

FOOLSCAP GLOBAL STORY GRID – © Shawn Coyne

GLOBAL GENRE: Western > Transition	
External Genre: Western > Transition	
External Value at Stake: Freedom/Subjugation	
Internal Genre: Worldview > Maturation	
Internal Value at Stake: Sophistication/Naiveté	
<p>Obligatory Scenes: An inciting attack by the villain or environment, Hero sidesteps responsibility to take action, Forced to leave ordinary world, the hero lashes out, Discovering and understanding the macguffin (the villain’s object of desire), Hero’s initial strategy to outmaneuver the Villain fails, Hero, realizing they must change their approach to salvage some form of victory, reaches an “All Is Lost” moment, The Showdown, where the Hero and the Villain face off: the central event of the Western story and what the reader is waiting for. It’s the moment when the Hero’s gift is expressed, The Hero’s sacrifice is Rewarded.</p>	
<p>Conventions: Harsh, hostile, and wide-open landscape is a character, Hero, Victim, Villain: These three roles are clearly defined throughout the story, The hero’s object of desire is to stop the villain and save the victim, Hero operates outside the law (selectively or as a matter of course), The power divide between the hero and the villain is very large. The villain is far more powerful than the hero, Speech in Praise of the Villain.</p>	
<p><i>Specific to Transition Subgenre:</i> Hero is part of society at the beginning of the story and exiled from society by the end or Hero representing the old ways clashes with the newer more nuanced ways</p>	
Point of View: Third Person limited (inside the head of the narrator: Harvard dropout Will Andrews)	
<p>Objects of Desire Wants—Miller wants to hunt a large herd of buffalo only he knows exists. Needs—Miller needs to stop destroying his resources for profit.</p>	
Controlling Idea/Theme: Justice prevails when Miller, an uncompromising buffalo hunter sacrifices his way of life so society can move on without him.	

	External Charge	Internal Charge
Inciting Incident (causal/coincidental): Miller convinces Andrews to finance a buffalo hunting trip.	+	+
Turning Point Progressive Complication (Act/Rev): Schneider doesn’t want to go when he learns the hunting party is going to the mountains in Colorado.	-	n/a
Crisis (BBC/IG): Should Miller find another skinner, delaying their trip and risking bad weather in the mountains or convince Schneider to reconsider despite his unwillingness and potential to cause problems on the hunt.	?	?
Climax: Miller convinces Schneider by saying he wanted the best and that Schneider was the best.	+	-
Resolution: The hunting party makes final preparations before leaving for the Rockies.	+	-

		External Charge	Internal Charge
	Inciting Incident (causal/coincidental): The hunting party heads west for the Rockies to find buffalo.	+	+
	Turning Point Progressive Complication (Act/Rev): An autumn blizzard traps the hunting party in the mountains.	-	+
	Crisis (BBC/IG): Should Miller (and the hunting party) wait in the mountains until spring so they can carry as many hides as they can back to Butcher's Crossing or should they head down the mountains without the hides before winter sets in and they can't leave.	?	?
	Climax: Miller decides the hunting party will wait out the winter and leave with as many hides as they can carry in the spring.	-	+
	Resolution: As the party crosses a river at the foot of a mountain, a log crashes into the wagon of hides, sending them all down the river and killing Schneider in the process.	-	-
		External Charge	Internal Charge
	Inciting Incident (causal/coincidental): Miller, Andrews, and Charley Hoge return to find Butcher's Crossing mostly abandoned	-	-
	Turning Point Progressive Complication (Act/Rev): McDonald has no money to buy the hides waiting to be collected in the mountains because the market for them has crashed and ruined his business.	-	-
	Crisis (BBC/IG): Should Miller preserve his way of life or sacrifice his way of life for the benefit of society.	?	?
	Climax: Miller sets fire to McDonald's shack and buffalo hides	-	+
	Resolution: Miller's act of destruction followed by his riding off into the darkness on a dying horse, signify the end of his way of life (buffalo hunting) in a society that no longer values that way of life.	-	+