TELENOVELA UTOPIA

A 360 soap opera





Logline: A soap opera set in the spa/hotel called Utopia somewhere in the future where people can teleport and read minds using quantum mechanics.

Descriptive paragraph: By using the tone, tropes and structure of a soap opera/ telenovela we want to explore what kind of dramaturgy, character identification and suspense is possible to create within a 360-format.

The narrative will be based around relationship problems and personal growth. We will both use personal experience, other soap opera scripts and the specific site and history of Lourinhã and Obidos to develop a short story we can film in two days at location.

"A telenovela survives precisely on emotion, conflict and the identification of the audience with the characters, the plot and the universe portrayed"

Synopsis:

When Cariña comes back to her old home town after finishing her Master's in Drama school she has to help her mother out running the local spa hotel called Utopia. Soon she discovers that things are not that easy...

Creators statement: We want to explore and problematize what a Utopia can be by doing a collaborative project with new media tools. By using the soap opera as a format we want to highlight the fact that even though we can imagine a wind and solar energized society where you eat insects and communicative through quantum physical powers we will still have to deal with personal relationships and the obstacles that we put up for ourselves.

Technical aspects: 360-camera, regular camera, camera stand, Zoom recorder, cavalier mic, computer for editing.

Some scenes and pick ups (such as car scenes) can also be done later on through green screen and other studio solutions.

TELENOVELA UTOPIA CHARACTERS

An overview over possible characters in the small village/hotel spa and their different wants and obstacles. This is just a starting point for creating conflict and develop characters. Other stuff will of course happen!

Cariña

Just finished her master's in drama school in the big city. She moved back to stay with her mother while she is figuring out her next step.

Wants: to find a purpose and a job.

Obstacle: not finding jobs in acting and her old friend which turns enemy.

Resolution: creating her own job or changing dream

Cariñas old friend

The one that stayed behind. Never dared to follow her/his/their own dreams and is now very envious of Cariñas free and open lifestyle. She/he/they is working with growing insects but secretly wants to be an actor too and plans to ruin Cariñas life and take her place in an audition by poising Cariñas through a special insect and doing face surgery to look like Cariña.

Wants: To become a famous person

Obstacle: No education or professional experience

Resolution: To take Cariñas place and/or getting into jail/becoming famous criminal.

Cariñas mother

Is busy taking care of the hotel spa Utopia where she is a real boss and matriarch. She offers people both poor and rich good treatments using psychic powers and rare insect food.

Wants: to let her daughter take over the business so she can retire and focus on growing an insect farm.

Obstacles: Daughter does not want to.

Resolution: Finding someone else to do it, or sell the business...

Cariñas mothers boyfriend

A life loving sybarite that helps out with mechanical stuff at the hotel and is secretly in love with the pool guy.

Wants: to get together with the pool guy.

Obstacles: not talking to Cariñas mother about it.

Resolution: being honest with his feelings and ask the pool guy out.

Cariñas and Cariñas mothers psychologist

A psychologist that gives advice online to the family. She has been with the family for too long but she gets good money out of it. Or whatever currency you use in the future. And she has also grown fond of the daughter, maybe a little too fond?!

Wants: to have a breakthrough with her clients Obstacles: Developed feelings for the daughter

Resolution: Quit her job and come to live at the hotel or guit the family?