

What Starts With "P" and Ends With "-orn"?

by  
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One Week Challenge Exercise

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

A kid sits at his computer, bored written all over his face. He slams his fist on the desk. This is HENRY, 16.

HENRY

Argh! Why can't I think of anything to write! Damn you, writer's block!

He grabs a huge bag of popcorn and begins eating it, squirting butter on it every few bites.

HENRY (CONT'D)

I have one week to write this 15 page script. A week! That's 168 hours! How am I going to write 15 pages in that amount of time?

He goes to [SimplyScripts.com](http://SimplyScripts.com) and reads over the One Week Challenge thread.

HENRY (CONT'D)

A 15 page sci-fi script about popcorn. I've never written a sci-fi script! And popcorn? How do I do that?

He takes another bite of popcorn when he begins choking on it. He uses the Heimlich maneuver on himself and spews the popcorn out everywhere.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Let's see, the only way to write a sci-fi script is to pretty much use something from other sci-fi movies. Big explosions, amazing fighting scenes in space, and robots. Lots of robots. But how do I fit that all in 15 pages? And that doesn't have anything to do with popcorn!  
(Thinking)  
Hmm, maybe...

HENRY'S IMAGINATION

EXT. SPACE

HENRY (V.O.)

There could be this huge fight scene...

Two space ships fly through space, the one in back shooting at the ship in front of it.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

There was a mix up in an order,  
where a delivery man accidentally  
sent popcorn to a planet where  
every citizen there was allergic to  
the food. 3/4 of the population  
died, and they needed to get  
revenge.

INT. SPACESHIP

The DELIVERY MAN tries his best to dodge the lasers shot by  
the aliens behind him. The CAPTAIN radios in.

CAPTAIN

Where's that order of popcorn?!

DELIVERY MAN

I'm kind of in a problem right now.  
Can I get back to you later?

CAPTAIN

It'll be your ass if it doesn't get  
to Planet A-Z in five minutes!

DELIVERY MAN

I have no fucking idea where that  
planet is anyways!

CAPTAIN

It's right next to the sun, you  
dimwit! Over.

The back of the delivery ship gets blown apart by one of the  
lasers.

DELIVERY MAN

I'm going down! I'm going down!  
Over.

CAPTAIN

You screwed up again?! You're  
fired!

EXT. SUN

The delivery man lets a large crate of popcorn fly out of the  
ship. As his ship sinks into the sun and explodes, the crate  
of popcorn bursts open as the popcorn seeds pop; kernels fly  
all in the same direction towards Planet A-Z.

PLANET A-Z

The popcorn rains over the citizens and they rejoice, eating the kernels.

CITIZEN

Hooray! Our planet's famine has finally ceased to exist!

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Henry shrieks in anger and closes his Microsoft Word document, angrily clicking the "Don't Save" button.

HENRY

That's an idiotic idea! Why did I even think of that? Everyone knows that most Sci-fi movies don't end that happily. Ugh, what am I going to do?

He looks around his room for ideas and sees his Alien Vs. Predator poster. His mind begins running again.

HENRY'S IMAGINATION

EXT. ANTARCTICA - NIGHT

HENRY (V.O.)

The predators have left earth for another 100 years. Another century rushes by when they return to Earth, and in perfect timing.

UNDERWATER

The queen alien breaks loose from her rusted chain, screeching as she swims up to the surface of the water. She climbs onto an iceberg and rests as it floats quickly through the currents.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CITY - DAY

The city is deserted. Cars are on fire. The streets littered with trash and dead bodies, most of the bodies with gaping holes in their chests.

Predators stand on one side of a street, while aliens stand on the other, hissing at each other. One of the predators roar, and the war begins.

They clash, predators stabbing aliens with their spears, aliens using their secondary jaw to break the skull of the predators.

EXT. MOVIE THEATER

The war moves towards the movie theater, green blood and yellow acid flying everywhere. A predator picks an alien up by the leg and throws it through the doors of the theater. The alien gets up, pissed off, hissing like an irritated cat.

INT. MOVIE THEATER

The predator runs in and tackles the alien into the concession counters, but the alien is quick to react, using its tail to impale the predator in the foot. It throws the predator off of and jumps to its feet. The predator flies over the counter.

The alien pounces on the predator, and they smash into one of the popcorn makers, popcorn spilling everywhere. The alien and predator fight, but they soon become distracted by the golden kernels falling on them. They each pick up a handful of popcorn and stuff it into their mouths.

Screeching with happiness, they get up and begin to eat more popcorn.

EXT. MOVIE THEATER

They rush out, bags of popcorn with them, and get every ones attention. They share popcorn with each other, and like a group of drunks whose team just one, they stop fighting and are arm over shoulder, stuffing their faces with the kernels.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Henry's hands shake as he lifts them away from the keyboard. He looks at his document, which is about six pages long.

HENRY

What the hell am I typing? This is gayer than Paul W.S. Anderson's Alien Vs. Predator film!

He stands up and walks out of his room.

INT. KITCHEN

He grabs a package of popcorn and sticks it in the microwave. As he watches the popcorn, his mind begins running again.

EXT. CARNIVAL - DAY

Stands are tipped over, fires have ripped through the land, and a few bodies lay on the ground. Two teens, ACE and JESSICA, run through the carnival. Behind them, a crowd of zombies stumble after them.

JESSICA

What are we going to do!? Where are we going to go!?

ACE

How the fuck should I know? We're in a carnival for God's sake!

They run into a building and shut the door.

INT. BUILDING

They lock the door and turn around, to come face to face with GUY BENJAMIN. Jessica screams.

GUY

It's okay, I'm not one of them.

ACE

What's going on?

GUY

You mean you don't know?

ACE

Well we haven't had a chance to think. We've been being chased by those people ever since we got to the carnival about an hour ago.

JESSICA

What's wrong with those people.

GUY

Isn't it obvious? They're dead. Zombies. And they want to eat you. It all started from the popcorn they were selling here.

ACE

You're kidding me. Zombies aren't real. They're fictional creatures. Your insane.

GUY

Yeah don't tell me what I already know.

He pulls out a gun and shoots Ace. Jessica screams as she is sprayed with blood. Guy points the gun at her head and shoots, blood spraying on his face. He laughs like a maniac and shoots aimlessly into the air.

INT. KITCHEN

The shooting sounds soon transform into the sounds of popping from the popcorn. Henry shakes his head, snapping back into reality.

HENRY

Oh my God, I'm losing it. Zombies? They're horror creatures, not sci-fi. God I hate zombies. How did they end up in my imagination?

He grabs the popcorn out of the microwave and walks back upstairs.

INT. BEDROOM

He slams the door shut and sits at his computer, creating a new document on Microsoft Word.

Time passes by, days and nights go by like seconds.

INT. BEDROOM - 6 DAYS LATER - NIGHT

Henry looks at the clock. It reads 11:55. Gigantic black bags hang beneath his eyes, his hair is ruffled, and he hasn't changed clothes since the first day of the challenge. He swings his head from side to side.

HENRY

(Monotonous)

Don won't except my script if I send it in after midnight.

(Deep sigh)

No ideas for Henry. Just popcorn.

He sticks popcorn into his mouth gently and barely chews on it. A few pieces fall out of his mouth.

HENRY (CONT'D)

I can't take this anymore. All the ideas are taken. I won't be a part of this challenge. I haven't missed a challenge yet.

He stares at the blank document in front of him.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Oh well...Nobody will notice...

He pulls a gun out from under his desk and points it to his face.

Henry pulls the trigger, and blood sprays on his bag of popcorn and on the computer screen.

INT. BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A BOY finishes up typing on his computer.

BOY

(Saying what he types)

Henry's body falls over on the desk, on his keyboard. The blood slowly drips down on the screen and the bag of popcorn turns from a golden yellow, to a dark, evil red. Fade out.

He leans back and cracks his knuckles, smiling.

BOY (CONT'D)

Ah, yes, this is will be the best script written for the One Week Challenge on Simply Scripts. I used sci-fi and popcorn, so I know people will like it. But what they don't know until a week after this is posted is that this script was written by

FADE TO BLACK.