

# **PREMISE**

With months to live, Leo is handed the rare opportunity to make peace with his estranged son, Brad, because Brad is suffering from amnesia, which means Leo can rewrite the past as he wished it had been, with Leo being the world's greatest dad. When Leo convinces Brad to join him on a road trip to Florida's legendary Fountain of Youth, Brad's memory slowly returns, and he remembers what a dick his father was, and that the apple didn't fall far from the tree.

#### THEME

Fountain of Youth is about the realizations of a father, a son, and a woman they meet. Although none of their lives have amounted to very much so far, they realize rebirth and a second chance can happen at any age and that we all are each other's salvation.



#### MAIN CHARACTERS

**Leo Lurning,** salesman and loveable con man, hiding great pain under a sport coat and wiseass exterior. 50-60 years old.

**Brad Lurning,** Leo's son is in his twenties. The scar running along the back of his left hand isn't the only one, just the only one visible. Amnesia makes him as sweet and naïve as a newborn, until he remembers...

**Sadie Tupman,** a guidance counselor who likes to fix things and people, an unlikely hitchhiker and surrogate mother, 40 to 60 years old.



#### **SYNOPSIS**

Bradford (Brad) Lurning wakes in his car upside-down after a severe accident. At the same time, Brad's dad, Leo Lurning, is in comic denial as a doctor confirms Leo's abdominal cancer diagnosis and tries to offer medical options. Leo rejects them all, except for a pain pill prescription which he is not to mix with alcohol.

Leo explains to the doctor – and to Salvation Army later as he gives away all his belongings -- that he is alone in the world except for an estranged son. Leo wishes he could do things over as a parent, but we all know that can't happen. All Leo can do now is fulfill a childhood wish to visit the Fountain of Youth. Life kept getting in the way, but is time. Leo doesn't think its healing waters will fix him, but what the hell, right?

While Leo closes up his San Diego apartment, the phone rings. Someone from a Phoenix hospital calls to inform Leo of Brad's accident. Leo's first question is did Brad ask for him? Hearing Brad is in a coma, Leo thanks the person for the information and hangs up.

Later on the road, as Leo approaches Highway 10 West to Phoenix and Highway 10 East to Tucson and eventually Florida's Fountain of Youth, Leo makes the first of four important decisions. Swerving wildly, he heads to Phoenix and his son's hospital.









## SYNOPSIS continued

Leo is impatient for his son to wake and nervous about their reunion after a decade. He is about to leave, when Brad regains consciousness. Brad does not recognize his father, so the doctor asks if Leo could help his son remember things. Leo makes his second big decision. He mischievously says yes and begins to retell the past to his son – not as it was, but – as he wished it had been, with Leo painted as the perfect father.

Brad, waking with no memories, is like an innocent babe in the woods, grateful for any attention from Leo, and open to all Leo says. Leo helps Brad home from the hospital and together they try to piece together Brad's life, with Leo pretending to have been close to his son.

While Brad rifles though closets for clues about his life, Leo discovers Brad's diary and hides it, reading a passage whenever Brad isn't looking.

Brad becomes depressed when he learns his computer was pawned and his phone had very few contacts. This is when Leo makes his third big decision. He asks Brad to go with him to St. Augustine and the Fountain of Youth. Since Leo had been a traveling salesman who moved his family often, he promises to continue helping Brad remember by taking Brad to many of the places they lived. Brad agrees.



## SYNOPSIS continued

Leo is surprised how accepting Brad is of Leo's made up stories and how well they get along. So well, that Brad is able to coax Leo to reluctantly make his fourth big decision, to give a ride to Sadie Tupman, a feisty divorced woman stranded at a truck stop, trying to make her way to her father's birthday in Atlanta.







As the trio travel to the Fountain of Youth via Atlanta and many of the places the Lurnings lived, Sadie talks their ears off about her husband and son leaving her and having their own lives. While Brad thinks Sadie is cute and Leo wants to throw her from the moving car, several other things become apparent as well... Leo starts to soften and fall for Sadie, and Brad starts to see Leo and Sadie's interactions as triggers to unpleasant memories of his own parents and childhood.

By the time they arrive in Atlanta, Brad has remembered substantial parts of his dysfunctional relationship with his father and wants to get away from him. With nowhere else to go, Brad asks and is allowed to continue with Sadie to her father's birthday party.

Before they part, Leo returns Brad's diary to him and pleads with Brad to know that life is worth living. Brad is confused, but begins reading and suddenly remembers. Brad's car accident was an attempted suicide, because Brad's life was as bleak and empty as Leo's.

#### SYNOPSIS continued

The parties split. Leo continues alone to the Fountain of Youth, drinking and taking pain pills, while Sadie brings Brad to an Atlanta cemetery where she says hello to her mom's tombstone and places a cupcake and a candle by her father's marker. Through Sadie's coaching, Brad realizes his dad might be a shit, but at least he has been trying to make amends. Sadie suggests Brad do the same before Brad has to visit his dad the way Sadie visits hers.

Brad and Sadie race to the Fountain of Youth, but arrive too late. High on booze and cancer pain pills, Leo had already arrived after hours, broke in, danced on tables, drank the water, and was arrested by the police. Leo is now in the county hospital, suffering from a severe collapse.

At the hospital, Brad and Sadie are shocked to hear for the first time that Leo is dying of cancer. On what could be his deathbed, Leo groans holding is stomach, expressing his regrets for being a lousy parent, while Brad tries to forgive Leo. Leo attempts to understand Brad's sadness (the death of Brad's fiancé), wishes he could live longer to help his son, and would consider cancer treatments if Brad would stay around.

During this poignant scene, the emergency room starts to overflow with patients. Then a doctor bursts in saying Leo's tests show his cancer has not progressed since San Diego. So why does he feel so sick? Because he and the moaning people in the emergency room caught dysentery from the Fountain of Youth.

When Leo is finally resting comfortably, Sadie proposes a toast with a bottle of spring water not from around there. "To the Fountain of Youth," she says. The guys protest. "Toast something real," they request. "Ah, but the Fountain is real," says Sadie. "It's just not where you boys thought."

Then it dawns on both Leo and Brad, that all three of them have been each other's "Fountain of Youth."

## **CREATIVE NOTES**

Who hasn't wanted to do some part of their life over again? We all know that is impossible, but I was intrigued with an idea for a story where the main character actually has the chance and could at least try. After I fleshed it out, I was fortunate enough to have the script work shopped, performed and reworked over four successful performances off-Broadway at both the Neighborhood Playhouse on 54th Street and The Actors Theatre Workshop on 28th Street in Manhattan.







The workshops helped me hone each character's arc. Leo sees his life as nothing more than a missed opportunity to be a good father and husband. Believing he cannot undo the past before his death, he plans instead to fulfill a boyhood dream and visit the Fountain of Youth. To his surprise, the choices he makes while doing that allow his rebirth at this late point in his life. He reconnects with his son and begins a relationship with a very special woman. Brad realizes (once he regains his memory) that the resentment he held toward his father prevented him from having a life. In order to be reborn, he must forgive his father. Sadie felt her life was over because her family had moved on without her. Her rebirth comes from the realization she can still help others, and in so doing, help herself. And each of them realizes they are each other's salvation or "Fountain of Youth."

The legendary Fountain of Youth is supposed to have healing waters. Water as a symbol will be used throughout the story to indicate how far our characters are in their quest for self-actualization. In the first scene, the water in the pitcher will be cloudy, and by the end, when our characters toast each other about what they have learned, "The three cups meet like Musketeers' swords and the healthy, clear, pure water within dazzles the eye."



# BUDGET TOP SHEET FOR KIDS 12 AND UNDER

#### Fountain of Youth

Executive Producers: TBD

Producer: Fine Director: Fine

Date Prepared: 3/30/20 Prepared by: Sherri Strain Location: Louisiana Format: 4K Shoot & HD Delivery

nat: 4K Shoot & HD Delivery
Start Date:

Finish Date:

Total Shoot Days: 15 days Unions: SAG MLB & IATSE Tier 0

Acct#	Category Description	Page	Total		
1000	STORY & OTHER RIGHTS	1	\$3,920		
1100	WRITING	1	\$52,290		
1200	PRODUCERS UNIT	1	\$235,367		
1300	DIRECTION	3	\$38,754		
1400	CAST	4	\$69,768		
1500	CAST TRAVEL & LIVING	7	\$20,510		
TOTAL ABOVE THE LINE					
2000	EXTRA TALENT	9	\$1,600		
2100	PRODUCTION STAFF	9	\$90,610		
2200	ART DIRECTION	11	\$35,246		
2500	SET DRESSING	12	\$6,409		
2600	PROPERTY	13	\$28,005		
2700	CAMERA	14	\$64,945		
2800	LIGHTING	16	\$30,222		
2900	SET OPERATIONS	17	\$38,856		
3000	PRODUCTION SOUND	19	\$16,200		
3100	WARDROBE	19	\$17,520		
3200	MAKEUP & HAIRDRESSING	20	\$7,734		
3300	LOCATION	21	\$32,920		
3500	TRANSPORTATION	24	\$37,949		
3600	PICTURE VEHICLES/ANIMALS	26	\$1,000		
4000	BTL TRAVEL & LIVING	26	\$7,660		
	TOTAL BELOW THE LINE \$41				
5000	EDITORIAL	27	\$32,802		
5100	STOCK SHOTS	27	\$1,500		
5200	MUSIC	27	\$9,000		

# BUDGET TOP SHEET

Acct#	Category Description	Page	Total		
5300	POST PRODUCTION SOUND	28	\$17,200		
5400	POST-PRODUCTION FILM/LAB	28	\$17,200		
5500	VFX	28	\$4,000		
5700	DELIVERY	28	\$2,800		
	TOTAL BELOW THE LINE POST PRODUCTION		\$84,502		
6000	INSURANCE	30	\$14,300		
6100	PUBLICITY	30	\$2,000		
6200	LEGAL & ACCOUNTING	30	\$64,150		
6300	GENERAL EXPENSES	31	\$1,000		
	OTAL BELOW THE LINE OTHER		\$81,450		
7000	CONTINGENCY	33	\$15,000		
	TOTAL CONTINGENCY \$15,00				
	Total Above-The-Line	-The-Line			
	Total Below-The-Line				
	Total Above and Below-The-Line		\$1,018,438		
	Grand Total		\$1,018,438		
9999	Louisiana tax credit		\$(210,233)		
	Net Total		\$808,205		

#### **TEAM**

#### Production of Fountain of Youth will be overseen by:

**Foremost Pictures** is a New Orleans based production, distribution and production services company, owned and operated by Sherri Strain. Strain has over 25 years experience in film production and worldwide distribution, is co-founder of the Asylum and Breakout Entertainment, and has produced over 50 films.

Rene Leda - NetMinds Inc. Distributor/ Executive Producer www.netminds.us

Producing and distributing Fountain of Youth internationally will be Rene Leda, with over 30 years of experience in the film and television industry. His expertise ranges from developing and distributing Film and TV programs in international markets, to handling programs for companies like Twentieth Century Fox TV International, Warner Bros., ABC, CBS, Columbia Pictures, BBC, and many more within Latin American markets. In 2004, Rene formed NetMinds Inc., a distribution company selling films, series, and formats to markets worldwide. NetMinds joined forces with JungoTV (www.jungotv.com) a company founded by Dr. Ozz and others, to market their Streaming channels to Latin America and Europe. He also founded Louisiana Thrillers, to produce and distribute thriller films.

**Monkey Brains, LLC** is the production company of writer, director, Alan Howard Fine. Fine has worked for DreamWorks and Paramount Pictures, and has sold screen and teleplays to TriStar Pictures, Universal Studios, USA Networks and Pachyderm Entertainment. Fine wrote and directed the short film, "The Catalyst," which was released in festivals, won ten awards, and is in active development with co-production company, Moving Pictures Media Group, as a feature film and television series.

Fine served as a consultant for Pop.com, Steven Spielberg and Ron Howard's Internet company in Los Angeles. He created a demo for the world's first interactive situation comedy for the Internet with Visionati and Syzol New Media. Fine co - created, produced, directed six educational films in the successful "Classroom Encounters" series. Fine directed readings of his play "Fountain of Youth" at both the prestigious Neighborhood Playhouse and at the Actors Theatre Workshops in Manhattan. Fine is a member of the Dramatists Guild, WGA and SAG.