

# Off The Vine

A wide-angle photograph of a gravel path leading through a vineyard. The path is made of light-colored gravel and dirt, stretching from the foreground into the distance. On either side of the path are rows of grapevines supported by wooden stakes. The vines are lush green. In the background, there are trees and a small white building. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and rural.

Feature Film Look Book

## LogLine:

A gifted farm boy runs away from his failing family vineyard and alcoholic father, to secretly attend his dream college that rejected him.

## Genre:

Dramedy. A coming-of-age story about dirt, romance, and breaking the rules.

## Screenplay:

98 pages

## Suggested Rating:

PG-13



# Main Characters

- Lucas (M, 18)** – Smart and introverted, Lucas knows he wants more in life but doesn't always act on it, including his pursuit of romance. But, when he summons the courage, anything is possible.
- Dad (M, 50)** – Owner of a once prosperous Vineyard, Dad now finds himself and his farm at the bottom of a bottle. He tries to be a good father, but his alcoholism makes him violent and irritable.
- Sam (F, 18)** – A happy extrovert, Sam enjoys her first time living away from her overbearing parents. She can finally have fun and romance, but her freedom reveals how important family is to her.
- Bret (M, 18)** – A laid back stoner, trying to be cool, but isn't. He gives Lucas a hard time, but is actually a good friend with good advice.
- Janie (F, 18)** – Starting off studious and unemotional, she slowly learns how to loosen up and let fun in her life.
- Randy (M, 18)** – A ball of nervous energy. As a follower, he means well and tries to fit in. Even by growing weed to show off.
- Gwen (F, 24)** – She has a green thumb, a wild spirit, and contagious positivity. A borderline hippy, she cares more about people than the rules.

# Supporting Characters

**Grandpa Saturno (M, 70)**

**Mom (F, 45)**

**Professor Robinson (M or F, 40)**

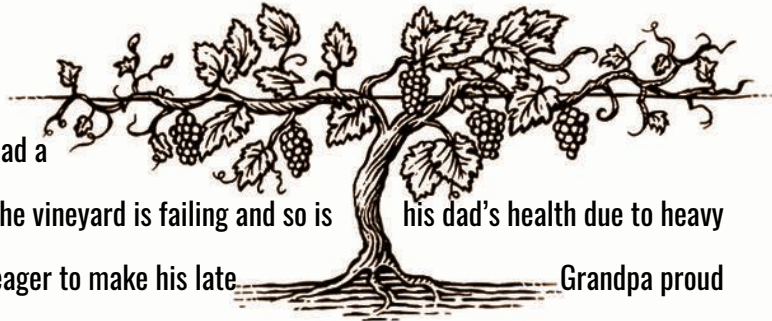
**Administrator (F, 50)**

**Professor 101 (M, 55)**

# The Story:

Luke just turned 18 and has been working on his father's vineyard his whole life. The two had a close relationship until a car accident took the life of his Mom and Grandpa but spared Luke. Now the vineyard is failing and so is his dad's health due to heavy drinking. As Luke nears the end of high school, he is determined to leave his small town and farm, eager to make his late Grandpa proud by attending his alma mater, WA-U; however, Luke's dad sees it differently and expects Luke to stay on the farm. When Luke's college Acceptance Letter comes in the mail, his father secretly destroys it. Luke is devastated by his assumed "rejection" from the only school he applied to, the one he had his heart set on. With no choice, he reluctantly works the field, as his father's alcoholism intensifies. Luke is berated constantly and gets in physical fights with his dad, until one night, he is blamed for the death of his Grandpa and Mom. Fed up, Luke decides to break all ties with his father and storms off the farm in a rage. Feeling lost, Luke gathers strength and goes to the one place he had planned on going all along: WA-U.

Not being enrolled in the school, Luke is cautious on campus; however, with class sizes of 500 students or more, he's able to discreetly sit-in and participate. He fashions a small, hidden area in one of the Science Buildings to be his bedroom. Only knowing his way around a vineyard, Luke takes classes focused on agriculture and science. A friendly TA, Gwen, becomes privy to his secret, but is impressed with Luke's knowledge and experience, so offers to grade Luke's tests and homework. Incorporating his course studies with his farm knowledge, Luke conducts groundbreaking experiments regarding sustainable soil, but keeps his work to himself. He becomes friends with likeminded undergrads and develops a romance with fellow freshman Science Major, Sam. The group of friends get involved in a semester-long science project that's part of a Nation-wide University Competition. The group's project becomes favored to win for the first time ever in WA-U history, potentially saving the School's science funding.







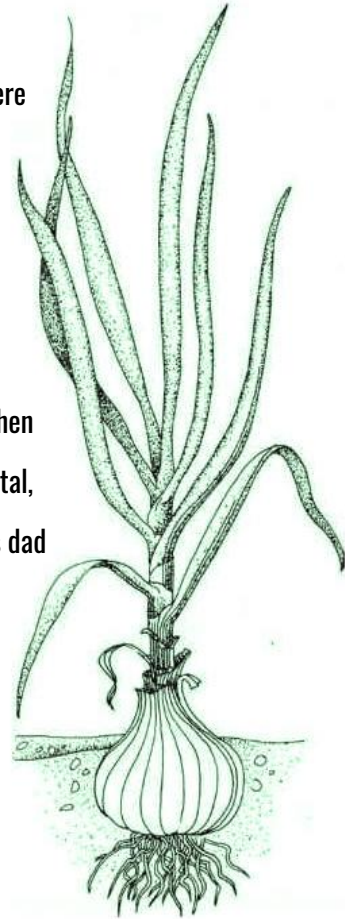
The night before the competition, while Luke is out with his girlfriend, a faulty outlet in his makeshift bedroom catches fire. The next morning, Luke and his girlfriend come upon the Science Building's smoldering ashes. A firefighter questions Luke, and informs him that they have evidence of Luke's belongings. Luke is detained by police and confesses that he had been living there and is not actually a student of WA-U. His friends and girlfriend are completely shocked. They feel betrayed by his secret and dejected because their prized project is amongst the smoking rubble. Without evidence of foul-play, Luke is released from questioning, but is banned from stepping foot on campus ever again.

Knowing he's a pariah, Luke leaves WA-U and wanders aimlessly through the city, ending up in a rundown tavern that doesn't ID. His first time in a bar, he orders a glass of wine, naturally. An old drunkard hears out Luke's tale and convinces him to call his dad. Luke is a bit nervous but relieved to hear, "Hello?" on the other end. Except it's not Luke's dad, it's his neighbor who reveals that his father had a stroke and is in the hospital. Luke runs out of the bar and takes a bus back home.

Upon arriving at the hospital, Luke is told that his father is in a coma and will remain that way for quite some time. Lost, hopeless, and alone, Luke sits by his father's bedside and waits.

Three weeks later, Luke's WA-U friends show up and surprise him. They tracked him down to let him know his private experiments were found and his hypothesis was proven correct. Sam suggests he apply the techniques to the vineyard. With a new appreciation for agriculture and the science behind soil, Luke takes Sam and his friends to the farm. He discovers that his soil treatments make his farm a viable place for different crops and, since the vineyard has been fueling his father's alcoholism, Luke decides to convert it into an onion farm.

Shortly after, Luke learns that he actually did get accepted to WA-U, and that the school wants to congratulate him on his major advances in botany by giving him a scholarship. With a new lease on life, he and his friends go back to school and finish out their first year. When summer hits, they return to Luke's Onion Farm excited to prep the new crop. By the end of summer, when Luke's father returns from the hospital, he is blown away by the new farm, overwhelmed with humility and gratitude for everything Luke has done. At last, Luke feels at peace with his dad and home; he can't imagine why he'd ever want to leave. The transformation of the vineyard sparks the road to recovery for Luke's father and their relationship. All they both had to do was go Off The Vine.





# Theme Board





# Screenplay Locations:

## **INT. High School**

(Gymnasium, Hallway) - 6 pages

## **EXT. Vineyard**

(Farming, Vines) - 11.5 pages

## **INT. House** - 29 pages

(Freddy's Living Room - 5 pages)

(Freddy's BedRoom - 2 pg)

(Lucas' Farm House Living Room & Farm House Dining Room - 5 pg)

(Dad's Farm House Home Office - 1 pg)

(Lucas' Farm House BedRoom - 3 pg)

(Sam's College BedRoom - 1 pg)

(INT/EXT. Bret's College House - 8 pg)

(INT/EXT. Party Houses + Frat Roof - 4 pg)

## **INT/EXT. Bus Terminal** - .5 page

**INT. Bus** - .5 page

**INT. Car** - 3 pages

## **EXT. Washington University "WA-U"**

(Campus, Bus Stop, Quad, Stadium) - 22 pages

## **INT. WA-U**

(Lab Room, Lab BedRoom, Hallway, Lecture Hall, Classroom, GreenHouse) - 18 pages

## **INT. College Coffee Hut** - 2 pages

**INT. Dean's Office** - 4 pages

**INT. Tavern** - 3.5 pages

**INT/EXT. Hospital** - 3 pages

## Reference Map:



\*the story is not dependent on this specific location.



# Author's Bio

Raised in Seattle, Paris Dylan always had a knack for storytelling. You could find him putting on shows at school, creating videos for friends and family, and writing lyrics for a successful rock band. He graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Arts in Comparative Literature and Communication.

Since moving to LA, Paris has written 8 produced films and recently won three “BEST SCREENPLAY” Awards. In total, his films have garnered over 20 Wins and Nominations from prestigious Contests and Film Festivals, including Nice Int'l Film Festival, Seattle, LA, and Sydney Fests. He also has written for FullScreen, the IFC network, sketch shows with Andy Dick and his own Talk Show, '[PARIS in LA](#)'. In addition to writing, Paris has received positive attention for Directing, Producing, and Acting, lately starring in his own and others' films that have placed at a variety of festivals including Sundance. Paris continues to find consistency as a sought-after multi-talented working actor and filmmaker in the unpredictable world of Hollywood.

Screenplay: Off The Vine  
WGA Register: #1937141

[LOOK MOM media](#)  
Los Angeles, CA 90026  
[ParisDTalent@Gmail.com](mailto:ParisDTalent@Gmail.com)  
[www.parisdylan.com](http://www.parisdylan.com)

