

Q: Why do I need to roadmap a story?

A: Another form of this question is, “how can I roadmap when I don’t know what’s going to happen?”

The answer relates to structure. There are certain things you will HAVE to do if you want to tell an effective and successful story (and therefore write a successful screenplay or novel that sells).

Consider Transformation:

You will have a start-state and a final-state. Knowing what the final-state is helps you decide the start-state and reach your goal. And vice versa. Further, there are incremental in-between states. It should be obvious that this requires planning.

Consider the New World:

You will have to enter a New World or State. Your characters will spend a lot of time there for specific reasons. It should be obvious that knowing beforehand the nature of the New World / State you’re entering, why it must have that nature, what you’re going in there to achieve etc will help effective writing.

There’s a lot more to this: see 510+ stage Hero’s Journey over at <http://www.clickok.co.uk/index4.html>

In summary, roadmapping a story is critical to effective screenwriting.

Best,

Kal Bashir

<http://www.youtube.com/user/clickokdotcodotuk>