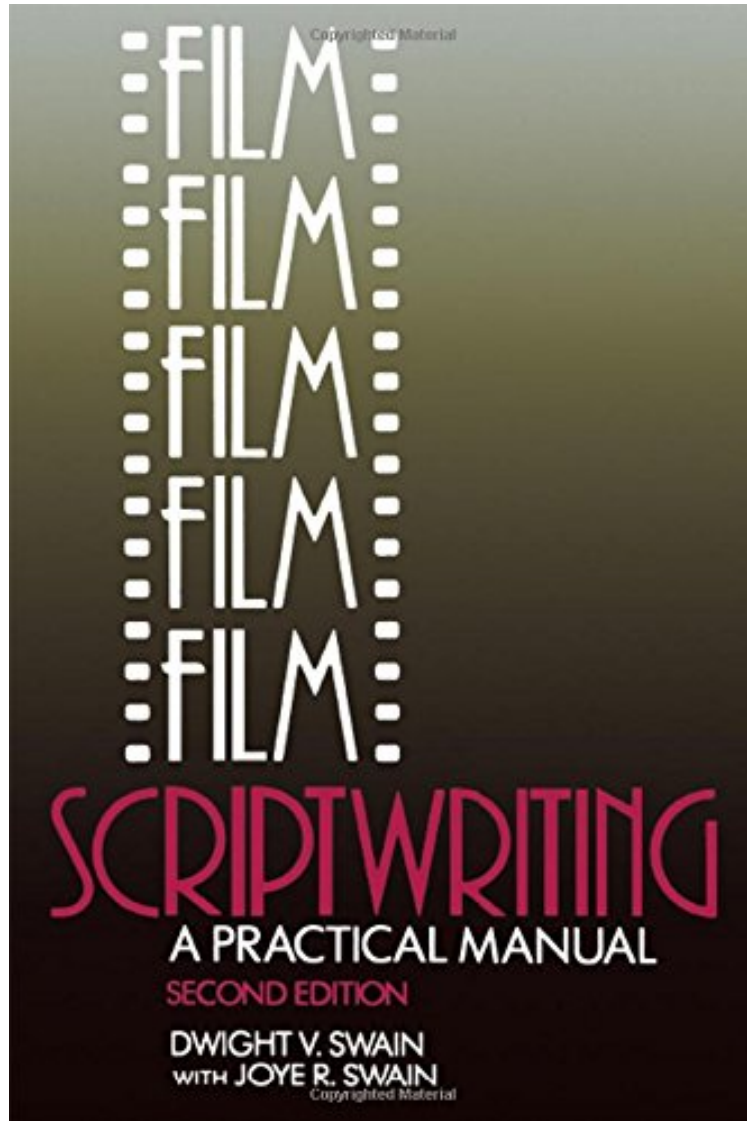


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Film Scriptwriting: A Practical Manual, Second Edition

Dwight V. Swain, Joye R. Swain
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Geoff Thank goodness for libraries. I took out several screenwriting books yesterday because I wanted specific answers and advice. Although this copy was from 1976, I valued how it laid out the steps of developing one's idea all the way to the master scene script and into surviving story conferences. This is specific and to the point. It distinguishes the premise, outline, treatment, and step outline stages. Most impressively it gave specific examples. The advice was straight to the point. It was quite the opposite from seeming to talk down to the reader. As perhaps a side-note, it also devoted a collection of chapters to writing a "fact story", what I take to mean a documentary, including what the script and outline look like. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The best screenwriting book I've found so far! By Brian Dzyak I'm not sure what book the other reviewers here were reading, but after looking at some of the other popular screenwriting books out there, I've found that this "Practical Manual" is perhaps the best overall at helping screenwriters learn the craft, both technically and creatively. It is full of very useful practical (thus the appropriate title) advice and guidelines for structuring a screenplay in terms of story and style. Don't hesitate to buy this book and use it! It's worth every penny.

This second edition of the widely acclaimed *Film Scriptwriting* is a truly practical manual for the working writer. It provides all the clear, step-by-step guidance you need to script both fact and feature film and video - from getting and developing ideas to the writing of master scene or shooting script. Featured in this new edition are annotated excerpts from some of today's most successful films, selected to point up principles and techniques discussed. Interviews with working film specialists reveal the things professional directors, producers, story editor, and analysts look for in appraising the scripts that come across their desks.

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