

# GET SHORTY

## Screenplay Analysis Report

Screenplay by Scott Frank - Based on the novel by Elmore Leonard

# 1. Overview

Logline: When a cool Miami loan shark heads to Hollywood to collect a debt from a washed-up producer, he discovers the film business is just another racket and realises his own life might be the best story of all.

Genre: Crime comedy / Hollywood satire

Location Setting: Primarily Miami and Los Angeles, mid-1990s

Top Keywords: loan shark, Hollywood, movie business, organised crime, satire, identity, showmanship, violence, aspiration, showdown

## 2. Script Score Grid

Character Development: 9/10

Plot Construction: 8/10

Dialogue: 10/10

Originality: 9/10

Emotional Engagement: 7/10

Theme and Message: 8/10

Pacing: 8/10

Structure: 8/10

Market Potential: 9/10

Overall Score: 8.7/10 (weighted)

### 3. What's Working

- Chili Palmer is an immediately iconic protagonist.
- Dialogue is sharp, character-specific, and economical.
- Strong collision of criminal and Hollywood worlds.
- Memorable set-pieces with strong comic tone.
- Ensemble characters all have distinct, playable attitudes.
- Script trusts the audience to keep up.
- Balanced tone between crime tension and comedy.

## 4. Areas for Development

- Emotional arcs are relatively light.
- Female roles beyond Karen have limited agency.
- Some mid-Act Two overlap feels mechanical.
- Antagonistic pressure varies between scenes.
- Climax resolves briskly with little aftermath.

## 5. Major Character Analysis

### CHILI PALMER

Calm, sharp Miami loan shark discovering his talent as a producer.

### HARRY ZIMM

Desperate B-movie producer, chaotic but energetic.

### KAREN FLORES

Actor tired of horror work, grounded and perceptive.

### RAY 'BONES' BARBONI

Hot-headed Miami mobster, insecure and violent.

### BO CATLETT

Smooth LA operator, crime-financed 'producer'.

### MARTIN WEIR

Successful but insecure star, easily swayed by ego.

## 6. Plot Summary

In Miami, loan shark Chili Palmer works collections for mob boss Momo. A feud with Ray Bones escalates, and Chili is soon sent after a man who faked his own death to collect insurance.

The trail leads Chili to Las Vegas and then to Los Angeles, where he confronts struggling producer Harry Zimm. Rather than violence, Chili ends up pitching a film idea.

Drawn into Hollywood, Chili encounters Bo Catlett, Karen Flores, and actor Martin Weir as he tries to secure a movie deal.

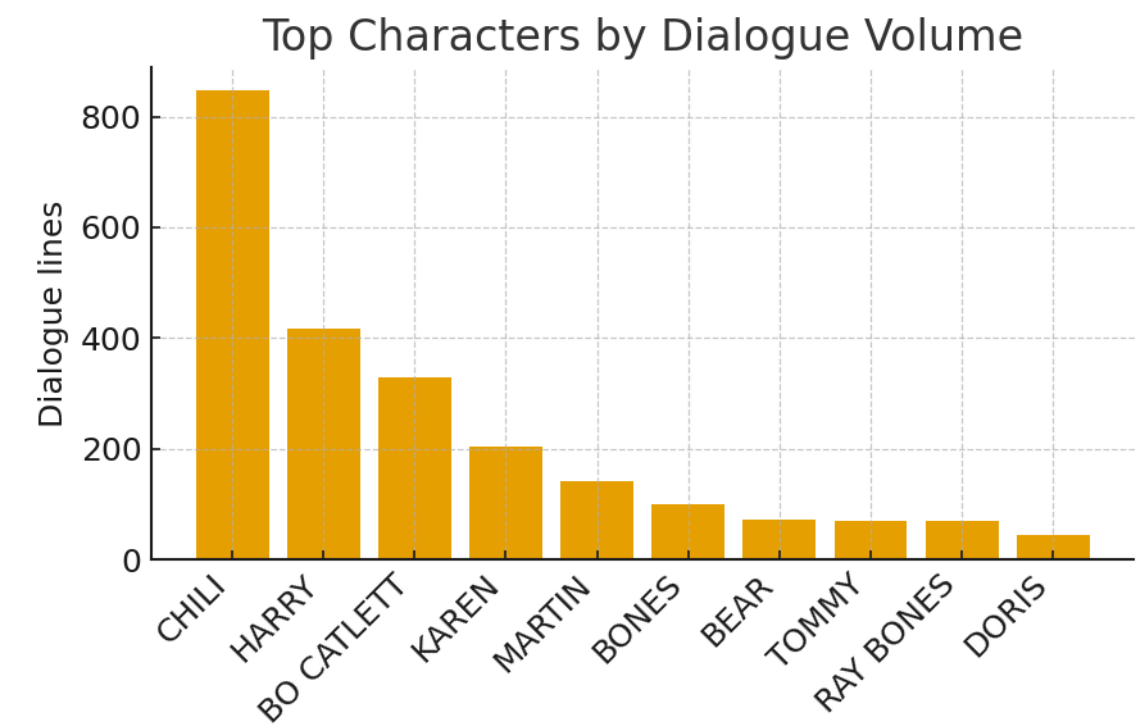
A suitcase of money becomes the centre of a power struggle involving Bo, Ray, and other criminals.

Chili manoeuvres through threats and egos until he secures the film's future and neutralises the criminal pressure.

By the end, Chili has reinvented himself as a Hollywood producer, having used the same instincts that kept him alive in Miami.

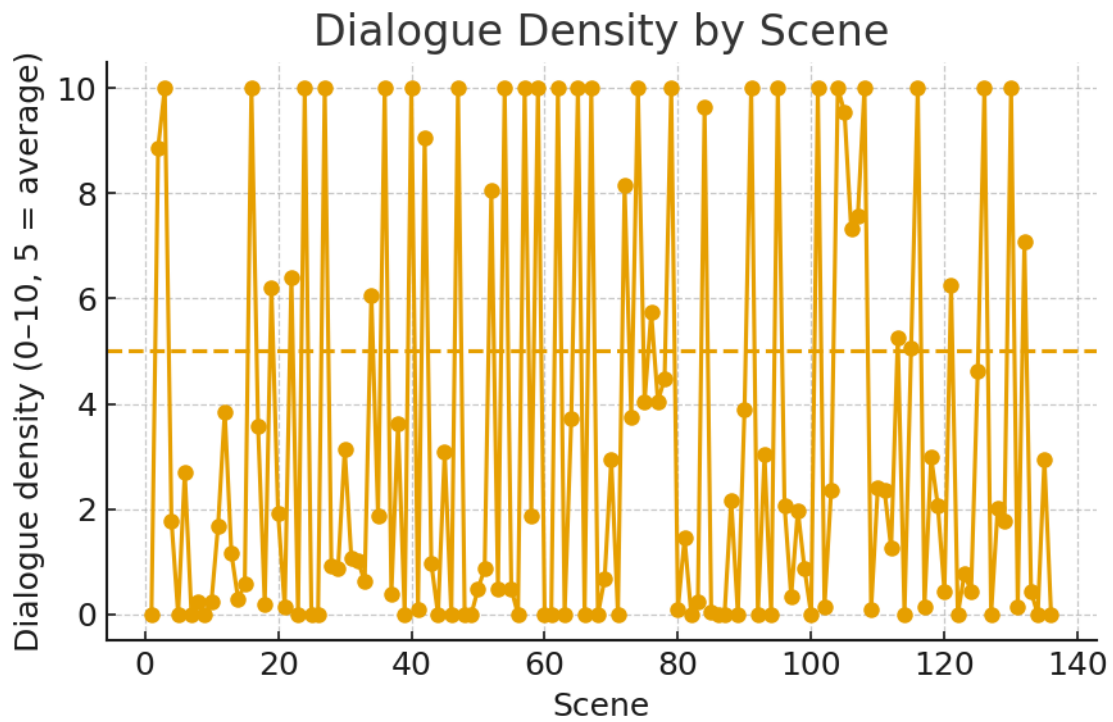
# 7. Visual Data and Graphs

Graph A - Top Characters by Dialogue Volume



Graph B - Dialogue Density by Scene





Graph C - Emotion / Action / Dialogue Curve

