

Go Into The Story Interview: James Acker

[Scott Myers](#)

My interview with the 2020 Nicholl Fellowships in Screenwriting winner.

James Acker wrote the original screenplay "SADBOI" which won a 2020 Nicholl Fellowship in Screenwriting. Recently, I had the opportunity to chat with James about his creative background, his award-winning script, the craft of screenwriting, and what winning the Nicholl Award has meant to him.



James Acker

Here are links to the entire 6-part which has run this

week.

[Part 1](#): "I write a lot of monologues. I write a lot of rants. I write a lot of unloading. A lot of call-outs, a lot of verbal fights."

[Part 2](#): "I'd always gotten the general advice that a fellowship or a contest win is a very good foothold to have when breaking in."

[Part 3](#): "The Manic Pixie Dream Girl trope is very present in gay YA, just with a different haircut."

[Part 4](#): "Once I landed on that engine, the story flowed so much easier. Engines. They truly have changed how I start developing projects."

[Part 5](#): "The first half of that monologue was truly the first words I wrote down for this story."

[Part 6](#): "I usually do a scribble draft and take it scene by scene. A description what happens. One line of dialogue I think will be emblematic of this scene."

James is repped by The Gotham Group and Fuse Literary.

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For my interviews with every Nicholl Fellowships in Screenwriting winner since 2012, go [here](#).

For my interviews with Black List writers, go [here](#).

