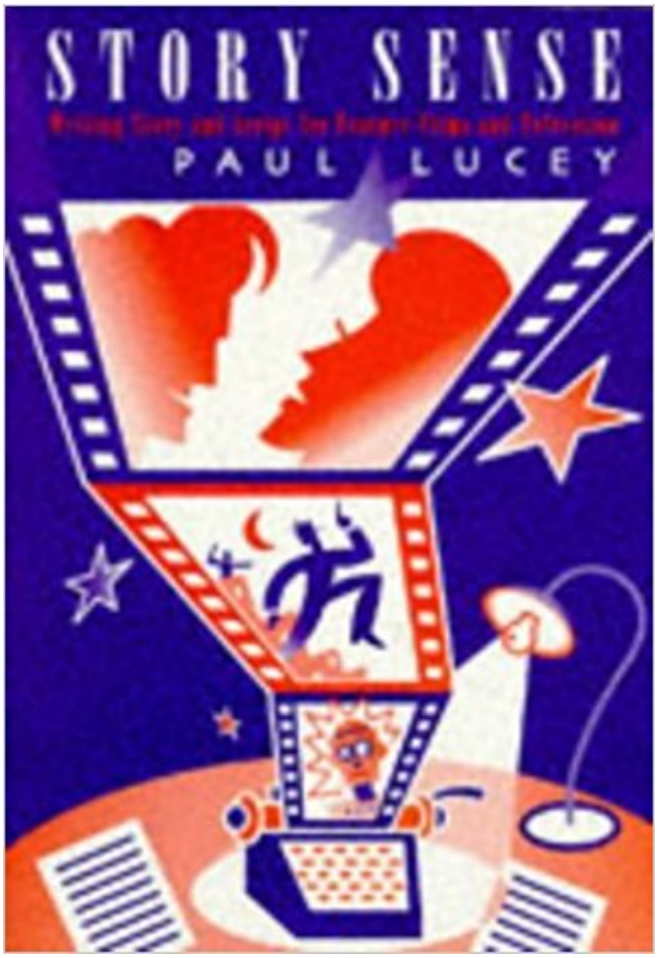
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Story Sense: Writing Story And Script For Feature Films And Television



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Synopsis

This is the first true textbook for a course in screenwriting. Story Sense provides specific strategies for writing story, character, and script. A wealth of techniques are suggested so that screenwriters can select those that work best for them. The book has been conceived as a working manual for screenwriters and offers hands-on advice for solving the many problems that crop up as the work progresses. In addition, the book includes examples of script format, a glossary of film terms, the Writer's Guild's compensation terms, and such insider examples as a sample studio script evaluation form, a sample script analysis, a sample studio reader's questionnaire, and a sample re-write.

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages
Publisher: McGraw-Hill Companies; 1st edition (January 1, 1996)
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Customer Reviews

If you are serious about becoming a screenwriter, this book is the place to start. It's not just a book. It's a screenwriting course. It's twelve chapters. Plan to spend about ten hours a week on each one. You'll need the scripts and DVD's of four movies to get the most out of the course: "The Terminator" (action story); "Witness"(action and character); "Sleepless in Seattle (Romantic Comedy); and what people consider to be the perfect script, "The Verdict." Paul says to watch the movies with the script in hand. But you might try watching the movies with the sound off, too.Why this author? Paul has three decades of experience of teaching in film schools, on writing screenplays, and on seminar discussions by writers, filmmakers, and movie executives who addressed craft forums sponsored by by the Writer's Guild of America. The insights taken from the WGA meetings were tested in Paul's

screenwriting classes at UCLA, USC, and other schools.The book has two main parts: (1)"Writing the Story" and (2)"Writing the Script."His best advice, in italics, is on page 96, "...Do not write the script until you are totally happy with your plot outline..."This one is definitely worth the money. Other authors do a good job of analyzing scripts, screenwriting, but no one goes into the writing process as deeply as Paul Lucey.Screenwriting is not for the weak-minded or weak-willed, however, be forewarned. There's 70,000 scripts registered with the WGA each year, and it takes 4 or 5 scripts, according to Paul, to get to the professional level. So unless you have to write, unless you have the ardent desire to win, and love to write, don't waste your time.

As others have written, this is the quintessential book on screenwriting. Story Sense was recommended to me by a friend who actually took a course from the author years ago. In full disclosure I have not read the entire book. What I discovered, and was extremely valuable to me as an amateur author; the second and third chapter of the book can be used for any type of writing; not just the book's topic of screenwriting. I've bought a number of books on writing. I wish I had bought this one first.

When ordering several books on screenwriting this book caught my eye because of the high ratings afforded it by others. After reading it I fully concur with what others had to say. I went out and purchased DVDs of the four main example films (The Verdict, Terminator, Sleepless in Seattle, and Witness) that Mr. Lucey focuses on and they allowed me to pick up the fine points described in the text. His vast experience in script writing shows through in each of the topics discussed. I cannot recommend this book highly enough. For a detail-oriented individual such as myself, this book met all my expectations. If you are interested in this topic, this book is a "must have" by all means.

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Best book for Screen play writers...it reads like a Bible for Screen writers

Very happy, thank you

I have read many screenwriting books and this is the most complete. It takes you by the hand through each step of the process. I would recommend it to anyone interested in screenwriting. The book even states that if you follow the steps in the 12 chapters it should take you 120 hours and would be equivelent to a college course. No need for any other training. This book is it!

This is certainly the most in-depth book about the craft of screenwriting that I have read. In many ways, it is the best. Many other books can be read more quickly, because they do not go into as much detail (even with a similar page count) as this one.I will say that at its heart, this book gives the same basic advice as pretty much any other book that I have read. The difference is that this one goes into the trouble of offering advice on how to create the story and characters and does not simply focus all of its attention to the format and structure of the screenplay.This book is as good as any written on the subject of screenwriting.

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