

Below is a **feature screenplay beat sheet** for *Rising Star II*, a sequel crime thriller that pays off the Peter Denton sting from the first film, shifting from mob/drug corruption into domestic terrorism, radicalisation, and a serial killer manipulating political anger.

### Beat Sheet: *Rising Star II*

Beat	Approx. Page	Story Function	What Happens
<b>Opening Image</b>	1–4	Reopen the Denton threat	Logan wakes at dawn to find SWAT and FBI surrounding Peter Denton’s former house next door. The raid triggers a booby-trap explosion, confirming Denton is still active, dangerous, and ahead of law enforcement.
<b>Set-Up</b>	4–10	Establish unfinished business	FBI agent Larry Drake tells Logan that Denton has escaped and that Denton is a federal case. Logan is furious, especially because the explosion endangered his family. At the precinct, Hanley orders Logan and Malik to stay away.
<b>Catalyst</b>	8–12	Denton finds a new cause and new victims	Denton appears at a protest outside the Javits Federal Building, where he meets Emily Wishaw. After police violence at the protest, Denton protects Emily and begins drawing her into his worldview.
<b>Theme Stated</b>	13–17	Protest versus violence	At the Free Democratic Movement meeting, Denton challenges the group’s non-violent strategy, arguing that petitions will be ignored and that the authorities only understand force. The film’s central question becomes: when anger is justified, who decides when resistance becomes terrorism?
<b>Break into Two</b>	15–19	Logan and Malik go off-book	Logan and Malik decide they have “unfinished business” and travel to Philadelphia to dig into Denton’s past. They discover Denton and Richard Evans were brothers, linking the first film’s revenge killer to the true Philadelphia/Puppet Master killer.
<b>B Story</b>	9–65	Logan and Malik’s partnership is tested	Malik wants to handle things properly and share information with the FBI; Logan distrusts federal agents and wants to hunt Denton his way. Their bond is still strong, but the sequel stresses the difference between Malik’s procedural judgement and Logan’s instinctive obsession.
<b>Fun and Games</b>	19–34	Denton builds his revolutionary cell	Denton gathers Emily, Cheryl, Tilly, Aiden, and Terry, turning political frustration into a violent cell. He uses revolutionary language, paranoia, and charisma to make them feel chosen. Meanwhile, Emily murders Officer Carey Robards and steals his gun.
<b>Midpoint</b>	34–44	The murders become connected	Mitchell Hemmings, leader of the Free Democratic Movement, is murdered with Robards’ stolen gun. Logan and Malik realise the Robards killing and Mitchell murder are linked by young women connected to Denton. Denton has moved from serial-killer secrecy into orchestrated political violence.
<b>Bad Guys Close In</b>	44–60	Denton eliminates doubt inside the group	Logan and Malik identify Emily and Cheryl through Moira Bloomberg, while Terry Bridges becomes suspicious of Denton and warns Mitchell. Denton responds by taking the group to Adirondack Park, where Terry is executed by the others as a loyalty test. Aiden is forced to participate, destroying his innocence.

Beat	Approx. Page	Story Function	What Happens
<b>All Is Lost</b>	60–73	The investigation fractures and the body count rises	Malik shares Denton information with Larry Drake, angering Logan. Drake secretly follows the remaining names on his list and is murdered by Tilly while Denton is in her apartment. The FBI loses one of its own, and Denton remains ahead of both agencies.
<b>Dark Night of the Soul</b>	73–95	Denton’s cell escalates into open war	Denton, Emily, Cheryl, and Tilly move toward a larger attack. Aiden cracks and leads police to Terry’s buried body, but by then Denton’s group is preparing weapons and bomb components. Logan and Malik understand Denton has created “a little army of crazy kids” and that they are not finished.
<b>Break into Three</b>	97–100	The target emerges	Logan and Malik raid Denton’s house and find a business card for U Hire and a U.S. Marshals Service leaflet for Pittsburgh. The clues point to a rented vehicle and an attack on the U.S. Marshals building.
<b>Finale — Phase 1: The attack begins</b>	100–110	Denton’s plan goes live	Denton and the women move into position with bombs and weapons. The target is the U.S. Marshals Service building. Logan and Malik race to intercept them before the plan can unfold.
<b>Finale — Phase 2: Malik stops Emily and Cheryl</b>	110–112	Malik confronts the radicalised followers	Malik corners Emily and Cheryl in a side street. Cheryl reaches for a gun and Malik shoots her. Emily uses Cheryl’s body as cover and also raises a weapon, forcing Malik to kill her. Malik’s reaction — “What a waste” — underlines the tragedy of Denton’s manipulation.
<b>Finale — Phase 3: Logan confronts Denton</b>	112–115	Logan faces the Puppet Master	Denton tries to arm a bomb inside the U.S. Marshals building, but it fails. Logan attacks him, cuffs him, and the two fight. A sniper’s bullet hits Denton, sending him out of the window while still cuffed to Logan. Logan unlocks the cuff and Denton falls to his death.
<b>Resolution</b>	115–116	The immediate threat appears over	Emergency services swarm the street. Denton is dead. Logan and Malik confirm the girls are dead too. Logan, exhausted but alive, goes home.
<b>Final Image</b>	116–117	The danger survives	Logan stands outside his home while Denton’s house is being rebuilt, then heads back to his family. But Tilly Foster drives past, alive, watching him. A map of New York and a photograph of Logan’s family sit beside her, marked with a red X. The sequel ends by revealing that Denton’s ideology and threat have not died with him.

### One-sentence structural summary

*Rising Star II* follows Logan Ford and Malik Edwards as they defy orders to hunt escaped serial killer Peter Denton, who reinvents himself as a revolutionary mentor and manipulates a group of young activists into murder, terrorism, and a planned attack on the U.S. Marshals.

### Logline

After the Puppet Master escapes a failed FBI raid, detectives Logan Ford and Malik Edwards uncover his link to the first film’s copycat killer and race to stop him from turning a protest movement into a terrorist cell targeting federal law enforcement.

### Core character arcs

**Logan Ford** begins the sequel personally threatened and furious after Denton’s booby-trapped house nearly kills his family. His arc is driven by obsession: he refuses to leave Denton to the FBI, but ultimately survives because his instincts and Malik’s steadier methods converge.

**Malik Edwards** grows into a true equal partner. He challenges Logan, informs the FBI when he believes it is right, and carries much of the moral weight in the finale when he is forced to kill Emily and Cheryl.

**Peter Denton** evolves from hidden serial killer into ideological puppet master. He uses political grievance, romance, sex, and revolutionary language to recruit others, turning personal psychopathy into collective violence.

**Emily Wishaw** begins as an angry protestor injured by police violence. Denton turns her anger into devotion, making her one of his most committed followers and killers.

**Cheryl Underwood** becomes Denton's covert operator, murdering Mitchell, framing Terry, and helping escalate the group from protest into conspiracy.

**Tilly Foster** appears at first to be another follower, but the final image reveals her as the surviving carrier of Denton's mission — potentially the next antagonist.

### **Overall tone**

The script plays as a **1980s police thriller with domestic-terrorism and serial-killer elements**. It expands the first film's world from drug corruption and political scandal into a larger question about how damaged people weaponise ideology, and how righteous anger can be hijacked by predators.