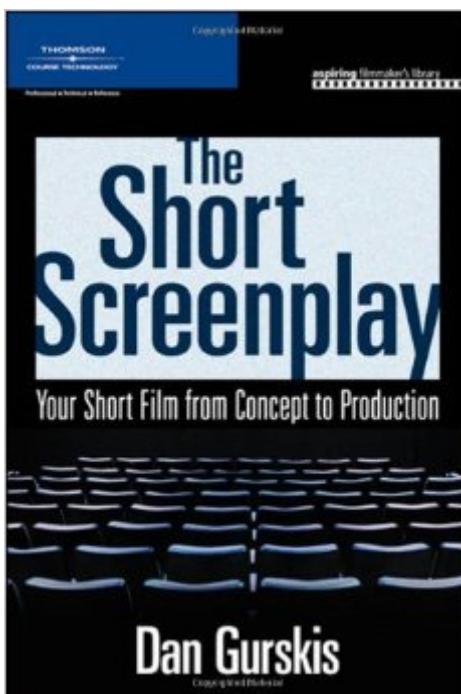


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# The Short Screenplay: Your Short Film From Concept To Production (Aspiring Filmmaker's Library)



## **Synopsis**

With the growth of film festivals, cable networks, specialty home video, and the Internet, there are more outlets and opportunities for screening short films now than at any time in the last 100 years. But before you can screen your short film, you need to shoot it. And before you can shoot it, you need to write it. The Short Screenplay provides both beginning and experienced screenwriters with all the guidance they need to write compelling, filmable short screenplays. Explore how to develop characters that an audience can identify with. How to create a narrative structure that fits a short time frame but still engages the audience. How to write dialogue that's concise and memorable. How to develop story ideas from concept through final draft. All this and much more is covered in a unique conversational style that reads more like a novel than a "how-to" book. The book wraps up with a discussion of the role of the screenplay in the production process and with some helpful (and entertaining) sample scripts. This is the only guide you'll ever need to make your short film a reality!

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I use this book for all my screenwriting and production classes at the Savannah College of Art and Design. For clarity and readability, it is unmatched, and all my students agree. If you buy just one book about screenplay writing, this should be it.

This is an excellent "how-to-do-it" book. Writing a short screenplay is especially challenging

because there is so little screen time to develop a good plot and tell an interesting story without excessive dialog. The screenplay must evoke a visual experience that guides the director and entertains the audience. The author presents a series of "rules" that can help to achieve good results, but he leaves the subject matter up to the screenwriter. This is as it should be, leaving plenty of room for creative expression. M.H.

With YouTube and the global adoption of the internet delivered marketing messages, WE have become the screen writers of the 21st century. Gurskis provides a straight forward Help Guide on How To create the core story and successfully deliver the message to this new and exploding audience. Clearly Gurskis with 20+ years of experience both professionally as an Emmy Award winner but also academically as Chair of the Department of Film Studies at Brooklyn College walks the novice screen writer through this process. I rate this an entrepreneurs' five star, must-read.

heuristic - enabling a person to discover or learn something for themselves. That's what "The Short Screenplay" provides for screenwriters. Like a good script, it uses short sentences, active accurate verbs and a minimum of modifiers. Gurskis includes useful examples without dropping names or reminiscing. By doing so, he provides a screenwriting reference that supports your own writing process and emotional connection to the work. Though it's about short screenplays, I use it for all of my screenwriting. If I were going to teach a screenwriting class, this would be the text.

Finally, a book that gets to the nitty gritty without innundating you with how a film "should be made." Daniel Gurskis allows the reader the freedom to create whatever content he/she would like while still educating on the invaluable fundamentals of the "short film" format. After (unfortunately) purchasing a few other books on this subject, I sent them all back with the exception of this one. An author who educates without trying to tell you how to create. Fantastic work, and thank you!

Writing for a short can be very challenging to since most of us are used to watching features. This book is very informative and got me off to a good start in making short films. It's geared toward directors rather than writers. I keep this book around for quick reference when I need it.

My Professor selected this book for a Short Screenplay Writing class this semester and I am really enjoying it. The author has provided definitions of key film concepts in the text which is great for learning and review.

Great book! I needed this book for my screenplay class and it really pulled through. It breaks down all the terms and necessities of what is required in a screenplay. If you want to learn how to write one and learn the format for it, I highly recommend this book.

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