

Thesis Screenplay Summary for *Dirty Filthy Liars*

Kyle Francis – MFA Film

When some people fall from grace, they devote their lives to redeeming their past mistakes. But when VICTORIA MCNAUGHTON was fired from an editorial position for confabulating part of a story for the National Mail newspaper, she did the opposite--she turned the fall into a swan dive and took a job running the public relations department at Apex Petroleum.

Six years later, she's surrounded by corporate ghouls of every flavour. The scheming, backstabbing type like BEN DAVISON, the burnt-out, paycheque-collecting type like MALCOLM JANKE, and the young, hungry type like her stepsister TANIS MCNAUGHTON. And every week there's a new disaster. Pipeline leaks, explosions, deaths and dead birds--and through it all it's Vic's job to keep the company looking good (ish) for the public. But when her self-righteous journalist ex-boyfriend CAMERON MILNER catches wind of the latest problem and embarrasses Vic publically for it, Ben has everything he needs to set her up for a fall and take her job. But if she can help the company save face by saving two geese trapped by the explosions she can outmaneuver him and keep her high-paying, soul-sucking career intact.

She does exactly that, though along the way she and Cameron stumble into a conspiracy to defraud Apex's shareholders, stick the public with the bill for a huge cleanup, and everything indicates Apex's top brass are behind it. Which is why they offer her an executive position (and commensurate pay bump) if she'll shut her mouth, blame Malcolm, and move on with her life. In other words, she needs to choose between her career and her conscience.

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She chooses her conscience, but it isn't easy. The company does everything it can to ruin her personally and professionally, and all her past misdeeds catch up with her. On the day she loses everything she's spent her adult life working towards, she's pelted with literal bullshit by angry protesters as she's ejected from the building. But Cameron helps her pull together, discover the truth, and expose those who are really responsible.

For more information about this film, please contact
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