

	<u>WALL STREET</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>ACT 1</u>	<p>NY broker's everyday life & ambition</p> <p>Meeting with Gekko (16)</p> <p>PP#1 → Gekko's call (22)</p>	<p>Boston student's everyday life & ambition</p> <p>Visits team meeting (19)</p> <p>PP#1 → Joins the team (27)</p>
<u>ACT 2</u>	<p>Climbing up with Gekko's lessons</p> <p>↓</p> <p>MP → Partnership contract with Gekko (60)</p> <p>'Greed is good' speech (74)</p> <p>New project for father's company (80)</p> <p>PP#2 → Know Gekko's true plan (94)</p>	<p>Learns techniques from Mickey</p> <p>↓</p> <p>MP → Success in LV (62)</p> <p>Mickey fires one member (74)</p> <p>Leads the team (86)</p> <p>PP#2 → Loses everything (95)</p>
<u>ACT 3</u>	<p>Father's heart attack (101)</p> <p>Revenge on Gekko</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Busted by Stock Watch (112)</p> <p>Tricks Gekko and delivers himself (118)</p>	<p>Recovers love and friendship (100)</p> <p>Revenge on Mickey</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Busted by Casino Watch (112)</p> <p>Gets everything (119)</p>

ACT 1

The openings of these movies show the everyday life of the main characters. We see Manhattan and a crowded subway for 'WALL STREET'. For '21', we have an aerial shot that closes in on the Protagonist, Ben, who is riding a bike across a bridge. Now the audience knows whose story this is and the location is Boston, Massachusetts. Ben is a student of MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) which a prestigious school. All the students in MIT are Math geniuses. Ben goal is to go to Harvard Medical School but it costs more than US\$300,000 for tuition and living expenses. The stake is really high and we do not know how he is going to do it.

Let us compare the next two scenes; one shows Bud Fox with his father, and the other shows Ben with his mother and two best friends. Both of them are continuous shots of the Protagonists' everyday life. Remember, the audience usually sees the main character's work, home and school at the beginning of the movie. It sets the backdrop of the story. In the scene from '21', we are introduced to Ben's mother and his two friends with whom he is working on a science project. The writer places the mother as waitress at the bar. It is a clever idea because the audience can see that she is a working single mother. This tells a lot about their financial

situation. Another advantage in using the bar is that we can see that it is Ben's twenty-first birthday. '21' is a significant age in America, because at this age you can drink and gamble legally. Needless to say, '21' is the winning number in blackjack and is also the title of this movie.

Within twenty minutes, the audience is introduced to the Antagonists. In 'WALL STREET', Bud succeeds in meeting Gordon Gekko in his office sixteen minutes into the movie. In '21', Ben's Math teacher, Mickey Rosa, played by Kevin Spacey, is equivalent to Gordon Gekko as the false Mentor. After Mickey sees Ben in Math class, Mickey invites him to join their secret meeting. Mickey has a team of four brilliant students who count cards at blackjack tables in Las Vegas and make a lot of money. Counting cards is not officially illegal but the Casino Watch is always on the lookout for such practices. They have the right to kick such players out of their casinos.

Casino Watch is equivalent to Stock Watch in 'WALL STREET'. They check the gambling tables with security cameras and if they find something suspicious going on, they can ask the player to leave the casino. This is because the casino is considered private property in Nevada. '21' is actually based on a book written by a real MIT Asian student and you can actually see him as a casino dealer in one scene.

Ben goes to the secret meeting but he is hesitant as he knows that counting card is wrong and risky. This is a 'Call to Adventure' from Mickey Rosa but Ben cannot make up his mind in this scene. Then Ben gets another 'Call to Adventure' from his dream girl Jill, who is also a member of Mickey's team. Jill visits Ben at his workplace in a store. It is a big temptation for Ben. Then he ponders in the subway, "Should I go or not?"

In 'WALL STREET', Gekko makes a phone call to Bud, and this is Plot Point #1 at twenty-two minutes. That is the 'I just bagged the elephant!' moment. In '21', there is another secret meeting right after the subway scene. Ben makes his decision and appears at the meeting to join the team twenty-seven minutes into the movie. This is Plot Point #1 for '21'. Now both movies enter their Extraordinary Worlds; Gekko's world and Mickey's world.

ACT 2 (1)

The first half of Act 2 is the process of the main character's climb towards the Mid Point. For Bud Fox, the first assignment is like an initiation test with the US\$1 million check. He has a tough time and loses Gekko's money. Ben has his own initiation test in a strange place; an underground Chinese gambling den. Even though he has a tough time, he does not crack under pressure. So he is welcomed by the other team members and is now part of the team.

At forty-two minutes in 'WALL STREET', Bud does a good job in dealing with Anacotta Steel stocks. At forty-four minutes in '21', Ben does a good job on his first visit to Vegas. In the meantime, both main characters' Subplots with their love interests run in parallel. Bud has a lunch date with Darien to talk about their dreams, whereas Ben kisses Jill in the subway. In '21',