THE WRITER

written by Václav Urbánek urbanekwriting@gmail.com



The panel descriptions and the number of panels on each page present a basic structure for the story. If you wish to tweak them a bit, go for it. You are the visual artist, after all. I would, however, like to preserve the flow of the individual pages, the story beats on them, and what happens before and after a page turn.

### PANEL 1

SMALL PANEL. It's a CLOSE-UP of an empty TEXT EDITOR, with only a lone text cursor in the corner of the white screen.

# PANEL 2

SIMILAR PANEL, but a bit PULLED BACK. We see the LAPTOP that the screen belongs to, sitting on a desk.

### PANEL 3

SIMILAR PANEL, even more PULLED BACK, now in the form of an ESTABLISHING SHOT. A Man (THE WRITER) is sitting at his desk with his back to us, looking at the blank page on his laptop in front of him. He is in his APARTMENT that you can decorate however you like. The only two important things are that on the desk, by his right hand, lies his SMARTPHONE, while left from the desk (and also in the left corner of the panel), there is an OPEN WINDOW, with the late night breeze dancing in the curtains.

# PANEL 4

SMALLER, but still SIMILAR PANEL, where THE WRITER has now laid his head on the desk in the act of frustration and despair.

#### PANEL 5

Basically the SAME PANEL, only now with dialogue and the SMARTPHONE's screen turned on.

THE	WRITER	Hey,	bot?
BOT		Yes,	boss?

#### PANEL 6

You can use a DIFFERENT ANGLE now to spice up the visuals a bit, but we are still mainly focusing on THE WRITER and his SMARTPHONE with the BOT APP now on screen.

THE WRITER Hit me up with some **short story ideas**.

BOT OK, boss. Give me a moment.

PAGE TURN

# PAGE 2 - PANELS: 5

All the panels on this page (except the last one) are basically THE SAME ESTABLISHING SHOT of the room, only in each panel, THE WRITER is in a different spot, illustrating his thinking process and pacing. In one panel, he can be standing, in the other leaning against the desk, in another just sitting. Do what you want.

# PANEL 1

BOT	A team of astronauts on a remote space station pick up a strange distress signal that…
THE WRITER	No, that's just every other horror sci-fi movie.
PANEL 2	
BOT	A young scientist creates a time machine and travels into the past, only to accidentally change his own
THE WRITER	No, I already know how that one would end.
PANEL 3	
BOT	Due to global warming, people are forced to live in complex bunkers while the governing mega-corporation begins to experiment on
THE WRITER	An environmental message <b>and</b> an evil company? Gee, one idea truly more original than the next.
PANEL 4	
BOT	In a distant past, where magic roamed the lands, a group of unlikely heroes need to join forces and
THE WRITER	You know what, forget it.
PANEL 5	

CHANGE OF SCENERY: now it's a CLOSE-UP on the frustrated WRITER.

THE WRITER Artificial Intelligence my ass. All you can do is just collect all the existing cliches and regurgitate them in the most boring order.

### PANEL 1

CLOSE-UP on the writer's (OP) SMARTPHONE and the BOT APP still shining through its screen.

THE WRITER At least we don't have to be worried about you (OP) taking over the world.

Fucking useless.

# PANEL 2

SIMILAR PANEL, but with no dialogue. We're just looking at the SMARTPHONE.

# PANEL 3

SIMILAR PANEL	(or even the same), but now with the BOT APP talking.
ВОТ	I've got <b>one more.</b>
THE WRITER	Piss off, I don't want to hear it.

# PANEL 4

EVEN CLOSER look at the smartphone's SCREEN.

BOT It's about a wannabe writer who actually doesn't know how to write and is projecting his own inadequacy onto a program that was designed to **help** with creative output.

# THE WRITER What the fuck?

BOT Failing to realize that no program can help improve creativity where there is **none** to begin with.

# PANEL 5

Now we can again see the SMARTPHONE as well as THE WRITER, confused and a bit scared, also with the window curtains again quietly dancing at the edge of the panel.

BOT The same program the writer uses to deliver himself pizza every evening to bring at least some enjoyment into his pathetic monotone existence. A pizza that, as he already managed to forget, it now on its way here.

PAGE TURN

# PANEL 1

THE WRITER is now holding his SMARTPHONE, trying to turn off the app. Behind him, we see the open window.

THE WRITER Shut the hell up. Why can't I turn this thing off? BOT You wanted **a story**, didn't you?

# PANEL 2

SIMILAR PANEL. There is now an expression of DISTURBING REALIZATION on THE WRITER's face, as behind him, through the window, we see a DRONE with a pizza attached to it.

BOT And well...

...here it is.

### PANEL 3

ESTABLISHING SHOT. THE WRITER has turned around and is now facing the window, with the SMARTPHONE in the process of FALLING from his hand and onto the floor. From the window, the DRONE is emerging, with his sharp PROPELLERS getting close to the writer's face.

SFX: Vzzz

# PANEL 4

CLOSE-UP on the SMARTPHONE laying on the ground, with the BOT APP still turned on, of course.

BOT Maybe it's not the most original story idea...

...but I like it.

# PANEL 5

Almost exactly the SAME PANEL, only now the SMARTPHONE and the floor it is laying on is sprayed with STREAKS OF BLOOD.

BOT Don't you?

THE END