

## **Poly – TV Pilot**

- Placed 2017 Screencraft Screenwriting Fellowship

**Logline:** A man thinks he can save his marriage by entering into a polyamorous relationship, until his wife starts to like it a little too much.

### **Synopsis:**

Poly is a one-hour drama series that delves into the life of a couple trying to save their marriage by getting involved in a polyamorous relationship. With intense themes similar to shows such as "Breaking Bad" and "Billions", Poly builds on the conflict between husband and wife as well as their families, friends and neighbors.

Lem Peterson's life sucks. He's unhappily married, stuck in suburbia and just lost his job. Dreaming of something better, he feels like he is trapped in a rut he'll never escape. Lem's wife, Andrea, deals with her own feelings of being trapped by sniping at Lem and drinking too much. She has no idea Lem has lost his job, and spends her days trying to keep their daughter, Crystal, from dropping out of school or getting pregnant. She's no better at that than she is at being a housewife.

While drowning his sorrows at a local bar, Lem meets Nikki, a stunning blonde who for whatever reason, likes Lem and takes him home with her. Nikki divulges she is in a polyamorous relationship, which gives both her and her boyfriend, Damon, the freedom to sleep with others while staying together.

Nikki tells Lem that the answer to his problems is to convince Andrea to become polyamorous and the couples can become a foursome. Nikki manages to charm Andrea into trying the lifestyle on for size, which Andrea takes to like a duck to water.

What Lem and Andrea don't know is that Nikki and Damon are grifters. They spend their lives going from place to place, gaining the trust of unknowing marks and then cleaning out their bank accounts and retirement accounts, destroying lives and moving on.

Nikki starts to grow a conscience but Damon's not having it, as he scopes out other lonely women and couples in the neighborhood. He dismisses Nikki's dreams of normalcy as being more of a fantasy than their polyamorous lifestyle.

The season highlights the neighborhood turning from a quiet and boring little slice of Americana to a swinger's idea of heaven. Lem and Andrea fight to remember their love for each other, their daughter and her loser boyfriend have secrets no one else knows, and Nikki and Damon must try to hide their criminal past while the next-door neighbor, a police detective and the husband of Andrea's best friend, is intuitively suspicious.

Poly is about love and the lies we tell ourselves in relation to it, about defining commitment in a myriad of ways, and how society has created the institution of marriage in a world that might not be built for it. It would appeal to a wide demographic, giving a voyeuristic view into the world of polyamorous relationships while also dealing with the real-life issues that may go along with it.