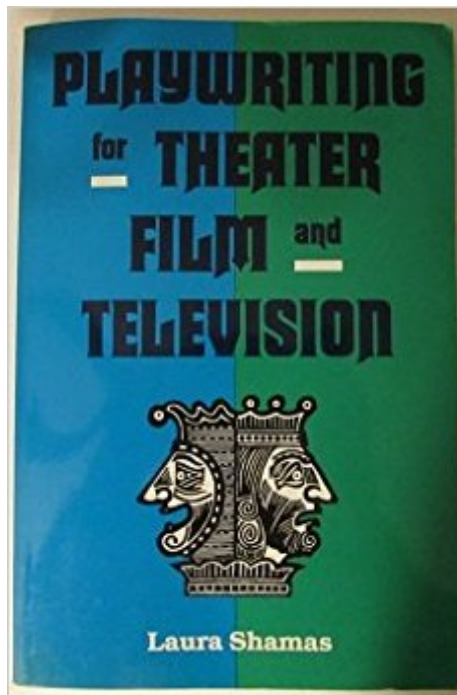




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Playwriting For Theater, Film, And Television



Synopsis

Book by Shamas, Laura

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Customer Reviews

YA-- A step-by-step how-to for playwriting, this is a readable guide. In a no-nonsense but good-humored fashion, Shamas not only outlines how to write plays or screenplays, but also provides valuable contest, marketing, and publishing information for beginners. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This unusual and exemplary manual focuses on the process of writing one's own play. Most books of this ilk give innumerable pages to plot points, action curves, and formal presentation but little to the basic concerns of novice writers, such as outlining character and plot, filling in those outlines, and dealing with a case of writer's block. This book addresses all these concerns with clear instructions and exercises, providing a simple and warm discussion of the whole process. Classics in the field of screen writing, e.g., Edward Dmytryk's *On Screen Writing* (Focal Pr., 1985) or Syd Field's *Screenplay* (Dell, 1984. pap.) , concentrate on what the industry expects in form and content rather than on the more practical aspects of writing and marketing a play. Thus, this is a welcome addition to the classics: together they present a much fuller picture of the entire process.- Robert Rayher, Sch . of the Art Inst. of Chicago Lib. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This book is a detailed, easy to read book which gives lots of useful information to anyone interested in playwriting. It has specifics about different formats as well as tips on the differences between writing for the stage and screen. This was recommended to me by a former professor who is a published author as well. He told me that this was his choice book for teaching playwriting, and I understand why.

As a playwriting and screenwriting instructor myself, this is the book I always recommend to students and friends who want to know more about how to write for theater, film and television. Laura Shamas expertly maps out a clear and confident approach for the beginning writer. As a professional writer, I find this book keeps me on my toes and reminds me of a lot of things I sometimes forget. It's been said that you can't teach talent, but you can learn craft, and this book is truly one of the best of its kind.

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