

The background is a yellow and green checkerboard pattern. A vertical grey line runs down the left side, and a horizontal grey line runs across the top, intersecting at the left edge. Along the top and bottom edges, there are rows of yellow squares with rounded corners, resembling film sprocket holes.

**One humiliating day.
One harebrained offer.
One shot at something more.**

SIX DEGREES OF TED



An Original Short Screenplay by Rita Hanner-Ward



Logline & Synopsis

LOGLINE

After losing his job, a humiliated car salesman with an unfortunately infamous name is pulled into a reckless sting by a bold stranger – forcing him to choose between the life he knows and the one he never imagined.

SYNOPSIS

Ted, an overachieving Toyota salesman saddled with the world's most unfortunate name, is having the worst morning of his career – a botched sale, a humiliating mishap, and a brawl that costs him his job. His home life isn't faring much better, and a pair of petty thugs in a beat-up Yugo seem determined to make things worse.

Enter Sally, a sharp-tongued theater major with a flair for chaos, who barrels into Ted's unraveling day armed with a fake badge, a prop gun, and a plan he never asked for. What follows is a misadventure that jolts Ted out of the life he's been sleepwalking through and into something far stranger, funnier, and more alive than he ever expected.

As the day spirals, Ted is forced to confront what he truly wants – and whether he's finally ready to reach for it.

The background of the slide features a light gray field with a pattern of small white dots. On the left and right sides, there are large, dark gray silhouettes of a man and a woman, respectively, facing away from the viewer. A bright cyan rectangular box is centered at the top, containing the title and character names. Below the cyan box, a solid yellow horizontal band spans the width of the slide, containing character descriptions and names.

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Main Characters

Ted

A mid-life, stick-in-the-mud Toyota salesman who clings to traditional roles and the status he's earned. Ambitious but emotionally stagnant, he's stuck in a rut he can't see.

Sally

A brash, sharp-tongued theater major whose world is pure improv and risk-taking. Restless and intuitive, she becomes the catalyst who blows open Ted's carefully controlled life.

Writer/Creator

Rita Hanner-Ward is a screenwriter and contemporary American author whose work centers on emotionally grounded, character-driven storytelling. She writes drama and dark comedy shaped by transformation and reconciliation, with a restrained visual sensibility that honors the spaces between words.

Additional Screenwriting Recognition

Dramatic Feature – What We Leave Unsaid

- Finalist – Wiki Screenplay Contest
- Semifinalist – Santa Barbara International Screenplay Awards
- Quarterfinalist – Scriptation Showcase
- Quarterfinalist – Palm Springs Diversity Screenplay Contest
- Honorable Mention – FaithFest

Dramatic Feature – Being Joanna

- Quarterfinalist – Page Turner Screenplays international Competition
- Official Selection – 2026 Berlin International Screenwriting Festival
- Official Selection – StoryPros International Screenplay Contest

Comedy Short – The Pillar

- Best Short Screenplay - Wiki Screenplay Contest

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Rita Hanner-Ward creates internationally set romantic-suspense fiction under the Kiva Wolfe™ fiction brand, bringing a strong sense of voice, atmosphere, and narrative tension to her screenwriting.

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THANK YOU

for your time and consideration!

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