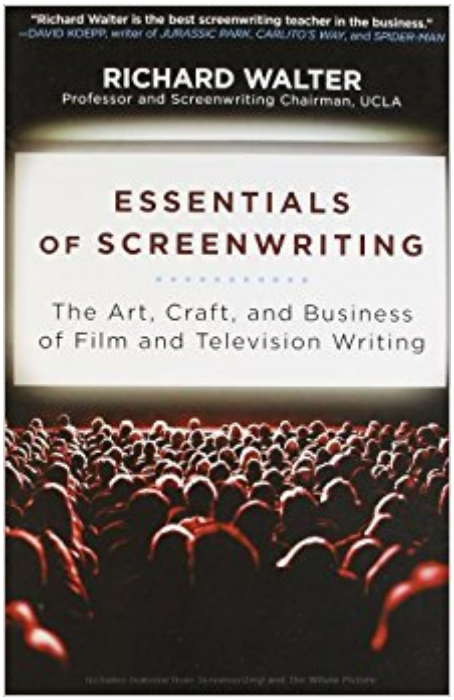
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Essentials Of Screenwriting: The Art, Craft, And Business Of Film And Television Writing



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Synopsis

Hollywood's premier teacher of screenwriting shares the secrets of writing and selling successful screenplays Anyone fortunate enough to win a seat in Professor Richard Walter's legendary class at UCLA film school can be confident their career has just taken a quantum leap forward. His students have written more than ten projects for Steven Spielberg alone, plus hundreds of other Hollywood blockbusters and prestigious indie productions, including two recent Oscar winners for best original screenplay-Milk (2008) and Sideways (2006). In this updated edition, Walter integrates his highly coveted lessons and principles from Screenwriting with material from his companion text, The Whole Picture, and includes new advice on how to turn a raw idea into a great movie or TV script-and sell it. There is never a shortage of aspiring screenwriters, and this book is their bible.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“This inspiring and comprehensive book teaches the nuts and bolts of screenwriting with clarity, wisdom, and humor.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Alexander Payne, Oscar-winning writer/director of Sideways Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“In his legendary lectures, and now in this book, [Walter] kicks you in the tail, gets you laughing, and with invaluable specifics, makes that blank page seem surmountable.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Dustin Lance Black, Oscar-winning writer of Milk Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“In the gold rush atmosphere of screenwriting, Richard Walter is a wise guide.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Andrew Bergman, writer/director of The Freshman and Honeymoon in Vegas

Richard WalterÃ Â is a celebrated storytelling educator, movie industry expert and longtime

co-chairman of the graduate screenwriting program at UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television.A screenwriter and widely published author, his books include the novelsÃ Â Escape from Film SchoolandÃ Â Barry and the PersuasionsÃ Â and the non-fiction worksÃ Â The Whole Picture: Strategies for Screenwriting Success in the New Hollywood,Ã Â Screenwriting: The Art, Craft and Business of Film and Television WritingÃ Â andÃ Â TheÃ Â Essentials of Screenwriting.

Some teachers teach because they love school and never want to leave. Others teach because they get summers off. But the best teachers in the world do it because they have an insatiable desire to master a subject and share it with anyone who'll listen. If you're ever fortunate enough to find yourself in the same room (or book) as one of these types, it can be a life changing experience.Professor Richard Walter, UCLA's Screenwriting Chairman, is one of these guys. He's been pondering the dynamics of story and structure every day for the past several decades and doesn't break a sweat referencing everything from Aristotle to Avatar in the same breath.Essentials of Screenwriting covers all the big stuff in detail-- theme, conflict, character, dialogue, etc. But this book goes deeper, exploring the interplay of psychology, art and commerce before defining a 'foolproof, shockproof, waterproof, tamper resistant' method for reaching an agent.Throughout these pages Richard also lays out a series of Screenwriting Principles. They are short and sweet, barbed and brilliant. These sixty odd philosophies (along with the story of the clueless Kindergarten teacher) are alone worth many times the cover price of this book.Essentials cuts to the chase with more style, wisdom and funny than all of the other screenwriting books I've ever read... combined. It's a fun and informative read packed with practical knowledge about the biz along with profound insights on every conceivable subject, mistake, obstacle and/ or challenge a screenwriter is likely to face.Professor Walter knows that movies are much more than just a way to kill a few hours on a Saturday night. Great movies express the love, pain, suffering, joy, triumph and tragedy of the human experience. That's why we love them.This book will help you write them.

I've read many books and taken many college and university courses on screenwriting. I found this guide on the craft and business of screenwriting quite refreshing, demystifying and useful. Professor Walter is co-chair of the UCLA Film & Television Writing Program. He knows his s*** and his graduate program has probably turned out more working screenwriters than any other university in the US, if not the world. I took a class with him over the summer this year and I loved it. If you're serious about screenwriting, buy this book and Lew Hunter's Screenwriting 434, who taught the same graduate screenwriting program for a few decades and try to get into one of Walter's classes,

try a summer session, like I did. Hunter is retired, but Walter is still turning out professional writers every year.

Richard Walter, the brother of Jessica Walter of Arrested Development is a brilliant professor of the craft called screenwriting. He is funny, interesting and will give you very definite methods to get yourself started. He also has a 4 DVD workshop he sells at the Screenwriters Store, online. It is 60 dollars and worth every cent. I've also gotten a lot from his lectures and interviews given on Youtube. His books are all superior to most on screenwriting. He's been the head of the dept. in UCLA Screenwriting Program for decades. You can trust anything he says.

I enjoyed the read so much I bought a second copy for a friend. Mr. Walter also has some great youtube videos.I find by watching the videos, and then reading the book you get a feel for the authors mannerisms it gave me a more personalized read, made me feel like the guy was talking to me directly. I got a few good laughs out of his delivery. Useful material I have read about a dozen books on screenwriting and attended a few classes on the subject. I am done reading now and am applying what I have read to my own screenplay on my Hawaiian Missionaries book, we will see if this effort helps me create an enjoyable adaptation, if nothing else I enjoyed the quest. Thanks for sharing.

Wonderful. I bought this for a niece of mine who loves writing, art, film, theater, etc. She thinks she wants to be an engineer but I am definitely trying to steer her in this direction.. that's what Uncles do right?!I pre-read this in a few evenings. Very simple straight forward language. No highbrow intellectual theory.. JUST HOW TO turn an idea from thought or other fiction into a screenplay - what works and what doesn't and why.After she read it after Christmas we took one of her older stories and turned it into a screenplay and started a short film.

I absolutely LOVE this book. I believed that I've saved so much time and money by reading this book and putting Professor Walter's suggestions into practice. Highly recommended.

That's exactly what the title says, the ESSENTIALS of screenwriting. There are many myths in what is important in screenwriting. Richard Walter destroys them and teaches you how to think in the write way if you want to realise what GOOD MOVIE is. Don't read any other book for screenwriting before you read Richard Walter - Essentials of Screenwriting and Aristotle - Poetics.

5 Stars for the information, 2 stars for the quality of print. It is small and only lightly dark.

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