

All in a Day's Disagreement

WRITTEN BY STEPHANIE ALLAIN BRAY

HOW TRUST AND MUTUAL RESPECT—AND THE DIRECTOR'S MOM—TRUMPED A BRIEF ON-SET SPAT.



This is from the set of *Hustle & Flow*, which we shot in Memphis, Tennessee, during the hot, sticky summer of 2004. John Singleton and I were producing and had just recovered from a dragged-out fight the night before concerning whether to use a stunt double for a particularly rough sequence when the character DJay (Terrence Howard) kicks Lexus (Paula Jai Parker) out of his house.

John wanted it to be physically rough, and I was arguing against that, believing our audience wouldn't recover from the lead being so brutal. This stopped production for several hours as we each presented our case to the director, Craig Brewer.

Finally we all agreed to let Craig's mother make the decision, and she sided with me. This was the fourth film John and I made together, and as you can see, despite how passionate we both were about our points of view, nothing could destroy the trust and connection we had with one another. ■