

*1hr Action-Drama Television Series*

## SERIES BIBLE



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# On The Nut

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From Cassell's Dictionary of Slang:

**nut** (nüt) n. **1** [20c+] (US) orig. entertainment use, the initial outlay, overheads, expenses; the break-even sum, as in a theatre production of film, after which profit starts. **2** [1920s+] (US) any required sum, a pay-off. **3** [1920s+] (US Und.) protection money paid to corrupt policeman. **4** [1970s] (US) a fund used for bribery and other illegal activities, esp. by police. **5** [1970s+] the sum of money actually borrowed, as opposed to the interest that accrues on it. [SE, nut, as being the heart of the fruit; such money is at the heart of a project, a relationship etc.]

“On the Nut” is an aggressive, character-driven **1 hour Action-Drama** about **Las Vegas Cab Drivers** hustling in the gritty underbelly of the city, using every scam they can to fill their pockets; doing whatever it takes to make their nightly “nut” -- aka, the minimal amount of money needed for their own survival and the survival of their families.



## *The Fundamentals:*

Although, the fundamental driving force of our series is the action-based excitement of living life in the dark recesses of society, it is the characters that provide the spine of the story.

Exploring themes of PRIDE, HONOR, and RESPECT, the characters constantly struggle between what is easy and what is right. The addition of strong family values will allow the audience to connect with each character on a personal level, despite their constant bad decisions and hustling.

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The characters will constantly be forced to choose between a life they know (bad) and a kind of life they want to live (good) -- this will add to the desire from the audience to see the characters succeed. When they occasionally do, the audience will cheer like a new parent watching their child's first steps. When they fail, as they often do, the audience will be left frustrated but already attached, as if seeing their young child fall each time they attempt to take a step. They will want to root for their success and yet will find the patience to work through their failures along side of them, hanging to the ever disappearing thread of hope that the characters change for the better.

### *The City:*

Las Vegas, Nevada -- whether you've been there or not, you mostly likely have an opinion about it. It's presence is undeniable: The lights. The music. The shows. The games. The girls. The city streets themselves are a playhouse for the wealthy and a level of hell for those for whom the beast consumes. Destroying the lives of many, enriching the lives of the few, Vegas lives and breaths her given name of "Sin City".

This story is not about the city you already know. This story is about the underground world, unnoticed by most but participated in by all. This story is about a hustle so great, if you have visited Las Vegas, you have already been a part of the scam. This is the story about the lives of those who live in the shadows -- the nameless and the faceless -- but yet the all knowing, the all seeing and the ones that actually run the city: the Las Vegas Cab Drivers.

### **THE CHARACTERS:**

#### **Las Vegas:**

Called Sin City for a reason, Las Vegas survives on the Sins of humans. She feeds off their PRIDE, their ENVY, their GLUTTONY, their LUST, their ANGER, their GREED and even their SLOTH. Las Vegas is a place where the rich come to get richer, the poor end up poorer and everyone that crosses your path has their own goals and desire in mind. The entire city is the greatest hustle ever pulled, disguise as a hedonistic

good time. The friendliness of their customer service is just a facade meant to take your money and send you back home lost, broke and dejected but with a glimpse of possible glory that will keep you coming back time and time again. Vegas takes your pride and keeps your secret.

### **Cary Steele:**

Former Prince of Vegas, Cary was born into a powerful Casino Family, The Steele's, who own the oldest casino on the strip, The Pegasus. Cary was raised to take charge of the family's business, but his high-powered days of being a Casino Boss are behind him. Excommunicated from the family for suspected drug ring activity, Cary has been trying to clear his name for years. Only Cary's grandfather stands by him, knowing in his heart the truth that Cary would never jeopardize the family business. Cary must discover who set him up in order to get back to the life he wants; the life he feels he deserves.

While trying to uncover who set him up (and how to clear his name with his family), he accepts a job offer from his childhood friend James, the owner of Showdown Taxi Cab Company. As a cab driver, Cary knows he can make money hustling on the side and can keep a close eye on the Casino and his brother, whom he suspects has a part in his downfall.

Although, he is our main character, he is not our true hero as he does not change. He knows who he is and what his values are. He also knows that in time, the truth will be discovered and his name will be cleared. His young daughter, Leela, is the most important thing in the world to him and provides a grounding center for his life -- He'll be damned if he lets her grow up thinking the worst of her father. His pride is what will either save him or destroy him.

### **Aaron Timmons:**

Our story's true hero, Aaron, is the rookie kid who was came to Las Vegas with his girlfriend, Brittany, to fulfill her dreams not his. His dreams of success died a long time ago with an injury that ended his college football career. For the first time in his

life, he is directionless and on a downward spiral heading straight towards becoming a pathetic loser. No longer able to skirt through life now that he is a nobody, he tries to drown his pride in the bottom of a whiskey bottle while his successful girlfriend supports them both. He is the definition of deadbeat -- jobless, hopeless, alcoholic -- even his hygiene is slipping.

He is drowning in a sea of lies and hard alcohol when he's sent by Brittany to her Uncle James, the owner of Showdown Taxi Cab Co., who graciously gives him a job and forces him upon Cary to learn the ropes. Through his time with Cary, he quickly learns what it means to be a man, gaining his confidence as well as lining his pockets.

His troubles double with the increase of money and power. With success comes a crippling pressure and he will lose everything he gains. The audience will watch his downfall with the hopes of salvation in the end. As the true hero, Aaron will be the one to go through the most change and he is the second main character of our story.

### **Salvador (Sal):**

A long time friend of the Steele family, Salvador (Sal) got his start working as a limo driver in the rat pack days. Now a fellow cab driver at Showdown, Sal has seen the world change from one of old school respect to one of modern day gangsters and utter chaos. He's a old time mobster who's love affair with the bottle and young women have left him broken, in both spirit and wallet. Over the years he has become a father figure to the lost girls on the streets -- too broken themselves to make it as high class escorts in the casinos, so they work the dingy downtown corners. Long ago, he lost his daughter to the streets and has been tragically trying to save every young girl since which gets him in constant trouble with the pimps of the city. Cary has known Sal for a long time and although Cary can't steer the old man back from his current path, he has a bountiful amount of respect for the him and tries as best as he can to watch out for him. Sal is all about respect and the old school ways of doing things. Modern pimps don't care much for the social rules of mobsters and play by a different and more dangerous set of rules.

**Mondo:**

Young and charismatic, Mondo is a quintessential lady's man. His charming demeanor has allowed him to skirt through life with ease. Despite this easy life, Mondo has a bit of an aggressive fire that burns deep within, seemingly leftover from his former boxing days. Often this anger will bubble to the surface, erupting at the wrong place and time. Mondo's the "get shit" guy -- with many connections to the Mexican mafia gang-bangers, he can acquire practically anything from coke, to guns, to fake IDs, and if he doesn't have something that he certainly knows a guy that knows a guy. He has put his trust in Cary to bring him with him out of the ghetto and into the glorious lifestyle Cary's from and working hard to get back to. However, with a spitfire of a wife and five young kids to care for, he has to hustle now to support them. His passions spill over and he can't stay faithful to his wife -- the near constant troubles put a strain on his relationship. His biggest fear is losing his family.

**James:**

Current owner of Showdown Taxi Company, James has run his family business into the ground with greed and poor management skills. As the original and longest running cab company in Las Vegas, James' family and the Steele family were quite close. He and Cary grew up together running loose on the casino floors, where they both quickly learned how to hustle. When Cary was excommunicated from his family, James took him in and gave him a job as a cab driver. James' greed controls him and soon the truth of James' role in Cary's set up and disgrace within his family is revealed -- James was involved in the set up and has been playing Cary for a fool. When the truth is discovered, James becomes one of Cary's greatest enemies.

**Tobias:**

Brother to Cary, he has taken over the reins at Pegasus Casino. After spending his life living in the shadow of his older brother, he now enjoys the full benefits of Cary's ousting. Come to find out later in the series that it's Tobias (along with James) that set Cary up in order to have the powerful role in the family to himself. Cary learns

this and demands he come clean as respect is earned not stolen. Tobias refuses but soon the truth will come out. Cary being a respectable man in the old school manner would never rat on his brother but puts an obscene amount of pressure on him while waiting for him to make a fateful mistake.

**Rita:**

Dispatcher for the Cab company, Rita is full of life, full of energy and full of smiles. She considers all the drivers her children and they in turn, see her as a motherly figure. She becomes a voice of reason for Cary, often times coming through on the CB radio with meaningful messages that try to help steer the guys on to the path of good. Not without her own demons, Rita is the unassuming narrator of the story. All knowing; All seeing.

**Leela:**

Daughter of Cary, she is innocence - pure and simple. Her goals are the simple security every child wants. Cary's goal is to save her -- not just from external forces but to also save her innocence and protect her from the gritty dirtiness of the world for as long as possible, and if he can achieve just one thing, its to make SURE she is NOT like her MOTHER.

**Jade:**

Oh boy, Jade. Former wife of Cary, she threatens his daughter's innocence. She is as bad as they come. A mother that has no issues carting innocent Leela off to the bar or leaving her unattended while she "visits with a friend upstairs" as she so often does. Jade is a high class escort and despite making a hefty sum with her business, she still demands more and more child support from Cary. Meanwhile, Leela is starting to really see her mother and the power she has with her sexuality which is causing Leela to mimic her oversexed mom. Not good. A twerk here, a booty slap there, Leela is at risk to becoming everything that's wrong with internet era children and her mom Jade is parenting at it's worst. But as far as the law is concerned, Jade is a better choice than convicted felon Cary.



**Brittany:**

Girlfriend to Aaron, she represents everything he is not -- successful. She is a source of conflict for Aaron. Not through her own actions (as she is clearly a good-hearted person who has been taken advantage of one too many times) but more as the external source of Aaron's inner demons' jealousy and everything he wants for himself. She is successful. She is making her way in the world while Aaron just flairs about in failure after failure. She unwittingly causes Aaron's emasculation, albeit not intentionally her doing, which further feeds Aaron's desires for greed and power, thus sending him down a darkened path.

**Steele Family -- Cary's Grandfather and Father:**

Cary's Grandfather is the only one that believes his innocence. His father wants nothing to do with him. All Cary ever wants is the approval and respect of his father.

**Frankie:**

Sal's hooker friend. He sees her as a daughter after losing his own to the streets a long time ago -- too drunk to notice, too stubborn in addiction to stop it. Saving Frankie represents saving his daughter. She gives him purpose, but it's a false sense of purpose since she's not looking to be saved by anyone, let alone an old man trying too hard to fill a fatherly role in her life -- a role she had let go long ago. Her antics lead to a lot of excitement and action in the first season of the show but she is not destined to live long.

**Mica:**

Cary's hooker friend who acts as a voice of reason. She is strong, despite her poor societal standards. She does things her way, takes care of herself and offers a point-blank take on life. She is the only one that understands Cary and will call him out on his flaws and mistakes. He respects her and she him. Much like 'Opie' in "Sons of Anarchy", she will die toward the mid-end of the series arc -- it will be a painful and shocking loss for both Cary and the audience. She will sacrifice herself to save him in a true and selfless act of love and respect.



## **WHAT WE WILL DELIVER EVERY HOUR:**

Each episode will follow the course of the nightly shift, taking the audience on a ride from beginning to middle to end for a specific event, crime or action/ change. Throughout each nightly shift (episode), the relationships of the characters will change -- both internally, as the characters fundamentally change who they are, to externally, as the nature of the relationships between the characters shift. Some events will permanently change our characters. New information will be learned, new choices will be made. We will put our characters through the ringer -- give them the true ups and downs of life. Some will die and some will be saved and as we journey further through the season, the stakes will become higher and our characters will be forced to deal with both internal and external forces working against them. They will either succeed or fail on the path to success -- not just monetary success but also in becoming a full and complete human being.

Cary's journey will lead him down a path of good -- which will earn him the true respect he seeks from both his peers and his righteous and powerful father. He will rise up from the lower centers of human consciousness -- survival, greed, power, money -- to the higher realms of consciousness with a large amount of balance and integrity that heals his soul and becomes an asset to the betterment of society and himself. Aaron will fail on his journey up to good and a higher consciousness; only reaching the middle of the rise before slipping back into sheer survival mode with a singular focus on how he can fill his pockets with cash in the quickest manner possible.

## **MUSIC:**

Music will be an integral part of each episode and will provide an underlying tone for each character; bridging the gap between old and new. We will use golden era blues from the 30's, 40's, 50's and 60's remixed with modern electronic beats to create a blood pumping soundtrack with heart and soul that will emphasize the similarities between the modern day hustler and old school gangster, focusing on our key theme:

**RESPECT.**

## **ACTION:**

These stories will be told through the use of high-octane action and intense drama -- from car chases to shoot outs, to bar brawls and scrappy hooker cat fights, to murder, drugs and sex -- all of which will keep the audience's excitement levels up while leaving them wanting more. They will be taken on a ride through every episode, and with each season the stakes become higher and higher.

Time-lapse will be an important tool for adding life to the city of Las Vegas and to speed up each episodes "shift". It will provide a visually interesting and exciting transition to the various plot lines.

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

To make an action-based television series popular to the point of becoming a part of society's day to day lives. To allow the average person a chance to live vicariously through our characters. To show what's behind the curtain in Sin City -- a place most have been to but few have seen.

This show has the potential to become a break-out hit. Today's popular television series have show an audience eagerly interested in the story of an anti-hero. They want to see the darkness and debauchery that is the other side of society. They want to look into the cracks, behind the alleys, and look behind the curtain to see life from an alternate perspective. The good in Cary, despite the nature of his business, will keep the audience coming back to root for him as their emotional investment in the character increases, while the downfall of Aaron, will tear their emotional centers apart, as each of the two main characters flip in their motivations and what they stand for.

## **THEMES:**

RESPECT: Must be earned.

FAMILY: Always comes first.

PRIDE: Will destroy you.

INNOCENCE: Must be protected.

### **SERIES ARC:**

For the series as a whole, the pending questions are:

1. Will Cary succeed in clearing his name, returning to a position of respect and be able to save his daughter's fleeting innocence.
2. Can Aaron overcome his greed in both money and power to find both purpose and wealth. He yearns for the kind of respect that Cary has but hasn't learned how to earn it by giving it. Instead he uses a false sense of power to get his way. In the end, this could be his downfall.

### **Season 1:**

- \* Cary finds out it was his brother Tobias that set him up to take the fall for the underground drug ring for which Tobias has been running from out of the Pegasus' kitchen.
- \* Aaron gets a taste of power via his new found skills as a hustler. The money starts going to his head.
- \* Brittany sees little power in the scams Aaron is pulling. Being a success in the gutter is still being in the gutter. She's risen high and is the lead dancer in a very popular burlesque show. Aaron doesn't care much for all of Brittany's attention. Especially from the rich and powerful men.
- \* Sal and Frankie are nothing but trouble for Cary and Aaron, but Sal's like family so the boys keep trying to help him.
- \* Frankie and Sal both perish by the end of the first season in a very steep arc into the darkness of desire and a losing war with the pimps on the street.

## Season 2:

- \* Cary gets close to proving his innocence but can't quite get the ends to meet. Mondo gets them in some hot water with the Mexican Mofia, so needless-to-say, Cary has more pending issues to attend to.
- \* Of course Aaron now has a drug problem and this leads to a violence problem. He has a rage in him and wants to take it out on the world. When it hits too close to home and he tosses Brittany around, it's the wake up call he needs to get help but the relationship is now completely broken.
- \* Mondo makes a huge mistake and lets his lust rule over him. His passions send him over the line and he gets into a physical altercation with Mica. Cary doesn't stand for men taking advantage of women, especially ones he considers family, regardless of a lack of blood relation. Cary protects and cares for Mica and seeks revenge on Mondo, kidnapping him for a week to teach him a lesson. Once Cary feels he has paid his punishment, Cary sets him free with no hard feelings between them. When Mondo finally returns to his family, his wife goes even more ballistic and the season ends with Mondo fighting for his life after being shot at point blank range through the head by the woman he's worked so hard to provide for.

## Season 3:

- \* With the death of Mondo in the beginning of Season 3, Cary is losing what little he has left, but his pride is finally paying off -- he's able to clear his name. Cary catches wind that James is in on the drug-running ring Tobias framed Cary for -- he waits for James to drop his guard before he can set things right in the old school mobster way.
- \* James senses Cary is on to him mid-way through the season and begins to manipulate Rita. Cary's losing his allies one by one -- finding himself feeling very lost as the control over the world he once had slips through his fingers.
- \* Cleaned up and making changes Aaron slips back down into despair after a car crash which leaves Brittany on life support. He's tossed aside as the family bicker about the

decision to pull the plug or not. Wrecked with guilt, although it is the other driver's fault, Brittany's family's hatred for Aaron keeps them from seeing the truth and they blame Aaron for destroying their daughter -- both physically in the car crash and symbolically through the poison that is their relationship.

#### **Season 4:**

\* Mica perishes in the final build up toward the last season. She's the last bit of sanity in Cary's life. When she tragically gets caught up and sacrifices herself for him, dying a slow and painful death, it is felt hard by both Cary and the Audience. With her gone, Cary feels lost and hopeless but he soon realizes his salvation is of his own doing and must fight for what he thinks is right or die trying. This is his big push towards the finish.

\* Aaron, as expected, falls to pieces with bad choice after bad choice.

#### **Season 5:**

\* Cary is finally successful in getting what he wanted -- his name cleared and his position at the casino returned while Tobias heads to prison to do his time.

\* James is destroyed and the cab company folds under the pressure of new ordinances put in place by the Taxi Cab Authority.

\* Aaron's more broken than he was when we started this journey with him and comes knocking around Cary's casino, homeless, penniless.

\* Cary has to decide whether to help Aaron out. Knowing the change he went through he takes him in, cleans him up and teaches him the difference between being a man and being a thug.

## NOTES on SYMBOLIC MEANINGS:

**ON THE NUT:** Next in Line. People speak of their monthly nut, meaning the minimum amount of money they need to pay all their bills and be able to eat, which matches the definition quoted. -- nut n.7 2 [20thC] (US) any required sum [nut as being the heart of the fruit ~ such money is at the heart of a project, a relationship, etc.] -- A former cabbie shares his favorite jargon, like “making your nut”.

**PEGASUS:** In mythology Pegasus was born from the blood when Perseus cut off Medusa’s head. Pegasus then lived roaming freely until Bellerophon caught him with a golden bridle given him by Athena. Bellerophon went through adventures such as the slaying of chimera with the help of Pegasus. But Bellerophon tried to ride Pegasus to Mount Olympus (Heaven) but Zeus caused Pegasus to throw him off and fall back to Earth. However Pegasus arrived at Mount Olympus where he served Zeus. **The symbolic meaning of this is that when the uncontrolled and undirected processes of thought and intellect are stilled, a new level of experience or energy is released. This new way of relating to sexuality or life energy can uplift or expand consciousness to the point where we arrive at cosmic consciousness. But the old human personality cannot manage this and falls away as a new being emerges.** Chimera, the destructive and illusory view of life arising from a purely sensory view of life, is killed in the process. <http://dreamhawk.com/dream-dictionary/pegasus/>

**SHOWDOWN:** In poker, after the last betting round, the players who remain in the pot must show their hands in the showdown to determine the winner. [http://www.ildado.com/casino\\_glossary03.html](http://www.ildado.com/casino_glossary03.html)