



The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script

By David Trottier



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The Screenwriter's Bible is six books in one. Book 1 -- A screenwriting primer that provides a concise presentation of screenwriting basics. Book 2 -- A workbook that walks the writer through the writing process, from nascent ideas through revisions. Book 3 -- A formatting guide that presents correct formats for both screenplays and TV scripts. Book 4 -- A spec writing guide that demonstrates today's spec style through sample scenes and analysis. Book 5 -- A sales and marketing guide that presents proven strategies to help you create a laser-sharp marketing plan. Book 6 -- A resource guide that provides addresses and contacts for industry organizations, schools, publications, support groups, services, contests, etc. Among its wealth of practical information are sample query letters, useful worksheets and checklists, hundreds of examples, sample scenes, and straightforward explanations of screenwriting fundamentals. The "Bible" was a featured selection of The Writer's Digest Book Club.



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

How does a spec script differ from a shooting script? What kind of fasteners should one use to bind a script? How did the term *MOS* come to mean *without sound*? You'll find the answers to these pressing questions and much more in David Trottier's eminently usable *Screenwriter's Bible*. The avuncular Trottier--a writer-producer, script consultant, and seminar leader--has written a friendly guide through the Hollywood morass. He touts it as six books in one: it's "a screenwriting primer, a screenwriting workbook, a formatting guide, a spec writing guide, a sales and marketing guide, [and] a resource guide."

Much of Trottier's advice is common sense: "Don't write anything that cannot appear on the screen"; to keep casting options open, don't make your physical descriptions too specific; "don't say Ron Howard is looking at the project if he is not." But there are things to know about Hollywood that are, well, quirkier. Don't write the title of your script on the front cover or side binding; present action sequences using the "stacking action" style; in query letters and scripts alike, avoid "big blocks of black ink." Trottier's guidance--from character development and revision to queries and pitches--is invaluable. Getting in the door can seem impossible, but it's not, necessarily. "If you write a script that features a character who has a clear and specific goal," says Trottier, "where there is strong opposition to that goal leading to a crisis and an emotionally satisfying ending, your script will automatically find itself in the upper five percent."

(By the way, *MOS* is said to have "originated with German director Eric von Stroheim, who would tell his crew, 'Ve'll shoot dis mid out sound')." --*Jane Steinberg*

Review

An invaluable new resource--a treasure chest of useful information--not only for new writers but also for seasoned veterans. -- *Professor Richard Walter, UCLA Screenwriting Faculty Chairman.*

Contains chapter and verse on all aspects of screenwriting, and addresses every key and fundamental principle from how far to indent dialogue to how to speak to the agent's assistant. -- *Script Magazine.*

For the writer searching for the one book that has it all, The Screenwriter's Bible is an essential reference. -- *New York Screenwriter*

Good common sense. Sets up practical guidelines without encroaching on the writer's creativity. Easy to follow--feels like a workbook that will be used and not just read. -- *Candace Monteiro, Monteiro Rose Agency*

If you have the gift, this book will show you how to use it. -- *Victoria Wisdom, Literary Agent at Becsey, Wisdom & Kalajian*

Offers all the essential information in one neat, script-sized volume.... New screenwriters will find it invaluable; experienced screenwriters will find it an excellent addition to their reference shelf." -- *Hollywood Scriptwriter*

The best screenwriting book available, and the book to buy if you're buying just one. -- *Dov S-S Simens, Founder, Hollywood Film Institute*

The formatter alone is worth the price of the book. -- *Melissa Jones, Hollywood Story Analyst*

Whether you are a rank beginner who needs instruction, or an old pro who needs reminding, you could not do better than David Trottier's book. A brilliant effort by a first-class, dedicated teacher." -- *William Kelley, Academy Award-winning writer, Witness*

About the Author

David Trottier is a script consultant, screenwriter, producer, and screenwriting teacher. The Screenwriter's Bible was developed over the nine years that he has been helping screenwriters achieve their goals.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kathryn Patterson:

Book is to be different for every single grade. Book for children till adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important for people. The book *The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script* has been making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It doesn't matter what advantages for you. The reserve *The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script* is not only giving you far more new information but also being your friend when you feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your guide. Try to make relationship together with the book *The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script*. You never sense lose out for everything should you read some books.

Lucille Grant:

The reason why? Because this *The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script* is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap it but latter it will shock you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such remarkable way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book include such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Alyson Ward:

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or 15 minute in your morning to upgrading your mind expertise or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book when compared with can satisfy your limited time to read it because all this time you only find reserve that need more time to be examine. *The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script* can be your answer given it can be read by anyone who have those short spare time problems.

Margaret Phillips:

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got college students? We believe that that problem was given by teacher to the students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. And you know that little person including reading or as studying become their hobby. You must know that reading is very important as well as book as to be the thing. Book is important thing to provide you knowledge, except your own personal teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update in relation to something by book. Many kinds of books that can you go onto be your object. One of them is niagra The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script.

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