



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 Bescsey, 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:

Freida Gilbert:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open as well as read a book entitled The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time along with your favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with their opinion or you have additional opinion?

Jamie Sparks:

This The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script are reliable for you who want to be considered a successful person, why. The explanation of this The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script can be on the list of great books you must have is definitely giving you more than just simple examining food but feed an individual with information that might be will shock your before knowledge. This book is handy, you can bring it almost everywhere and whenever your conditions both in e-book and printed types. Beside that this The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script forcing you to have an enormous of experience for instance rich vocabulary, giving you trial run of critical thinking that could it useful in your day action. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

Brenda Wright:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent the whole day to reading a book. The book The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script it is rather good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can more simply to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book has high quality.

Douglas Moskowitz:

The reason? 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 book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will zap you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book get such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to delay having that book? If I were you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

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