

So as I said last week, I attended the Inktip Pitch Summit over the weekend and once again, it didn't disappoint.

I live tweeted from the event and many of you have hit me up through facebook that I should reprint the tweets. I will do that at the end, but first I want to talk about a couple of things.

First. I owe a lot of you fucktard writers an apology. Guess what? You're not completely fucktards.

Let me explain...

Just to give you an idea of how Inktip is different than other pitchfests. For those of you that have never attended one, normally there are about 100-150 companies at a pitchfest and we each have a table. Then you, the writer, pitch to the specific company that you're looking for.

At Inktip there are about 300 companies and anywhere from 2-4 companies at a table. We're all grouped by genre, so if you have a thriller, you're going to pitch to up to 4 companies that are looking for a thriller.

Sometimes it helps you, but it also makes it harder for you to connect with a specific production or management company.

Okay, that's your side of things...for us, we're stuck with up to 3 other execs that most of the time, we've never met. It gives us a chance to get our own networking in.

Last year was VERY successful for me on that front. I managed to meet quite a few people and are still very close friends with them. Luckily a few of them were at this years event.

Okay, so back to the apology.

This year I got stuck with a complete fucktard of an executive. I was sitting there listening to him talk to the writers and I realized something...a lot of the shit that I yell at you guys about doesn't really come from you.

Sure some of it does. I mean, being a shitty writer can be fixed. You can ALWAYS become a better writer.

But when it comes to the bigger picture, you're only as good as the person giving you notes.

Let me explain...

The industry is flooded with opinions and like assholes, everyone has one. You, the young writer, walks into a pitchfest and you sit down with an executive and you pitch.

Then sometimes that executive gives you notes on the spot. And you take them.

Why?

Because the person is an “insider” and you’re not...so they MUST know something. Right?

Going to go off on a small tangent here to prove a point...

The group of friends mentioned above just found something out about a guy we know. We met him at a pitchfest.

Let me make this very clear...he was there to hear pitches. He was there as a representative of a production company looking for scripts and ideas. For all purposes, he was an executive.

But none of us really knew what he did for the company he was representing. We all assumed he was just a Creative Executive for a small company.

Yeah, found out this weekend that the dude is a bartender/acupuncturist/online herbal medicine seller.

That’s right. Not only is he not a Creative Executive, he’s not even in the industry! Apparently he’s a friend of some producer who lets him go to pitchfests and hang out.

And trust me when I say that he’s VERY opinionated. So what are you, the writer, going to do when he gives you a note?

Probably listen. Should you? Sure...as much as you should listen to your mom, your fucktard friend and that guy with the giant zit that hangs out a little too much at your local bar.

Back to my table...

So I’m listening to this guy give notes and he’s a complete fucking tool. Literally just talking out of his ASS.

Apparently he’s a screenwriter and also has a small management company.

That’s right, he manages other writers.

(For the record, anyone can be a manager. There are no laws or agencies that prevent a person from being a manager. They work solely on commission. Any of the above listed individuals can be your manager, although you might want to think again before hiring the dude at your local bar.)

He douchbaggedness taught me something though. Be VERY careful of the dude that passes on your shit by saying “yeah, I already have a project that’s kind of similar to that.”

We were talking about it over lunch and I was relaying that no matter WHAT the person pitched to us, he would kindly pass on the project because “he already had a similar project like that in development.”

Seriously...didn’t matter.

If someone sat down and pitched Midget Werewolf Zombies from Mars...he would go, “cool idea, but it’s going to have to be a pass for me...I kind of have a project like that, that I’m working on.”

We all agreed that the dude was there looking for ideas to help his own work out.

Great, another thing that you writers have to worry about at these things.

Add in the fact that the dude disappeared to get stoned and come back to the table completely baked. Which, I’m not a prude...whatever, to each his own, but it made him even more obnoxious than he already was.

I switched tables after lunch. :)

So, all of that to say I’m sorry. Sometimes it’s not your fault. Sometimes it’s the fault of the person that gives you advice.

AHHH! Which reminds me of another story real quick. So a writer sits down and starts with talking about this comedy that he had that had been optioned but the option expired and he was shopping it around again.

I stopped him and told him that he shouldn’t lead off with that because basically what he was telling me was that the script had some heat, it got optioned, the company shopped it around town, nobody wanted it and the option expired.

So what was I going to do with it? It was already a failure. Granted some companies have different connections than others, but we would probably target the same places when taking it out.

He totally understood and agreed that it made a lot of sense to not tell people that. Let them assume it's a new script and that they can market it as such. He then told me that his agent told him to tell people that because "it would show that he could get stuff going."

But he didn't. The option went nowhere. Think it's time to get a new agent dude.

Oh, and FYI...people...if you're a writer and have an agent, why are you at pitchfests? You're essentially doing THEIR job. So you pitch to me, I like the idea, I deal with you along and they still collect their percentage?

They should be getting your name out there. Not you.

Just my opinion. Agents, write in and correct me if I'm wrong.

So that sums up the day...for some of the funnier moments read the following tweets in order. Enjoy!

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

At the inktip pitch summit. Please let me finish the day sane.

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

At the inktip pitch summit. Please let me finish the day sane.

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Think I'm gonna live tweet the stupidity of the day.

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Starting first: midlife crisis guy at my table. Carrying around a motorcycle helmet doesn't make you look cool!

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Really executive? No ones going to take you seriously if you're rocking a iPhone 3G at the table. (yes this is sarcastic) [#inktippitchfest](#)

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Looks like this the executives are just as desperate at the writers.  
[#inktippitchfest](#)

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

And it begins [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

First up was a supposed Emmy winner...gotta ask, why are you here dude? [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

What are you talking about dude?! This is why there are shitty scripts out there. Execs who wanna throw their dick around. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

The Butthead police? Wow. Best part is that he thinks it's a four quad script with high merchandising potential. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Love it when old white guys pitch clearly racist projects. Sadly this happens a LOT! [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

"Hand Grenades and Lollipops?" wow. All I can say is wow. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Yes, you SHOULD pitch your script in a Hawaiian shirt, short shorts, white tube socks pulled up and running shoes. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

There's a third of the executives missing and only a handful of writers this year. Not good. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

A regular writer just came up to me: "one of these days I'm gonna write something you'll love!" no, no you're not. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Pitched a script about two cops working the "downtown whore area." does anyone know where this is? Asking for a friend. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Putting everything plus the fucking kitchen sink in a script does not make it a "big tent pole movie!" [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Bermuda Triangle, UFOs and the Declaration of Independence. All in one script. [#inktippitchfest](#) <http://t.co/KmMFgLw9>

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

This guy literally just told me that there hasn't been a script like this since Die Hard. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Guy wanted to pitch, and I quote... "it's Star Wars for girls." Um. No. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

I literally just pitched this persons script back to them because she couldn't. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Fuck. I don't want to hear all of your loglines. Pick something and fucking pitch it! [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Carl from Billy Madison is here again. Larry Hankin:  
[http://www.imdb.com/rg/tw\\_oshare/rt\\_iphone/name/nm0359969](http://www.imdb.com/rg/tw_oshare/rt_iphone/name/nm0359969) [#IMDb](#)  
[#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Overheard comment about one of the writers in the hall: "she's a very stressful person." try sitting at the table! [#inktippitchfest](#)

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Model waiting on me: "no ones at your table!" Me: "I'm perfectly okay with that." [#inktippitchfest](#)

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scares me when a writer comes with two duffle bags. The only thing that makes me feel safe is one of them is polka dotted [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Dear writers, please stop writing werewolf movies. Thanks. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

If Kevin Spacey is interested in your thriller. Why are you here?  
[#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Dear writers, please stop talking about budget. You don't know how this shit works! Thanks. [#inktippitchfest](#)

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Guy at my table left for 5 minutes. Came back stoned. [#inktippitchfest](#)

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Stoned quote: "I drew a picture of a dog smoking a joint...which is funny...because dogs don't do that!" [#inktippitchfest](#)

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Lunch time peeps. Back in a little bit. [#inktippitchfest](#)

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And we're back. [#inktippitchfest](#)

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Cool suit. [#inktippitchfest](#) [pic.twitter.com/Vm5ztQme](http://pic.twitter.com/Vm5ztQme)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Did you guys get the memo that "the golem is really hot right now?" I didn't. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Why does the blues guitarist have to fight an ancient demon who has opened a portal to hell? [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

They announced 2 script sales bringing the total for the day to 4..who's buying this shit? Especially without reading it! [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

The guy with the polka dotted duffle bag from earlier is a lawyer. His cars reads "Citizen Attorney." [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Hearing' pitches, bitches! [#inktippitchfest](#) <http://pic.twitter.com/Go8daeZk>

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

The executive next to me is literally pitching his film to the people who sat down to pitch. What the fuck? [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Just got pitched an idea where a billionaire builds a giant rainbow to help bring back A town like Flint, MI [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Starting to slow down...we're hitting the bottom of the barrel now. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Writer quote: "I'm a published writer, so I'm really good at writing." [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

This guy just wasted 5 minutes of my time telling me how awesome he is. Never once pitched an idea. Seriously dude! [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Bermuda guy is back. I don't think he remembers pitching to me this morning. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**Manny Fonseca** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Nope. He didn't. [#inktippitchfest](#)



**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Second writer in a row that doesn't remember already pitching to me this morning. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

I'm too tired to listen any more. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

The tweets have slowed down because the people have slowed down. It's a post apocalyptic wasteland in here. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Syfy? Really? Are you sure you don't write erotic fan fiction a la 50 shades of grey? [#inktippitchfest](#) [pic.twitter.com/NX1wDMQf](http://pic.twitter.com/NX1wDMQf)

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

Dear writers, don't pitch past 4:30. We've stopped listening. Thanks. [#inktippitchfest](#)

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

The executive crash at the end of a pitchfest. [#inktippitchfest](#)  
[pic.twitter.com/uX0RWfES](http://pic.twitter.com/uX0RWfES)

**[Manny Fonseca](#)** [@mannyfonseca](#)

And that's a wrap folks. Off to the after party! Thanks for tuning in. [#inktippitchfest](#)

Till next week...