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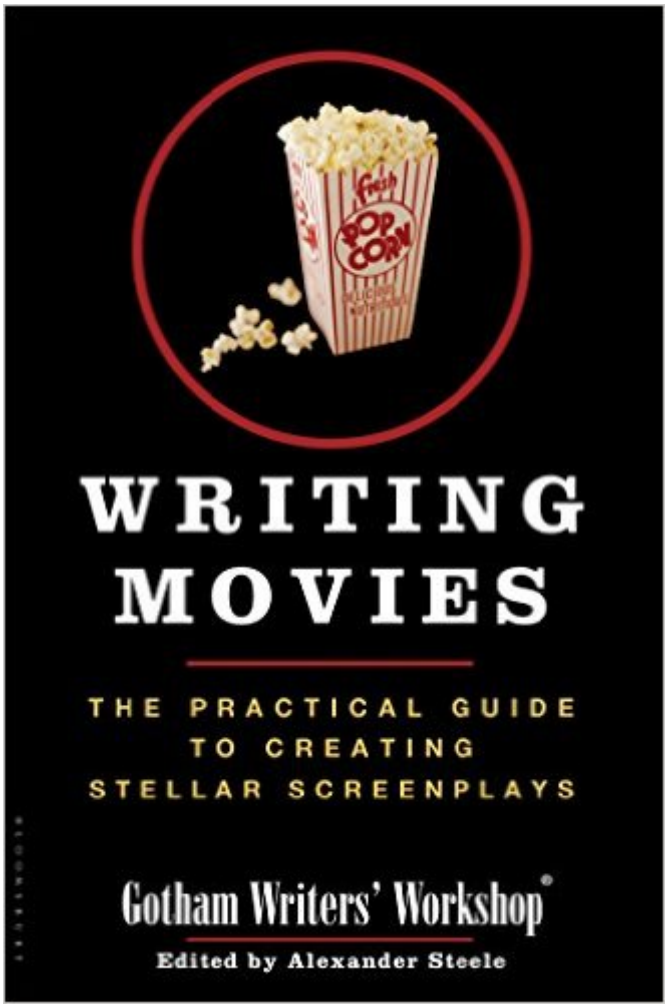
Writing Movies: The Practical Guide To Creating Stellar Screenplays



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Synopsis

To break into the screenwriting game, you need a screenplay that is not just good, but great. Superlative. Stellar. In Writing Movies you'll find everything you need to know to reach this level. And, like the very best teachers, Writing Movies is always practical, accessible, and entertaining. The book provides a comprehensive look at screenwriting, covering all the fundamentals (plot, character, scenes, dialogue, etc.) and such crucial-but seldom discussed-topics as description, voice, tone, and theme. These concepts are illustrated through analysis of five brilliant screenplays-Die Hard, Thelma & Louise, Tootsie, Sideways, and The Shawshank Redemption. Also included are writing assignments and step-by-step tasks that take writers from rough idea to polished screenplay. Written by Gotham Writers' Workshop expert instructors, Writing Movies offers the same winning style and clarity of presentation that have made a success of Gotham's previous book Writing Fiction, which is now in its 7th printing. Named the "best class for screenwriters" in New York City by MovieMaker Magazine, Gotham Writers' Workshop is America's leading private creative writing school, offering classes in Manhattan and on the Web at www.WritingClasses.com. The school's interactive online classes, selected as "Best of the Web" by Forbes, have attracted thousands of aspiring writers from across the United States and more than sixty countries.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was really sorry to see only one person had written a review of this truly tremendous and helpful book.This book is the most straight forward book you could read on the subject.Made me stop

making excuses and just write the dang thing.One of the best hands down and I have read a few.Read this on the craft and then read Breakfast with Sharks.You'll be good to go.Oh and don't forget to read lots and lots of screenplays, doctor's orders.

I bought this book for the kindle and I love it to death. Saw it in a bookstore and was hooked from the first chapter. I later ran home and purchased from .To give you some insight on what this book has to offer here's the table of contents:1. Screenwriting: Inventing a Myth2. Plot: The Path of Action3. Characters: The Lifeblood4. The Page: Words That Move5. Scenes: Exploring and Exploding Moments6. Dialogue: Making More of Less7. Subplots: A Side of Story8. Plot 2: Like a Roller Coaster9. Tone and Theme: The Overlay and Underlay10. Revision: From Rough to Ready11. The business: Slipping Past the Velvet RopeFormat GuideGlossaryCheat sheetAcknowledgmentsContributorsIndexGood luck with your next purchase!

Who would have thought a book about writing screenplays would be so entertaining? Books of this genre are supposed to be drier than five-minute sourdough toast. 'Writing Movies' is witty, thoughtful, and most important, elucidating. It offers--through an analysis of a variety of well-known movies--all the tools and maps for creating your own winning screenplay. Solid formulas that are not formulaic. Aristotle's poetics could not have set the conventions down better than this.It is rare for me, as an author, to take notes about how to weave a tighter plot, create more intriguing protagonists, or nastier antagonists. I thought I had learned it all in my sixty years of living and writing. The charming crew at Gotham Writers' Workshop proved once again to me that we can continue learning and still be entertained doing it. My legal pad is nearly full and this book will be placed (open) next to Bradbury's Zen in the Art of Writing, and the Strunk and White's Elements of Style.

I have read many books on screenplay writing and writing in general, "Writing Movies," is by far the easiest to read and the most entertaining of them all. Like a good screenplay this book has "flow." It is a book that you will hold onto for your library. The website associated with the book has 5 of the best full screenplays you can down load and print out. One of the best features is that the book uses real movies as references not just stuff made up by the author.The book is set up like a seminar in which the hands on exercises keep it exciting. These associated exercises, are presented at the end of each chapter, help reinforce the reading while sharpening your skills. I would highly recommend this book to any writer, novice or experienced. Read this first, then write your

screenplay. For what you get knowledge wise, the price is very resonable.

This book was my one and only educational tool on how to write movies. I did every excercise in the book based on my idea and wound up with a script that is now under an option agreement. I cannot recommend it enough for the fact that these saavy authors have made their points so clear and tangible that a rookie like myself could have an opportunity like this. Also, it is very interesting to study...not something to bore you into falling asleep. I loved the format, it makes for an excellent reference guide after you are finished writing and moving onto the next steps. This book is clearly written by a talented group of professionals.

This book is for anyone who wants to really learn the art and craft of screenwriting. The problem with most screenwriting "how to" books is that they all purport to have the secret sauce that will lead you to success. This book is very different, it’s old school - it takes a nuts and bolts approach to help you write your stories without following some cookie cutter nonsense and one size fits all structural advice. "Writing Movies" will teach you all of the relevant structural theories as well as the best way to think about and write action and dialog. Every chapter is a master class on its topic, whether it be dialog, action, plot etc. and the writing is witty and easy to read. If you want to learn how to write a high quality original screenplay, look no further than "Writing Movies". It is hands down the best and most complete book on screenwriting ever written - that’s why I gave it five stars. Get it. Read it. Absorb it. And then start writing a couple of hours every day and read great screenplays along the way. Good Luck !!!

Writing Movies an excellent book. It’s clear, it’s reader friendly, it’s written by highly perceptive, experienced individuals who approach the craft of screenwriting from a variety of viewpoints each of which addresses a necessary screenwriting skill. It provides the reader with a sense of empowerment. It’s worth the bucks hands down.

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