinc.com to receive a FULL 34 page complete brochure on how to write a film treatment.

AUTHOR STATEMENT YOUR TAKE AND THEME



In this lesson, you will learn how to write an effective author statement. This section of the film proposal is all about expressing your unique vision, style, and perspective on the story. It allows you to identify the theme for your take on the film and explain why you are the best person to bring it to life.

Now that you have determined the genre for your film adaptation of "The Ugly Duckling," it's time to start writing a short author statement. This statement will outline your creative vision for the film and explain why you are the best person to bring it to life. It is essential to convey your unique perspective when crafting a film proposal. This is your opportunity to share your personality and personal take on the material.

Let's break the Author Statement into two parts. These are the two parts that you need to write for this class. Remember, we are not doing a full document, so to practice, only write one paragraph on each part.

- **1) Your Personal Take/Vision**
- **2) Theme**

After you write one paragraph on each part. We then combine the two. We connect 'Your Personal Take/Vision' to the 'Theme,' that you have identified in your take.

1. YOUR PERSONAL TAKE/VISION

We start with a take/vision, an **author statement**. To help you get started, here are two prompts:

1. **Why is this idea/story important to you?**
2. **Why do you think it is important to tell this story today?**

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EXAMPLE (Olaf de Fleur):

"The story of the Ugly Duckling is a story I was told when I was four years old. Since then this story has followed me to this day. The story is important to me because it reminds me that even though I feel alone and without appreciation, I just might be a beautiful swan. I think it's important to tell this story because so many people that I've encountered in my life suffer from the same dilemma, of not being aware of their potential..."

2. THEME

In this section, you discuss the theme of the project. The question prompt to help you get started is:

1. What is the theme of the story?
2. How is that theme relevant/urgent in today's society

EXAMPLE: (Olaf de Fleur)

"The theme in the story about the Ugly Duckling is of timeless urgency. It's a theme that works on many levels because not only is it about that we're more than we think we are, but it's also about how important it is not to be aware of your potential, to doubt your potential as you grow. This doubt can help you roar into the sky at the right time and fly.

PUTTING IN TOGETHER

We now put these two together. Section 1. and section 2. Your personal take and the theme. Simply like this:

EXAMPLE: AUTHOR STATEMENT

The story of the Ugly Duckling is a story I was told when I was four years old. Since then this story has followed me to this day. The story is important to me because it reminds me that even though I feel alone and without appreciation, I just might be a beautiful swan. I think it's important to tell this story because so many people that I've encountered in my life suffer from the same dilemma, of not being aware of their potential.

The theme in the story about the Ugly Duckling is of timeless urgency. It's a theme that works on many levels because not only is it about that we're more than we think we are, but it's also about how important it is not to be aware of your potential, to doubt your potential as you grow. This doubt can help you roar into the sky at the right time and fly.

(and then, when you make your film, you of course write more about your connection to the material, I suggest 2-3 pages)
