

THE ACT: ULTIMATUM

INTRODUCTION

The act for this seminar is an ultimatum. Phd studies and normative dramaturgical models share the common structures of "beginning, middle and end", with the 50% seminar correlating with the second act. As the second act requires a rising conflict, this 50% seminar will be designed as an ultimatum issued towards the university. The ultimatum demands a monitoring and reducing of the university's CO² footprint, acting out the premise of this research.

BACKGROUND

Being prompted to prepare for my 50% seminar I find myself in the second act of a three-act-story. It forces me to raise the action of the premise, it pushes me towards a confrontation, a conflict in the form of an ultimatum. At the same time the project aims to reach beyond such internalized dramaturgical structures. The ultimatum is thus modified to at least offer a wider diversity of continuations rather than just one specific ending.

The ultimatum may also prevent me from investing further in a system that that won't acknowledge the premises of my research².

An ultimatum can deepen a story, make the goals of the characters in the story more difficult to achieve, and force them to change or make hard choices to overcome what stands in their way.... Sometimes ultimatums can help establish healthy boundaries & help characters make better choices. An ultimatum can lead to recognizing the need for change and get a clearer idea of what is most important¹.

THE ULTIMATUM:

The project's final seminar will only take place when the University is in phase with the Paris Agreement. Only then has the dramaturgical time arrived, the plot point occurred, for the project to be completed.

The ultimatum is shaped this way in order to raise the action of the storyworld premise² further.

COMPLIANCE

As this ultimatum has been issued an life cycle analysis of SKH should be carried out, for example in collaboration with students and professors from KTH. The aim of this assessment is to calculate todays reference value, the level of the school's current climate impact.

At the 80% seminar the result of the analysis would be presented. That reference value, that benchmark, would be revealed along with the necessary measurements and timelines to fulfill the Paris agreement. There would also be a presentation of how the university can set and work towards this reduction target.

After the 80% seminar SKH's reduction rate will be continuously assessed and when the reduction target is reached the final seminar will be held.

The met ultimatum will expand the world, allowing additional narrative strands.

NONCOMPLIANCE

The unmet ultimatum will haunt the narrative with constant reminders of its ongoing, seeking new dramatic turns in the absence of an ending.

ACTS

The act as knowledge. This research seeks ways to act, "world" without knowing, act that brings about knowing about what is yet to come or be done, without narrowing out the variety of what can come.

The ultimatum-act enables a "worlding" of the three-act-structure -a staying with the open-ended-ness the research is dedicated to. *Do what you want to do if you feel that it wants you too³.*

NOTES

1. The conflict thesaurus: a writers guide. Angela Ackerman
2. Bendell, J. (2021). Deep adaptation: A map for navigating climate tragedy. In Bendell and Read (eds.), Deep adaptation: Navigating the realities of climate chaos. Polity Press, p.64: "Research has revealed that people who have a higher level of formal education are more supportive of the existing social and economic systems than those that have less education. The argument is that people who have invested time and money in progressing to a higher status within existing social structures are more naturally inclined to imagine reform of those systems than their upending. This situation is accentuated if we assume our livelihood, identity and self-worth are dependent on the perspective that progress on sustainability is possible and that we are part of that progressive process."
3. The Beigenes, Kae Tempest