

BBC SCREENPLAY FORMAT

by

(Name of First Writer)

(Based on, If Any)

There should be one
contact address only
in the bottom left
hand corner.
Always include a phone
number and an e-mail
address if you have one.

Black.

GEORGE (V.O.)
There's a werewolf in the bible.

CUT TO:

Archive footage - something Cecil B DeMille, *The Ten Commandments* maybe. A Pharaoh shouts and postures. Banishes someone. Waves a staff.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd) (CONT'D)
King Nebuchadnezzar was the king
of Babylon. And one day he
decides to put up a statue of
himself for everyone to worship.

Flames slowly eat across the frame.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd) (CONT'D)
But three Jews - Hananiah,
Mishael and Azariah - refuse to
take part. So the King hurls them
into a furnace. As you do.

CUT TO:

Fresco of *The Three Hebrews in the Fiery Furnace*, from the catacombs of Priscilla, Rome.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd) (CONT'D)
It's fine, because God saves
them.

CUT TO:

Library footage. Clouds gather. Black, heavy and angry.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd) (CONT'D)
But this is the old testament
God, the one who gets really
pissed off about stuff, and He
wants to *punish* Nebuchadnezzar.
And how.

CUT TO:

Library footage. Lightning tears down from the heavens.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd) (CONT'D)
So He turns him into a werewolf.

CUT TO:

The painting *Nebukadnezzar*, by William Blake

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd) (CONT'D)
And the King lives like a beast
in the wilderness for 7 years.

CUT TO : Black.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Fast forward. Or is it back? I'm
not sure. Anyway. The Greeks.

CUT TO:

Pictures. George Michael. Peter Andre

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
No, not them. The Ancient Greeks.

CUT TO:

A detail from a Greek vase. Greeks running, jumping etc.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
King Lycaon, in particular, the
first king of Arcadia. One day,
he has Zeus over for dinner.

CUT TO:

Blood is splashed across a stone floor.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
And just for a laugh, he serves
up a dish of human flesh.

CUT TO:

Library footage. Any cookery show. The presenter / chef
takes a baking dish from an oven - tastes it - *mmmmmm*.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
One of his sons, actually. Nice.

CUT TO:

The same footage as earlier. The clouds gather and glower,
black and menacing.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
But Zeus was obviously something
of a fussy eater. He gets really
cross and turns Lycaon into a
wolf.

CUT TO:

The engraving by Hendik Goltzius, of *Zeus turning Lycaon
into a wolf*.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
History's first, and arguably
worst, ever restaurant review.

CUT TO:

A wood cut. A man is attacked by a *loup-garou*, or werewolf.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
But it catches on. Between 1520
and 1630, in France alone, 30,000
people were charged with
werewolfism.

Another wood cut. A werewolf attacking a man at the
entrance to a house.

CUT TO:

A rural, country road. The camera travels slowly down it.
Stately but irresistible. There is something slightly
menacing about it. A predator.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
The most notorious of which was
Gilles Garnier who, during his 4
month rampage, killed 4 children.

CUT TO:

Library footage. A pack of wolves. Prowling and hunting.
Beautiful. Deadly.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Witnesses swear the murders were
committed by a creature that was
half man half animal. And when he
was finally captured, Garnier
confessed that he was in fact a
werewolf.

Again, flames eat up the frame.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
He was sentenced to be burnt
alive.

Black.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
And God didn't save him.

CUT TO:

Pictures. The sublimely ridiculous Oliver Reed strangling a
busty virgin in *The Curse of the Werewolf*.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
But this is all just myths and
madmen and bad films, isn't it.

Lon Chaney Jnr in full make up for *The Wolf Man*.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
It's gone from the mythical to
the depraved to the camp.

Michael J Fox as *Teen Wolf*.

We forget its roots.

CUT TO:

The clouds. The ominous heavens.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
We forget Nebuchadnezzar and
Lycaon, who even gave his name to
it.

CUT TO:

George, in the grip of the transformation, from wolf to
man. It's a brutal, torturous process. Every bone in his
body snaps, stretches and reforms.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Lycanthropy: The power to
transform into a wolf and back
again.

The creature howls in agony as its body is torn apart and
twisted back together again.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
A, literally, biblical curse. A
sentence the Gods save for their
most reviled and hated of
children.

CUT TO:

Quickly, the Blake painting and the Goltzius engraving,
close up on the tortured mutated faces.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Like them.

CUT TO:

The transformation completes. George slumps to the ground.
Naked, exhausted, battered and blood stained. Unconscious.

GEORGE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Like me.

CUT TO:

Black. Then... Birdsong.

FADE TO:

EXT. EARLY MORNING. COUNTRYSIDE.

George slowly wakes. Streaked with dirt and tears. Every muscle and bone aching, he heaves himself up onto his elbows.

TULLY (O.S.)

How the hell do you get home?
You've got no clothes, no
transport.

George's head snaps up. There's a man, maybe 10 yards away. He's in his 30s, handsome, bearded, with piercing eyes and straggly hair. He's dressed strangely. A bare tattooed chest under a charity shop suit jacket. But there's something impressive about him. Wild, dark and sexual.

TULLY (cont'd)

I'm guessing you ring someone.
Though God only knows where you
keep the change for the phone.

George scrambles to his feet and bolts into the woods.

TULLY (cont'd) (CONT'D)

Where are you - ? George, come
back!

But George has already fled maybe 20 yards into the trees.

TULLY (cont'd) (CONT'D)

George! *I know what you are!*

That brings George to a stumbling halt.

GEORGE

What?

TULLY

I know what you are.

GEORGE

And what's that?

TULLY

A werewolf.

George stares at him. He tries an unconvincing laugh.

GEORGE
That's... Why would you say
something like that?

The man smiles, sly and dark.

TULLY
Because I'm one too.

CUT TO:

TITLES.