

## SO YOU WANNA SELL A SCRIPT

<b>Title:</b>	Every Time	<b>Author:</b>	Bob Evans
<b>Form:</b>	Screenplay	<b>Pages :</b>	116
<b>Location:</b>	Nantucket	<b>Circa :</b>	Contemporary
<b>Elements:</b>	N/a	<b>Genre :</b>	Teen Comedy
<b>Analyst:</b>	RT	<b>Date:</b>	10.1.01
<b>Sub by:</b>	Bob Evans	<b>Sub to:</b>	So You Wanna Sell A Script

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Premise/Idea		X		
Plot				X
Characterization			X	
Dialogue			X	
Writing		X		

	Recommend	Consider	Pass	
Writer		X		
Script			X	

Project: **PASS**  
 Writer: **CONSIDER**

### LOGLINE

While on summer break, a teenage boy becomes obsessed with a Sports Illustrated swimsuit model.

### SYNOPSIS

From the outside, ADAM DESILVA, 17, is a sweet, fairly intelligent high school senior, but on the inside, he's a swamp of bubbling hormones and can't go five seconds without daydreaming about sex. In the school cafeteria, scoops of mashed potatoes metamorphose to buttery breasts, and an innocent female classmate nibbling a banana becomes a dream girl from Playboy at Night. His sensible girlfriend, KIM, has no idea that her cute pecks on the cheek drive him insane. At home, Adam deals with his prima donna little sister, CHRISSY (think the ballerina from hell in WELCOME TO THE DOLLHOUSE) as well as his well-meaning but pushy parents, ED and JUDY.

Adam's wait listed at M.I.T. He's more a Rutgers guy, but to please his parents, he promises to go through with a special M.I.T. interview Ed's set up at the end of the summer. Just before graduation, Kim's parents leave town and she plans a special night with Adam. This WILL be the night they go all the way. Adam fills her bedroom with rose petals and candles. They slip out of their clothes, but it's not long before they both discover Kim is allergic to roses, she breaks out in an awful rash and has such a bad sneezing attack that she kicks over a candle and sets the

bedroom on fire. They barely escape with their lives and Kim's parents arrive home, furious at the scene of their house on fire. Adam slinks home and tries to forget the night's disaster by masturbating, aided by photos of the supermodel, ALENA. He's interrupted first by his dog, then his little sister. All in all, it's a night to forget.

Kim wants to maintain their friendship, but Adam realizes he's getting nowhere and agrees to accompany his nerdish friend, MIKE, to Nantucket, where they'll work at a restaurant for the summer. When Kim sees him off, she hands him a crystal and tells him to always keep it with him, that it symbolizes her love. She promises to meet him on the pier on his return.

BENTLEY, a 30-year old stoner adolescent, picks up Mike and Adam in his truck full of fish, as they arrive fresh off the ferry. After a bumpy trip and stinking of fish, they arrive at their digs, to discover to their horror that they'll be living in a barn-like dorm with the other waiters, about half an hour outside the town itself. The restaurant where they will be working, Anchors Aweigh, offers cabaret waiter service as part of their theme. Waiters don costumes and sing Broadway numbers every night, under the tutelage of the flamboyant GAVIN, 36. JOHN MICHAEL, (Mi-shell), a recent graduate of the NY performing arts high school, is Gavin's favorite and lets everyone know it. Mike immediately falls for MEG, an earthy and sweet girl, who's one of the waitresses, but has no idea how to approach her. Adam's completely depressed...until one day while walking on the beach, he spots Alena emerging from the surf, the supermodel of his dreams. He and Mike follow (okay, stalk) her into a dress shop and plot to meet her. Adam talks the stoned Bentley into driving him out to a farm where Alena is completing a photo shoot. Bentley almost collides with a sheep and causes a stampede - ruining the shoot.

Adam learns Alena shops in the market for organic vegetables every morning, so he turns up there; seeing her exercise, he takes up jogging. He's a grade-A fool for love. When Alena's bike gets a flat tire, Adam chivalrously carries it back to her beach cottage. He's exhausted, sore, oily, and smitten. Adam meets Alena's boyfriend, ROD, a pro hockey player known as "the decapitator." Both Alena and Rod dine at the restaurant, Anchor's Aweigh, that night. Rod's a jerk to Adam, so he serves him grilled "fish-from-the-dumpster" garnished with hair and cigarette ash, but Rod wolfs it down, declaring it "the best fish ever". Alena leaves her credit card by accident at the restaurant, so Adam decides to return it to her cottage, any excuse to see her again. When he arrives, he finds the cottage door open, so he sneaks in, no-one's home. Moments later, Rod and Alena return from skinny-dipping in the ocean and Adam guiltily hides in the closet, terrified of what Rod would do if he found him. Alena and Rod make love until Rod's dinner wins its revenge and he gets violently ill. Adam makes his escape, stealing a pair of Alena's panties on the way. The next morning Rod and Alena head out to go boating, but are photographed by paparazzi, arranged by Rod, who wants the publicity - resulting in an argument between himself and Alena. The next day, Alena cries in front of Adam and he sees how vulnerable she is.

Kim shows up in Nantucket but, because of his attraction to Alena, Adam is not happy to see her and when Kim tries to seduce him, he ignores her. Meanwhile, Rod and Alena have another at the town picnic, when Rod wants to leave. The argument ends in the two breaking off their relationship. A weepy Alena asks

Adam for a solo table at the restaurant that night and Adam eagerly complies. He gives her Kim's choice table, while seating Kim next to the washrooms. Adam sings a solo to Alena (to the tune of "Maria") and Alena's deeply moved. Kim realizes what's going on and feels foolish in front of everyone, she storms out and returns home on the ferry that night.

Alena asks Adam to walk her home and invites him into bed. There are fireworks. Adam enjoys the sex as much as his guilty heart allows. Meanwhile, Mike, Bentley and the other waiters auction off Alena's underwear on E-Bay as a huge bidding war erupts. Days of wonderful lust follow until Adam starts to see what life is like with Alena. Autograph seekers follow her around, he's out of place at her photo shoots and they have nothing at all in common. Alena too senses the relationship isn't all that it could be as she still cares for Rod – who she sees in the supermarket tabloids. Back home, Kim is heartbroken when she sees Adam paired with Alena on a tabloid TV show. She realizes she's lost the man she loves.

Adam starts to realize he has made a mistake and talks to Mike about breaking off the relationship with Alena. Meanwhile, Alena mistakenly learns from Gavin that her panties were auctioned off on E-Bay by Adam. She goes to the barn to confront him – finding it open, she goes inside to find Adam's research materials – websites, her biography, etc – she leaves, feeling violated and completely devastated.

While getting ready for a dress rehearsal for the season finale at the restaurant, Adam and the guys are arrested by the town sheriff (think Barney Fife) for selling stolen property. Adam calls home for help and is roundly congratulated by his parents for dating a supermodel. The guys are eventually bailed out by a furious Gavin who fires Adam for ruining the dress rehearsal. Adam tries to talk to Alena who makes Adam realize just how much he violated and hurt her.

Adam talks to Kim by video chat and tells her how much he screwed up and how he has realized that he's lost what meant most to him. Adam asks her to take a chance on the new Adam.

A forlorn Adam heads to the M.I.T. interview setup by his parents. Just as Alena was a fantasy girl and someone he did not really want, he realizes M.I.T. is his parents' dream, not his. He turns M.I.T. down.

Adam, realizing he needs to make up for his mistakes, goes to see Rod at hockey practice in Boston. Through their conversation, Rod realizes it was the simple things he didn't do with Alena that would have made the most difference to her.

Back on Nantucket, the gang from the restaurant has a beach bonfire blowout. Mike's nerdy goodness wins over Meg. Alena comes to the bonfire and is surprised to be met there by Rod. The two head off to spend some time alone.

The next day, Adam and Alena say goodbye on the docks. Alena is off to spend a quiet vacation with Rod doing "regular stuff".

Adam takes the ferry back to the mainland and is overjoyed to see Kim waiting for

him as promised when he left. As Adam talks to Kim he drops a crystal she had given him after the house fire. Adam tells Kim he now realizes that what they had was about much more than just sex. She bends down to pick up the crystal and as she stands up Adam kisses her.....

---

## COMMENTS

---

Call this a *Notting Hill* or *10* for teenagers. This script's premise has similar elements, but the comedy is bawdier, far more in the style of *American Pie*. It's trying to be smarter than most teen comedies and centers on the underlying theme of: Be careful what you wish for. Adam does fulfill his fantasy of sleeping with a supermodel, but after days of great sex, he realizes that his heart is really with the girl-next-door. We can all identify with this fantasy. I am sure we would all turn down the supermodel in the end. Right? RIGHT?

These over-the-top teen comedies break out when there's an underlying sweetness to the film and the main character. This could be the case with *Every Time*. Yes, there's much raunchy humor – far too much to cover in a synopsis. Adam steals Alena's undies and his friends sell them on E-Bay where we discover it's the M.I.T. admissions officer who buys them. Gavin is a clichéd gay character, until we discover he only acts gay to hit on his female employees. The jokes are on everybody, especially Adam and his buddies; it's equal opportunity offense and not mean-spirited in any way.

There are good casting opportunities here. Adam is well meaning, but a teenager tormented by love and sex; Kim is a sensible girl who teaches him a lesson.

Bentley and Mike, as well as John Michael and Gavin are full-on fun comedy roles. And of course you need a preening supermodel who's not afraid to poke fun at herself.

Where the script really needs work, is in the portrayal of Adam. He's so caught up in his own teenage angst, that he never takes the time to actually enjoy *anything* and you're left wondering why a supermodel, who could have anyone, would choose him and why Kim takes him back in the end. He lacks charisma and surprisingly, humor. Every time we meet him he's dark and moody and yet he has the possibility to be an extremely engaging character that teenagers can sympathize with and root for – the ideal formula. There are plenty of opportunities, already within the script, where Adam could choose a different outlook and this issue would be addressed: when he's hiding in the closet at Rod and Alena's house, when he follows Alena around town and when he's forced to explore his singing talents in the cabaret at Anchors Aweigh. We need both humor and sadness in order to care about his eventual reuniting with Kim, the end set piece of the whole movie!

The Adam and Mike relationship has far more possibility than is explored, whether it's for humor or camaraderie. They actually spend more time together than Adam spends with either Alena or Kim and yet the relationship is underdeveloped.

I enjoyed the side story of Mike's pursuit of Meg, who's a feisty character who gives Mike a run for his money with her witty dialogue and playful nature. The writer does need to be careful however, as she overshadows both Alena and Kim,

who read as weak beside her. A difficult balance to achieve, but Kim needs to step up and become a character to be reckoned with, so that the audience will root for Adam to end up with her.

In terms of the appearance of the script, it can be a difficult read because the descriptive paragraphs are way too long. They are, for the most part, very well written, but the writer needs to shorten and break them up so that they flow down the page and make for easier reading. The script is also in need of a spell-check and proofread, occasionally missing words altogether.

All in all, the script is definitely worth a re-write, because it's an idea that's worked before, but is now aimed at the new and powerful teenage audience. In my opinion, the script is not ready for submission, but definitely has potential and the writer is worth considering as a creative talent.