

**THE BLACK LIST**

# **THE BUBBLE**

**Evaluation**

Overall	Premise	Plot	Character	Dialogue	Setting
8	7	7	N/A	9	8

Era	1974 - 1983
Locations	Hospital / Suburbia
Budget	Medium
Genre	Drama, Family Drama
Logline	The story of David Vetter, a boy who, born without an immune system, had to live in a sterile bubble his entire life.
Pages	120

## Strengths

This is a remarkable script, very adept at capturing real human emotion and wringing out organic drama. Careful attention is paid to each character give them a story and an arc that can always tie back to David's well-being. There is Mary, whose limitless ability to care puts a black mark on her own family. There is Carol Ann, a woman must live with the knowledge that her selfish antics brought her a son forced to live a cursed life. And then there is David himself, a boy who develops exactly as one would expect when confined to a prison from birth: prone to outbursts, incredibly frustrated, and incredibly tortured. The author slips in and out of subplots with relative ease as we follow David from a toddler to the age of twelve, when he finally succumbed to the disease. There is a tremendous amount of stress at this hospital, stress palpable in nearly every conversation Mary has with her superiors. Her persistence is admirable, and we can't help but cheer her on as she makes valid point after valid point. But it's also entirely easy to see Mary's flaws - as we watch David grow up, we also watch her own son Bill get older. This culminates in a sad scene where Mary looks fondly at her newlywed son, silently dismayed that she was not there enough for him.

## Weaknesses

There is a lot to love about this script, and the weakness listed here almost feel like nitpicking. It comes at the end; the momentum is entirely blunted after Mary and Carol Ann reconcile with their conversation on page 94. There is still another thirty pages after that, but it feels like we are entering a 'long' goodbye; a goodbye where everyone is on the same page emotionally. Saying goodbye to David is tough, even for an audience member, but with everyone on the same emotional level the story drags a bit.

## Prospects

This is as good, if not better, than many period biopics that come out today. It's nicely framed and is packed full of drama, and the writing is excellent. It just needs to be seen; get this in front of the right eyes and someone is surely going to push it to the next level. This writer, with this well-researched and emotional story, as established themselves as someone to watch.