

2021 Black List

[Scott Myers](#)

All 73 scripts listed in order of votes received including loglines, plus a link where you can download the official list.

“LIST”
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Earlier today, the 2021 Black List was released to the public. Here is the list ranked by the number of mentions each script received along with loglines:

THE BLACK LIST 2021

32

CAULIFLOWER

Daniel Jackson

Under the cruel guidance of a mysterious coach, an ambitious high school wrestler struggles to become a state champion while battling a bizarre infection in his ear that both makes him dominant in his sport and threatens his sanity.

30

SEE HOW THEY RUN

Lily Hollander

A blind mother moves into a remote farmhouse with her young daughter, but the mystery of the home's previous inhabitants intrudes upon her attempts to repair their relationship.

25

DIVORCE PARTY

Rebecca Webb

Patricia Ford feels pretty good about trading her South Boston roots for a "perfect" life on New York's Upper East Side, until everything falls to shit and her raucous girlfriends throw her a Divorce Party at the home she's about to lose. As the night goes from wild to totally insane, Patricia takes back control of her life.

23

KILLER INSTINCT

Lillian Yu

After a Hollywood assistant is publicly fired for admitting while on a conference call that he'd love to kill his boss, he finds his boss dead in the office the next morning and goes on the lam to figure out the real culprit, all while being hunted by his boss's assassin.

21

THE VILLAIN

Andrew Ferguson

The completely outrageous and completely true story of “pharma bro” Martin Shkreli — from his meteoric rise as wunderkind hedge fund manager and pharmaceutical executive to his devastating fall involving crime, corruption and the Wu-Tang Clan — which exposed the rotten core of the American healthcare system.

19

ULTRA

Colin Bannon

When an ultramarathoner learns he is one of ten contestants chosen to take part in a secret race known as “the hardest race on earth,” he is forced to confront his past when he realizes there are deadly consequences for breaking the rules.

WAIT LIST

Carly J. Hallman

A troubled millennial from small-town Texas will do anything to get into her top-choice law school, including murder.

18

MERCURY

Stefan Jaworski

When a first date takes a dangerous turn, down-on-his-luck Michael risks everything to save his newfound love from her past. Little does he know, the night — and his date — are not what they seem. Michael soon finds himself on a high-octane cat-and-mouse race across the city to save himself and uncover the truth, armed with nothing but his wit, his driving skills, and a 1969 Ford Mercury.

17

IN THE END

Brian T. Arnold

In the near future, terminal patients are given the opportunity to go out with a bang with personalized VR “perfect endings.” But when the best Transition Specialist gets far too close to a patient, he finds himself questioning everything in his life.

16

MR BENIHANA

Chris Wu

When a short Japanese kid from post-war Tokyo decides to make it big in the US of A, he discovers a winning recipe of exploiting his heritage with good old-fashioned American entertainment, to the great shame of his traditionalist father. This is the larger-than-life immigrant story of the OG daredevil playboy tycoon: the one-and-only Rocky Aoki.

WORST. DINNER. EVER.

Jack Waz

An estranged father and son have to survive terrorists, explosions, and, most terrifying of all, dinner with each other.

15

GRIZZ

Connor Barry

A car accident strands a young paramedic in the rugged Pacific Northwest where she is hunted by a ravenous grizzly bear.

HOMECOMING

Murder Ink (Brandon Broussard, Hudson Obayuwana, Jana Savage)

Ten years after graduation, one of New York's most eligible bachelors and his eccentric wanderlust wingman try to pull their recently divorced friend out of his rut by taking him back to Howard University's legendary Homecoming for the best weekend of their lives.

WHITTIER

Filipe Coutinho, Ben Mehlman

While looking into a client's murder, a Los Angeles social worker stumbles on a political conspiracy in the wake of the 1987 Whittier earthquake.

14

***WEIRD**

Augustus Schiff

An autistic kid tries to do normal college things — making friends, figuring out if girls like him, getting over his mom's death — while seeing life in his own "musical" way.

13

AIR JORDAN

Alex Convery

The wild true story of how an upstart shoe company named Nike landed the most influential endorsement in sports history: Michael Jordan.

THE COLLEGE DROPOUT

Thomas Aguilar, Michael Ballin

A young Kanye West's intimate journey to create his seminal first album that reinvented hip hop music.

HOT GIRL SUMMER

Michelle Askew

After witnessing a drug deal gone wrong, thirteen-year-old (and exceptionally awkward) Beatrice accidentally finds herself in the middle of an underground drug ring...and on the perfect route to having a proper hot girl summer.

HOTEL HOTEL HOTEL HOTEL

Michael Shanks

A man wakes up trapped in a mysterious hotel room. All alone in a mind-bending prison, his only chance for escape is teamwork: with himself.

LOUD

Whit Brayton

A famed experimental musician finds himself embroiled in the race to solve Earth's primary existential threat: A deafening sound that never stops, forcing all of humanity to survive in silence.

RABBIT SEASON

Shanrah Wakefield

Supernatural horror about a woman stalked through a dark city park by the most monstrous manifestation of manhood during her walk home from her high school reunion.

12

LADY KRYLON

Brandon Constantine

Two rival graffiti artists engage in a series of street battles, culminating in an otherworldly duel after the art starts bleeding into the real world.

THE MASKED SINGER

Mike Jones, Nicholas Sherman

Mickey Rourke loses his mind after he's forced to take a gig on television's highest rated show: The Masked Singer.

MICHAEL BAY: THE EXPLOSIVE BIOPIC

Sean Tidwell

Packed with enough C4 to split an asteroid in two, this tell-all Michael Bay origin story reveals the explosions that defined him, the fire that ignited his little heart, and the fate that sealed his Hollywood destiny.

SYMPHONY OF SURVIVAL

Daniel Persitz

The incredible true story of Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich writing an epic symphony during the deadly World War II siege of Leningrad — a work of art so powerful it would save him and his family, all while helping to unite his people with the Allies.

11

BELIEVE ME

Hannah Mescon, Dreux Moreland

An absurdist biopic chronicling the many rises and falls of Donald Trump, culminating with that fateful night at the 2011 Correspondent's Dinner.

CANDLEWOOD

Jason Benjamin, Jessica Granger

In 1992 a seaplane crash in a lakefront community sparks a relationship between three young sisters and the mysterious, injured female pilot.

INDIGO

Ola Shokunbi

An art thief who takes priceless objects from museums and private collections and redistributes them to their original countries of ownership is tracked by a dogged FBI Agent across the globe.

JELLYFISH DAYS

Matthew Kic, Mike Sorce

A young woman and her devoted boyfriend's lives are dramatically altered by a medical procedure that could potentially quadruple their lifespans.

WHEELS COME OFF

Kryzz Gautier

In the year 2065, a fiery teenager with a wild imagination, her paraplegic mom, and their clueless robot struggle to navigate the post-apocalypse; but when the mother's wheelchair breaks, the trio must venture out into the dangerous "outside" for a chance to survive.

YASUKE

Stuart C. Paul

The true story of the first and only African Samurai in feudal Japan who rose from being a slave for the Jesuits to fighting as a Samurai in the unification of Japan.

10

ABBI AND THE EIGHTH WONDER

Matt Roller

When a misogynist explorer meets his sudden (and violent) end, his long-overlooked understudy seizes the moment and embarks on an adventure that will earn her a place in the annals of history.

CRUEL SUMMER

Leigh Cesiro, Erica Matlin

During the summer of 1998, five camp counselors accidentally kill a stranger in the woods.

FOLLOW

Michael Kujak

When a social media influencer meets a fan at a meet-and-greet, she's so taken with her cleverness and vulnerability that she invites the fan to intern with her for the summer. At first, they're an unstoppable team, but soon, the influencer is forced to wonder who she has let into her life.

MIMI

Scarlett Bermingham

A successful illustrator finds herself friendless after her best friend gets engaged, forcing her to embark on an epic quest to “date” for new girlfriends — as an adult.

OPERATION MILK & COOKIES

M. Miller Davis

After their house is threatened with repossession, a mismatched group of foster kids set out on an adventure to summon Santa Claus to save their home and end up on the run from a crew of angry bank robbers.

SANDPIPER

Lindsay Michel

Still reeling in the wake of her husband’s death, master thief Viola Crier signs on to a risky, last-minute job set to take place inside a man-made time loop, but as the number of loops increases, the job begins to spiral out of control.

SHANIA!

Jessica Welsh

Eilleen Edwards rises from an impoverished upbringing in rural Canada to transform into 90’s global country-pop superstar Shania Twain, only to face her greatest challenge yet: putting her life and career back together after losing her voice.

SKELETON TREE

Paul Barry

When an accident sinks their boat, two teenaged boys must learn how to survive the wilds of the remote Alaskan coastline, endure one another, and to come to terms with a long-held life-altering secret.

9

CHALLENGERS

Justin Kuritzkes

Framed around a single tennis match at a low-level pro tournament, three players who knew each other when they were teenagers — a world-famous grand slam winner, his ambitious wife/coach, and their old friend who's now a burnout ranked 201 in the world — reignite old rivalries on and off the court.

CHICAGO FOR ONE

Madeleine Paul

Based on Robbie Chernow's hilarious viral solo adventure, a newly heart-broken groomsman takes Chicago by storm celebrating a solo Bachelor Party Weekend after the rest of the party — including the groom — get stuck over 700 miles away.

FIENDISH

Edgar Castillo

While meeting her boyfriend's dysfunctional family at their ancestral manor, a young woman finds herself entangled in

a bizarre and terrifying mystery when the family's patriarch claims to have been cursed by a demon.

HARD TO GET

Dan Schoffer

After Amanda is seemingly ghosted by the man of her dreams, she's delighted to discover he's actually been kidnapped — and takes it upon herself to be his rescuer, going on an adventure of epic proportions along the way.

IDOL

Tricia Lee

The true story of American Idol viral sensation, William Hung.

IT WAS YOU

William Yu

With the future of Manhattan's Chinatown at stake, a stubborn store clerk battles against an innovative CEO's expansion plan, while both are unaware they've been falling in love with each other on a new, anonymous dating app.

8

BALLAST

Justin Piasecki

A naval engineer and her crew find themselves trapped in a deadly game on a shipping vessel in the middle of the

Atlantic when they learn a series of car bombs are hidden amongst the thousands of vehicles on board.

BARRON'S COVE

Evan Ari Kelman

When his young son is viciously murdered by a classmate, a grieving father with a history of violence kidnaps the child responsible, igniting a frenzied manhunt fueled by a powerful politician — the father of the kidnapped boy.

THE DEVIL HERSELF

Colin Bannon

When an elite assassin is sent to the haunted Harz Mountains in Germany on an extraction job she intends to be her last, she quickly learns that the local legends about witchcraft are true and must face a sinister supernatural threat.

THE FIRE OUTSIDE

Yumiko Fujiwara

Peter, a seventeen-year-old painter, lives with his controlling mother in a lonely house in the wilderness. When he meets a mysterious stranger, he begins to question the reality he was raised to believe, gathers the courage to leave his mother, and unveils the sinister truth behind his upbringing.

FOUR ASSASSINS (AND A FUNERAL)

Ryan Hooper

The adoptive daughter of a legendary assassin returns home for his funeral... and finds herself in the crosshairs of her four highly trained, highly dangerous siblings.

FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW

Laura Kosann

After a woman becomes one of the first female presidents of a 1950s publishing house in New York, she draws a former college classmate into her orbit, who soon finds her literary empire is not what it appears to be.

GO DARK

Josh Marentette, Spencer Marentette

A team of black-ops soldiers use an experimental technology to travel into the afterlife and rescue their dead teammate.

HELLO UNIVERSE

Michael Golamco

When a bully's antics land a timid boy in the bottom of a well, his self-proclaimed psychic friend and unknowing crush team up to find him. Based on the 2017 book by Erin Entrada Kelly.

A HUFFLEPUFF LOVE STORY

Sophia Lopez

Unpopular Hogwarts student Finn blames everything bad in his life on being sorted into Hufflepuff rather than Gryffindor with Harry Potter and the cool kids. So when he discovers a chance to go back in time and fix that, he takes it — only to discover things aren't quite as simple as he'd imagined.

A NICE INDIAN BOY

Eric Randall

When Naveen brings his fiance Jay home to meet his family, his traditional Indian parents must contend with accepting his white partner and helping them plan the most fabulous same sex Indian wedding the Bay Area has ever seen.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL PRESENTS THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Hannah Hafey, Kaitlin Smith

Frustrated by the conservative curriculum at her high school, a rebellious teen girl decides to stage the school's first ever production of The Vagina Monologues. Which is going to be a challenge, as no one else at St. Mary's can even bear to say the word 'vagina' out loud . . . Based on Flynn Meaney's Bad Habits.

7

APEX

Jeremy Robbins

When an adrenaline junkie sets out to conquer a menacing river, she discovers that nature isn't the only thing out for blood.

BELLA

Chris Grillot

A young college student is forced to confront her family's dark past when a mysterious stalker appears, derailing her life and sending her spiraling into a web of anxiety and paranoia.

BLACKPILL

Alexandra Serio

Awkward and lonely, Jared is only able to find a community online — until the day he realizes that his favorite YouTuber lives nearby. Desperate for a connection, he becomes determined to find a way into her life... whether she wants it or not.

CARRIAGE HILL

Emi Mochizuki, Carrie Wilson

A pregnant couple hoping to start their family in the suburbs find themselves embroiled in a decades long mystery which threatens to shatter their American dream.

THE DARK

Chad Handley

When stranded on the far end of Manhattan by a

mysterious city-wide blackout, a group of inner-city middle-schoolers must fight through seemingly supernatural forces to make their way back to their parents in the Bronx.

DENNIS RODMAN'S 48 HOURS IN VEGAS

Jordan VanDina

Before Game 7 of the NBA finals, Dennis Rodman tells Phil Jackson he needs 48 hours in Vegas. What follows is a surreal adventure with his skittish assistant GM that involves a bull rodeo, parachuting out of a Ferrari and building a friendship that neither one of them ever thought was possible but will end up solving both of their problems.

FALSE TRUTH

Thomas Berry, Isaac Gabaeff, Nathan Gabaeff

The life of a cynical San Francisco criminal lawyer at the top of his career unravels when he agrees to represent a father accused of killing his infant son in an extraordinary case that challenges widely accepted medical beliefs, a biased justice system, and his own personal worldview. Based on true events.

THE FAMILY PLAN

David Coggeshall

A former top assassin living incognito as a suburban dad must take his unsuspecting family on the run when his past catches up to him.

AN IDEAL WOMAN

Laura Kosann

Set in American suburbia during the Cuban Missile Crisis: A 1960s ex-actress and housewife finds her house-of-cards world begin to tumble as she continues to be pitted against two identities.

KILLERS AND DIPLOMATS

John Tyler McClain, Michael Nourse

The true story of the murder of four American churchwomen in El Salvador in 1980 and the low-level American diplomat who teamed with his most dangerous informant to smoke out their killers. Based on Raymond Bonner's work for The Atlantic.

LIFT

Daniel Kunka

A female master thief and her ex-boyfriend who works for the FBI team up to steal \$100M worth of gold bullion being transported on a 777 passenger flight from London to Zurich.

MAX AND TONY'S EPIC ONE-NIGHT STAND

Thomas Kivney

A disastrous Grindr hookup goes from bad to worse when a meteor unleashes a horde of aliens on New York and the two ill-matched men must depend on each other to make it

through the night alive.

SLEEP SOLUTION

Ted Caplan, Jenni Hendricks

Two former thieves are having a hard enough time with their fussy newborn baby when a mishap draws them back into their old lives, forcing them to recover a priceless jade bangle, escape their boss's murderous son and, toughest of all, get their baby to sleep through the night.

THICKER THAN ICE

Tara Tomicevic

Inspired by the true story of Hannah and Marissa Brandt, adoptive sisters and hockey players who put their relationship to the test as they vie for Olympic glory... on different teams: top-ranked Team USA and Korea's first ever unified team.

THE UNBOUND

Sam West

Disillusioned with life in the wake of a personal tragedy, Rachel goes on a mountain retreat with her friends in search of an escape, only to find themselves stumbling into the depths of horror and madness.

THE WAY YOU REMEMBER ME

Geoffrey Roth

Following the death of her vivacious, entrepreneurial,

thirtysomething son Ben, Laurie learns that he had frozen some of his sperm before his passing. As she embarks on an unconventional journey in search of someone who may bear Ben's child, Laurie forges an unexpected friendship with a woman, who, in turn, starts to fall for the memory of him.

WAYS TO HIDE IN WINTER

Jenny Halper

A woman in rural Pennsylvania falls in love with a stranger from Uzbekistan, then finds out he may be responsible for war crimes. Based on Sarah St. Vincent's acclaimed debut novel.

Here a video in which Ashley Nicole Black and Gabrielle Dennis announced the 2021 Black List, and featuring a few words from 2021 Academy Award winning screenwriter Florian Zeller, 2020 Academy Award winner (and 2018 Black List screenwriter) Emerald Fennell, and 2018 Black List script KING RICHARD screenwriter Zach Baylin.

I will have stats and analysis of this year's Black List later on this week, but what trends do YOU see? It's an interesting way to interpret what Hollywood movers and shakers are interested in at present.

On a personal note, I was pleased to see *Whittier* make the list:

Also this: It's the return of the Black List Word Cloud

Logline Challenge! Be on the lookout for that — with prizes!

For more on the Black List:

[The Black List's Franklin Leonard on Masters of Scale with Reid Hoffman](#)

[FRANKLIN LEONARD: My grandfather, my father's father, who was born in the Deep South in the late 1800s, literally the...](#)

[Episode 1264 — Franklin Leonard — WTF with Marc Maron Podcast](#)

[Franklin Leonard helped change the way movies get made in Hollywood. It's not what he expected as a young Black math...](#)

You may download the official 2021 Annual Black List [here](#).