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**FADE IN:**  
**to**  
**FADE OUT.**

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"MY ZOMBIE" Coverage

Type of Material: Pilot  
Coverage Date: 22 July 2023  
Number of Pages: 28  
Number of Scenes: 39  
Submitted by: [REDACTED]  
Budget: Low

Title: MY ZOMBIE:  
GETS AN EVICTION NOTICE  
Writer(s): [REDACTED]  
Circa: Near future/post zombie apocalypse  
Locale: America - suburbs/city  
Genre: Comedy-Horror  
Analyzed by: Jerrod Brito

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**INDUSTRY SCORECARD:**

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Premise	X			
Characterization		X		
Dialogue	X			
Storyline		X		
Structure	X			
Marketability	X			
	Recommend	Consider	Pass	
Script		X		
Writer	X			

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**Logline:** A meek human questions his friendship with a carefree zombie roommate when their cohabitation violates a post-apocalyptic paradigm that leaves them homeless.

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**Synopsis:** DOUG (human, 25) wakes up to the sound of his carefree zombie roommate, EDDIE (zombie, 30s), breaking in because he couldn't find his key.

The next day, Doug plans to present reports for an important work account, and Eddie reminds him that Doug's rival, BRIAN (human, 30s), will likely take the credit. Doug warns Eddie that the landlord is coming to fix the window, and then he departs. At work, it's confirmed that Brian is indeed taking over the account.

The LANDLORD (human, 50s) arrives at Doug's to fix the broken window and catches Eddie with a severed hand; he assumes Eddie killed and ate Doug.

Doug returns home to find Eddie being arrested. Though Eddie is cleared of Doug's murder, the police evict them both.

Doug and Eddie go to a Dead & Breakfast diner, where they discuss Brian's theft of Doug's account. Despite how self-centered Eddie seems, he cares for Doug.

The next day, Doug learns he can't get an apartment because he's been flagged for "Community Endangerment" due to his cohabitation with Eddie. The friends argue about who is to blame for their predicament. When things calm down, Doug apologizes; he could never turn Eddie away after what he did for him (Eddie was bitten by a zombie by saving Doug's life). Eddie suggests Doug live alone, which will be easier than staying together. Doug nixes that idea.

Later, Eddie runs into Brian, who greets him with insults. Brian then sexually harasses MOLLY until he realizes she's a zombie. In the office, Doug stands up to Brian, but Brian calls the boss over to embarrass him. The tables are turned when Molly approaches and pretends to have a romantic relationship with Brian (Eddie puts her up to it). The boss takes Brian off of the account.

Doug and Eddie move to "the zhetto", which is a dump of a community where many zombies live. But when their neighbor, MR. ROMERO (human, 80s), shoots a zombie, the friends are left to wonder if they made the right decision.

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## Comments:

The author's pilot is expertly crafted. Easy to read, fun concept, and a premise that can be taken many directions and stay interesting for multiple seasons.

### Premise: Excellent

There is a lot going on here. The zombies carry a theme similar to racial prejudice, but they are also a threat to mankind. What does this do to religion? Politics? Equal rights? Many parallels to our current political/social climates would keep this show interesting and relevant. What if someone engages in a romantic relationship or wants to marry? The series could go on for years!

### Characterization: Good

Doug and Eddie have a nice, familiar buddy-film dynamic. Their pairing offers a great contrast that must have been there when they were BOTH alive but is enhanced by the fact that one of them is now a zombie. Eddie no longer has much to fear, and his priorities must have shifted significantly, but Doug doesn't have that luxury, so there are obvious conflicts that will be fun to watch. However, I want to see more about what makes them *them*. Doug is a pushover. Is he like that with women? Does he have an ex he can't get over, and who Eddie hated for running/ruining his life? Or do women reject him because they think he's spineless? And do zombies hook up? Are they interested in living people? Doug would probably be disgusted by the sound of dead flesh clapping together in the next room. Just a line or two in the script would help set up more of the world if we knew what love looked like through their eyes.

I also want to know what zombie interactions are like. It seems like Eddie's only friend is Doug, but is he? Does he have zombie friends? How does that look?

Eddie seems to do or say things specifically to get a rise out of Doug in a "Randall Graves" from Clerks sort of way. If that's the intention, he needs to go a little further and put more of that into his interactions. Like, when his wrist snaps and Doug asks if he's okay, Eddie could use his other hand to lift his middle finger to test it/flip him off or something. They're in a heated argument, and doing something like that would be "so Eddie" that Doug would have to laugh. (Unless this is intended for a PG-13 or below rating, but my point is that he could still manage to squeeze more of himself into his actions.)

There could be some charm out of Brian. Guys like him tend to be very slimy. He could go further, too. "No, these need to be reprinted. My name should go before yours. Put my name in bold print," or something. Especially for Doug to finally stand up for

himself, Brian needs to cross a line you never cross with Doug – something Eddie even knows better than to do or say. But we should also see why people DO like him. Do women (and some men) turn their heads to see him because he's so attractive? Does he have a sexy accent? Is he great with backhanded compliments that are funny? It's great that we hate him, but we should also *love* to hate him.

### Dialogue: Excellent

The characters feel like real people when they express themselves. The brief interaction between Eddie and Jess was particularly nice, and as an audience member, I would look forward to scenes between these characters.

Sprinkling in new phrases like "zhetto" is great. Americans love to label things, and there would realistically be a whole new slew of phrases to play with. There are a lot of opportunities to pepper in such phrases. Like, when Mr. Darnel asks Brian, "Are you sleeping with this zombie?" He could have followed it up with a slur or maybe a derogatory term for someone who romances the undead. "Are you a stiff-sticker? A death-diddler?", etc.

### Storyline: Good.

At its core, this pilot is a story about two diverse friends overcoming an obstacle, and all the zombie stuff is just a fun environment for it to play out in. How the zombie apocalypse happened and why Eddie took a bite intended for Doug are important questions, but we don't need them answered now to enjoy the show. The pilot ends on a suspenseful note with the threat of Mr. Romero, the crazy zombie-intolerant neighbor next door, and the possible return of Molly down the line.

There are a few questions that need addressing, however. Like, why are humans able to coexist with zombies? As in, why isn't Doug afraid to live in Section-Z? What is stopping zombies from going wild and devouring the entire human race? There are humans who go crazy and kill people all the time, so Zombies could potentially do that, too. If there's no immediate danger, a line or two here or there stating that zombies can always stay in control (if that's the case) could help clear up such confusion without having to go too deeply into it.

I also wondered if zombies have jobs. America loves to exploit cheap labor, and what better than an employee who doesn't need healthcare and literally eats table scraps? We don't need to see how they typically live, but it wasn't clear if they all lived as Eddie does or if he's a unique case. Is he an exception or prejudiced against zombies, too? Again, an explicit explanation isn't needed, but a hint can make the situation even more compelling.

**Structure: Excellent**

The author is well-versed in screenwriting and demonstrates professional-level formatting and story structure. Typos were minimal:

Page 8: "peaks" should be "peeks" (though, in this case, peaks also works.)

Page 15: "danger to the community" is missing a period.

Page 18: "you're fault"

**Marketability: Excellent**

Zombie shows are popular. The Walking Dead has more spin-offs on the way, and The Last of Us raked in Emmy Nominations this year. Add current events, like zombie intolerance as a metaphor for racial prejudice and health concerns in a post-Covid world, and there are a lot of real, relatable thoughts and feelings to explore – it's a fresh take, on a fresh take on a tried and true idea. And where many of today's highest-rated zombie shows contain extensive action sequences, elaborate sets, countless extras, and fiery explosions, "My Zombie" requires none of those things to be engaging and successful.

**Script: Consider**

"My Zombie" is a *strong* consider. It is already good, but it can be taken up a notch with a few minor tweaks.

**Writer: Recommend**

The author has command over word selection, story elements, structure, and characters. His story is laid out well, characters' goals are clear and strong, and the pilot's tag compels the reader to follow along and see what happens next.