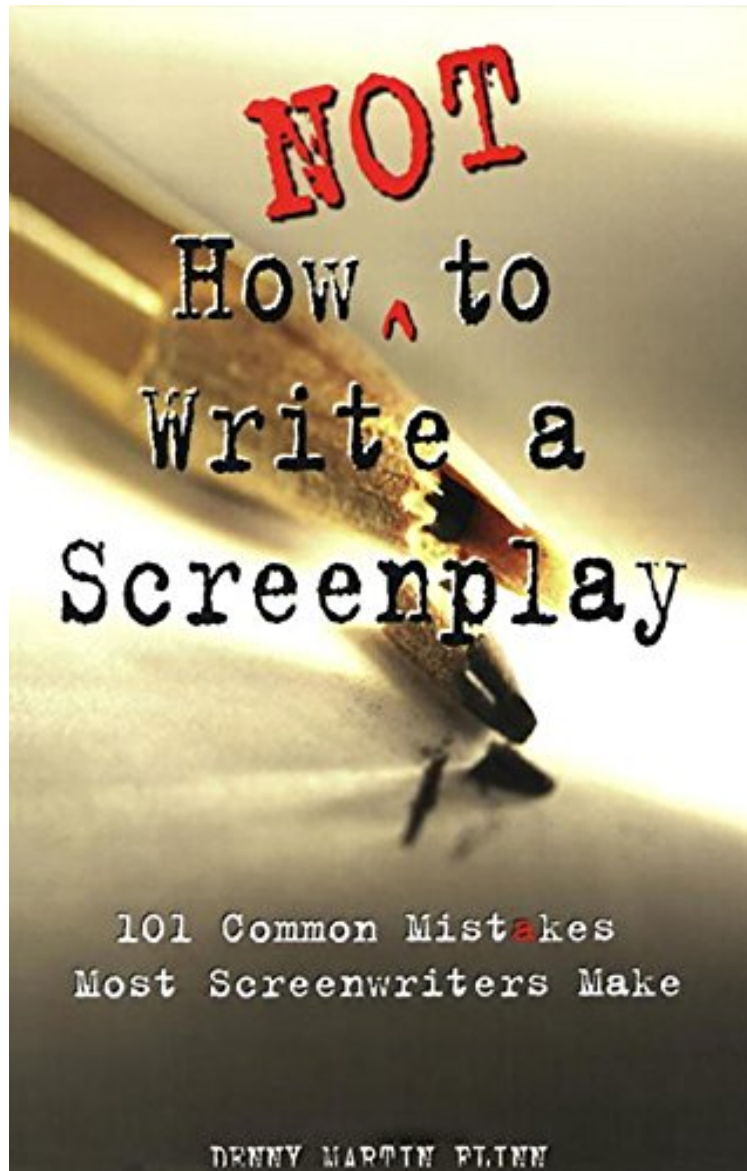


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How Not to Write a Screenplay: 101 Common Mistakes Most Screenwriters Make

Denny Martin Flinn

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#243302 in BooksColor: Paperback, Denny Martin Flinn 1999-05-01 1999-05-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.98 x .57 x 6.00l, .86 #File Name: 1580650155240 pagesHow Not to Write a Screenplay 101 Common Mistakes Most Screenwriters Make | File size: 17.Mb

Denny Martin Flinn : How Not to Write a Screenplay: 101 Common Mistakes Most Screenwriters Make before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How Not to Write a Screenplay: 101 Common Mistakes Most Screenwriters Make:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. After you read all the How-to-write-a-script about saving the dratted cat (which is good) and killing that cat (which is baaad!)By Janet MackieRead Denny Martin Flinn's: How NOT to Write a Screen Play. It's is a MUST- Read and a hoot to boot! (In addition to being an invaluable guide to eradicating all FLINN's 101 common (baaad) mistakes which I discovered I'd baked into my spec script (while I imagined I was saving that dratted cat...!) Flinn's 1st section on "FORM' is about more than how to indent and leave all the uniform white spaces in the right places aka the "LOOK' Hollywood expects. Flinn's second section, CONTENT, is for those of us who keep trying to tell instead of show what the darn cat's up to. Flinn's Part 3, DEVELOPMENT is priceless offering nuggets like, "just nod your head and smile" then pursue the point (with the development gurus.) Ask Ok, (if we go with your idea and) the girl doesn't die on page 30, how do we keep her in the story? That's even a pretty good line to pursue even if it's your critique group telling you to kill one of your darling cats. As Flinn says, you might learn something. I did.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Easy, Fun, and PracticalBy Milt NuzumThis is an easy read with many good examples on how to write and format a professional screenplay. It is probably not a substitute for a college education, but for story tellers who want to write their story in the form of a script for a movie, this is a must read. There are other books on the topic, but this one seems to cover all the basic elements needed to make your screenplay look professional. I enjoyed reading it because it is not written as a dry text book. Rather it tells a story about how to write a great screenplay from the perspective of the author who has read hundreds of them. This author uses many examples from movie screenplays to keep his story interesting and make the points he wants to impress upon the reader. Those points create the outline for writing a successful professional looking screenplay. My only criticism is some of the examples he uses are longer than needed to make the points. Notwithstanding, as I stated, it was a quick and easy read packed with useful information. I will use it as a reference as I write my screenplay. I am sure I will wear it out.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the most helpful books ever!By CustomerPros-Really insightful. This book is great for beginners. I bought two other books, but I have not opened them because this one tells me everything I need to know.-Contains information on formatting. I don't know how many books tell you about formatting a screenplay, but "How Not" is probably the most detailed.-Funny as sin. It takes a good writer to impart information onto the audience. It takes a great writer to make it entertaining.Cons-The format of the book is weird. It is divided into two chapters: Form and Content. I wish the Form section was divided into chapters like description, formatting, action, etc. I had trouble trying to find specific information a few days after reading good advice. That is why I deducted one star.The book is more helpful than I can explain here. If you really need some information about how to write, buy this first.

All good screenplays are unique, but all bad screenplays are the same. Flinn's book will teach the reader how to avoid the pitfalls of bad screenwriting and arrive at one's own destination intact.

.com How Not to Write a Screenplay is an invaluable addition to any aspiring screenwriter's shelf--and you'd best make the shelf within arm's reach of the computer. Author Dean Martin Flinn, an experienced script reader, details the common rookie mistakes that drive script readers crazy. Flinn makes no pretense of being able to teach anyone how to write the next Great American Film--or for that matter the next Stupid Summer Blockbuster. Instead he offers information that will help keep the novice screenwriter's opus from being immediately tossed on the trash pile (arguably a more valuable service). As Flinn says in his introduction, if you follow the advice in this book, "you may not write a particularly good screenplay, but you won't write a bad one." Flinn offers practical advice on formatting, such as the proper form for a slugline and where to set your margins, and more general rules of thumb on giving the actors room to interpret their roles and avoiding dictating camera angles to the director (who will ignore them anyway). The second half of the book deals with content, also in a remarkably pragmatic way--structure, pacing, plot resolution, and dialogue that really stink are all handily dealt with. Flinn illustrates almost all his points with excerpts from screenplays both good and bad (names have been changed to protect the guilty), giving the reader concrete examples of the difference between poorly and well-structured scenes. Not sucking is an unusual goal for a screenwriting manual, but any script reader will agree it is a noble one. --Ali Davis

About the AuthorDenny Martin Flinn was an American screenwriter. He was born in 1947 and grew up in California. After moving to New York he worked as an actor, dancer, and choreographer. In 1979 he wrote and directed the off-Broadway musical Groucho. Flinn wrote a number of novels and also did choreography for television. He also cowrote the script of Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country.Flinn died in 2007.