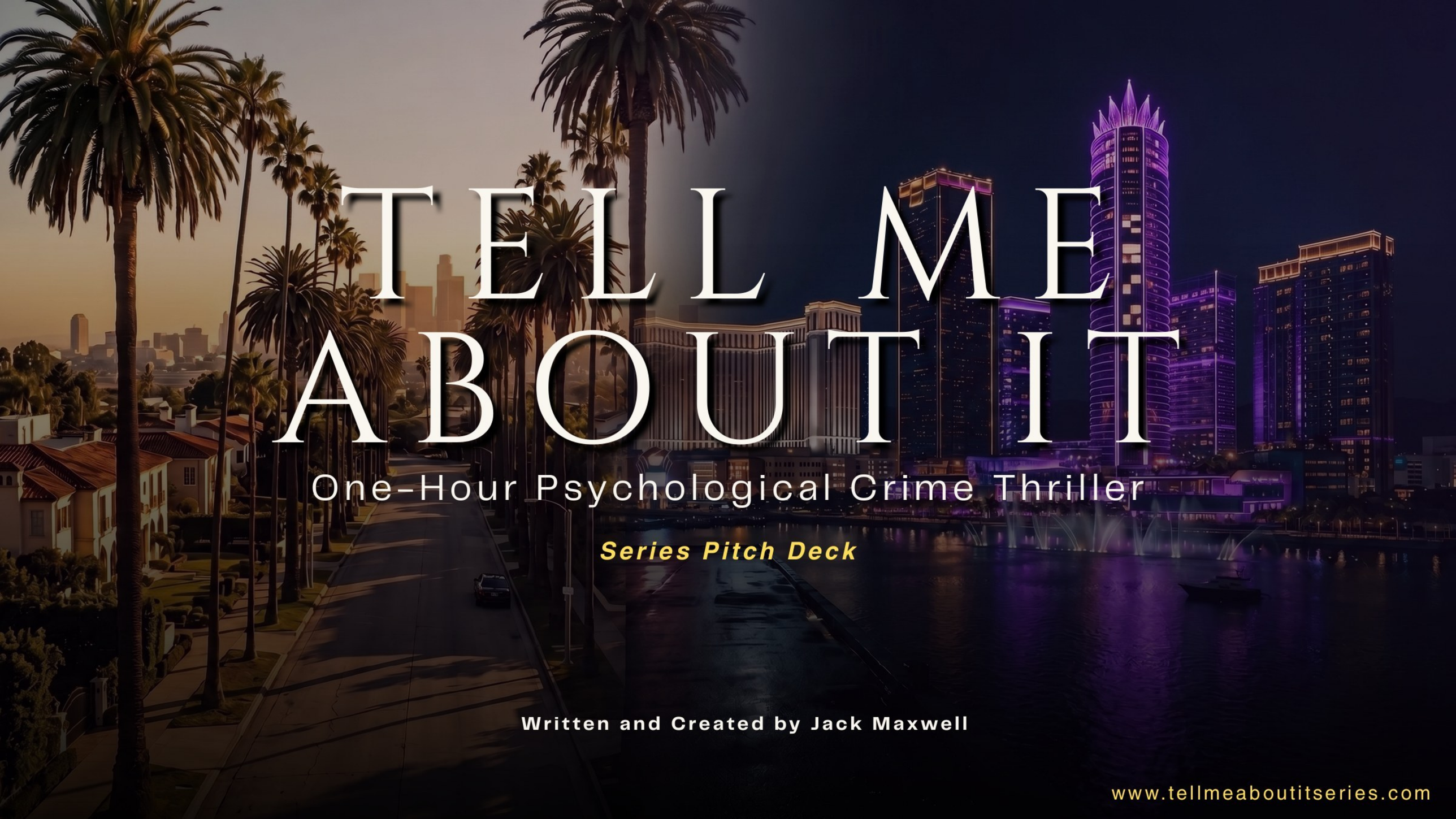


TELL ME ABOUT IT

One-Hour Psychological Crime Thriller

Series Pitch Deck

Written and Created by Jack Maxwell

www.tellmeaboutitseries.com

LOGLINE

To protect his six-year-old daughter from the mob, a gifted but gambling-addicted therapist who can make people tell the truth must expose the traitor inside a Macau casino empire.



THE SERIES ENGINE

THE EPISODE

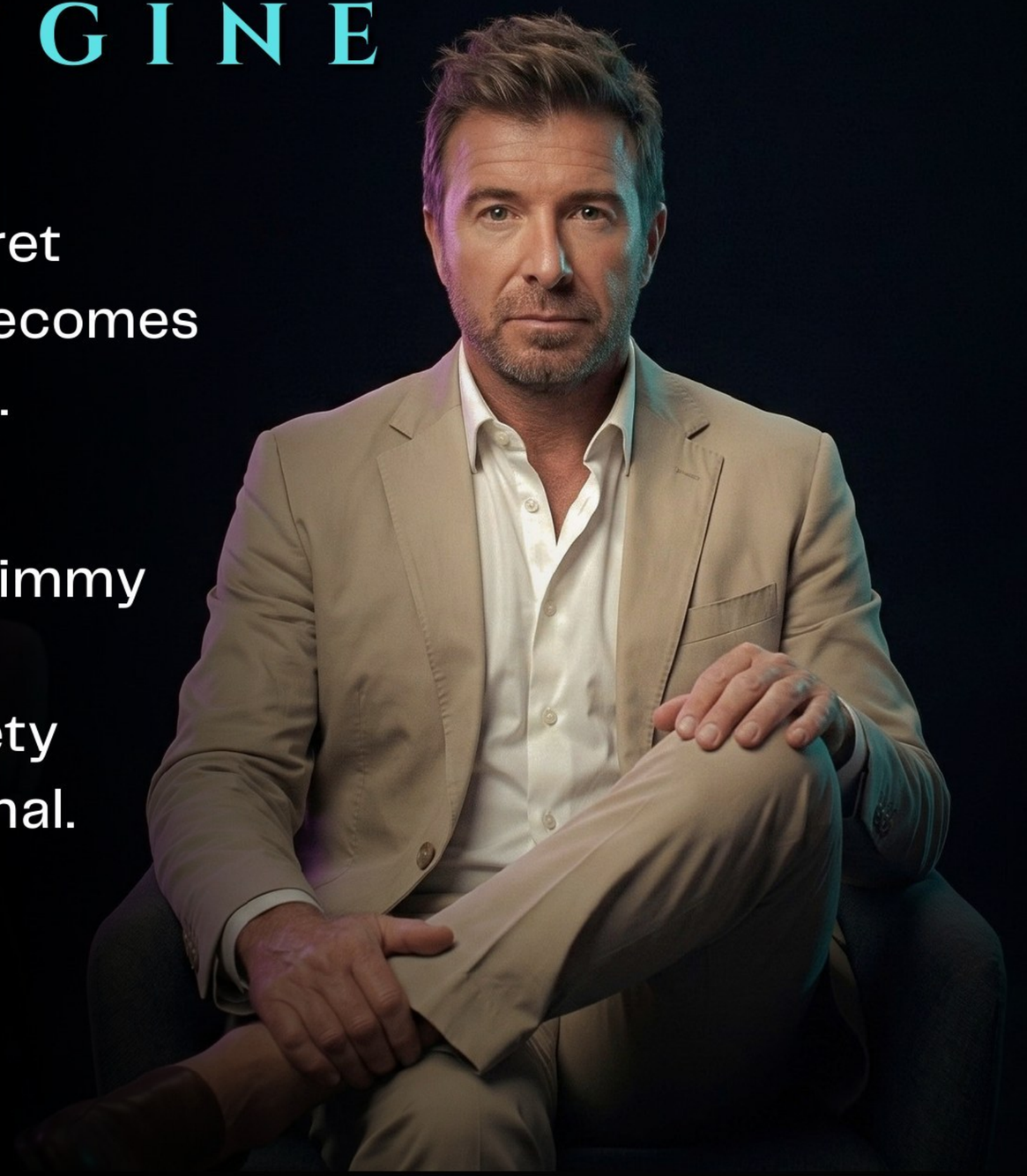
Mac Allen uses therapy to uncover a secret inside Ho Chan's world. What he learns becomes leverage—and creates a new human cost.

THE SEASON

Mac investigates the casino theft while Jimmy Flynn's hidden agenda, Tina Flynn's disappearance, and daughter Ruby's safety make the assignment increasingly personal.

THE ESCALATION

Every session becomes a confession.
Every confession, a tell.



WHY THIS STORY?

WHY ME

I traveled to about sixty countries and a dozen different states as host of Travel Channel's Booze Traveler. I learned that people will tell you almost anything when you are truly interested in listening. That instinct became Mac Allen.

WHY NOW

We live amid oversharing, surveillance, and manufactured transparency. Empathy can connect us, but it can also be a weapon.

THE HUMAN QUESTION

Mac can see everyone's wound but his own. Does insight give us the right to use people? Can a damaged man with that kind of power choose not to use it?

TONE & AUDIENCE



THE INTIMACY OF THERAPY.
THE DANGER OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME THRILLER.

TONE

Elevated neo-noir. Tense, human, consequence-driven danger. Dark humor emerges from Mac's wit and dangerous people trying to sound reasonable.

AUDIENCE

For viewers drawn to morally complicated protagonists, intimate character work, and escalating serialized suspense. Individual sessions provide an entry point; the conspiracy rewards long-term viewing.

COMPARABLES







OZARK

A compromised father forced into a dangerous situation to protect his family.

THE SOPRANOS

Therapy,
Moral complexity.

THE NIGHT MANAGER

An innocent outsider must infiltrate the world of a powerful criminal.

THE WORLD

LOS ANGELES

A ruined practice. Unresolved love.
A daughter he fears losing.
A mob debt he cannot pay.

MACAU

Chinese tradition, Portuguese history, and extreme wealth meet inside Ho Chan's private casino kingdom: Queen's Palace.



THE PROTAGONIST

MAC ALLEN

BEHAVIORAL THERAPIST · FATHER · GAMBLING ADDICT

A disgraced behavioral therapist with an extraordinary ability to read human behavior. Mac reads the fears, wounds, and behavioral tells people try to conceal—and uses that insight to draw out the truth. Yet he struggles to face his own addiction and guilt.



THE COUNTERWEIGHT

MARIA GARCIA

FBI AGENT · FORMER LOVE

Mac’s former partner and the one person he can’t read.

WHAT SHE HIDES

An FBI agent and crisis negotiator caught between professional duty and unresolved love. Maria’s composure conceals physical pain, private vulnerability and the cost of remaining close to Mac.



THE MIRROR

HO CHAN

GOING BLIND CASINO CEO · HUMAN LIE DETECTOR

Mac's powerful employer, intellectual equal, and unsettling mirror. The king of Queen's Palace reads people through pulse, breath, scent, movement, and silence.

WHAT CONNECTS THEM

Chan commands the room, but Mac can see his grief and knows how to use it.



THE THREAT

JIMMY FLYNN

FEATURING

TONY DENISON

MOB BOSS · FATHER · CAPTOR

Mac’s creditor and coercive handler. Jimmy controls people through fear, family, and debts they cannot repay; Ruby’s safety makes his assignment impossible to refuse.

WHERE HIS POWER LIES

He’s confined to a wheelchair. His muscle does the dirty work.



THE PROTECTOR

EDWIN LEE

DRIVER · PROTECTOR · FRIEND

Mac's Macau guide, reluctant protector, and first genuine human connection inside Chan's world.

WHAT DEFINES HIM

A scarred, disciplined driver whose intimidating appearance conceals warmth and profound loss. His yellow socks preserve the memory of someone he loved.



THE UNRESOLVED CASE

TINA FLYNN

THE MISSING PATIENT

Jimmy Flynn's teenage daughter fled her father's criminal life after confiding in Mac. Mac's refusal to expose her secrets is why Jimmy Flynn broke his back.

WHY SHE MATTERS

Her disappearance is the unresolved case that defines him—and a central mystery drawing the series forward.



THE LIFELINE

CHIEF ADAMO

FEATURING

MIKE STARR

LAPD CHIEF · DESPERATE FATHER

The authority figure who offers Mac a path to redemption — through his daughter, held at gunpoint.

WHY MAC?

He trusts Mac. What other choice does he have?





PILOT SUMMARY

READ THE PILOT SCRIPT

WGAw Registration 2346588

01 / LOS ANGELES

PILOT: THE GIFT

A CRISIS ONLY MAC CAN REACH

A police officer holds his wife at gunpoint. Mac reads the man's gambling tells and turns a hostage negotiation into a final, imagined hand.

The officer surrenders.

A GIFT WITH A COST

Mac's insight cannot repair his own life. His practice is damaged, his gambling debts remain, and Tina Flynn—the patient whose confidence he protected—has vanished.



02 / EVERYTHING HE LOVES

PILOT: THE LEASH

THE ASSIGNMENT

Flynn sends Mac to Queen's Palace in Macau to identify the insider stealing from Ho Chan. A photo of Mac's six-year-old daughter, Ruby, makes the consequence of refusal unmistakable. Flynn threatens Ruby's safety to force Mac's cooperation, while a separate custody battle threatens his place in her life.

THE PERSONAL COLLAPSE

News of a patient's suicide deepens Mac's guilt. Maria is pressured to turn him into an FBI asset, but follows him to Macau, unofficially.



03 / MACAU

PILOT: THE GAME

THE TEST

Chan tests Mac through pain, until a familiar scent exposes the casino king's grief. Mac sees the wound beneath his power—just as Chan reveals Maria is captive.

THE FINAL HOOK

Tina is alive in an Arizona trailer. Outside, an SUV carries an envelope marked "JF" and Maria's soil-crusted badge. A figure approaches. Tina hides under a table.





SEASON ONE | THE GIFT

10 ONE-HOUR EPISODES

THE INVESTIGATION

Therapy becomes an intelligence operation. Each session brings Mac closer to the casino's wounded employees, Chan's hidden vulnerabilities, and the betrayal beneath Queen's Palace.

THE EMOTIONAL ARC

Ruby's custody hearing, Tina's disappearance,and Maria's divided loyalties pull him back toward the life he is trying to recover. The people who need his gift also want to own it.



SEASON TWO | THE DEBT

10 ONE-HOUR EPISODES

A NEW MASTER

Mac returns with his license restored and a hero's reputation. Homeland Security threatens him with jail time for unpaid markers unless he gets cartel boss Pasco Rabanza to reveal the location of a hidden $10 million.

THE SAME MORAL TRAP

A promise to reunite Pasco with his family draws Mac into an operation, a prison escape, and a frame-up. Maria finds Tina alive at Queen's Palace while old loyalties and criminal debts keep closing in.

ORIGINAL TITLE TRACK

Tell Me About It

WRITTEN & PRODUCED BY
MICHAEL JOHN MONTELONGO

Written exclusively for the series, the theme song inhabits the space between confession and consequence: buried truths surface, control fractures, and every revelation carries a cost.

PLAY NOW



FESTIVAL CIRCUIT 2026

SEMIFINALIST
THE PAGE International Screenwriting Awards
2026

*TOP 25 of 1,402

SCRIPT COMPETITION SECOND ROUNDER
AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL
2026

QUARTERFINALIST
FINAL DRAFT BIG BREAK
2026

SEMIFINALIST
NASHVILLE FILM FESTIVAL
2026
SCREENWRITING COMPETITION

Filmmatic Screenplay Awards
OVERALL WINNER

Hollywood Just4Shorts
BEST TV SCRIPT

The Wiki Screenplay Contest
BEST PILOT SCRIPT

Cannes World Film Festival
BEST SERIES PILOT SCRIPT

Filmonaco
BEST PILOT EPISODE
BEST TV SCRIPT

Amsterdam Underground Cinefest
BEST TV PILOT

SWEDEN FILM AWARDS
BEST SCREENPLAY

Filmhaus
BEST TV SCRIPT
BEST THRILLER SCREENPLAY

Athvikvaruni International Film Festival
BEST TV SCRIPT

Cannes Script Festival
BEST TV SCRIPT





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