

(Download pdf) On Screen Writing

On Screen Writing

Edward Dmytryk

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Edward Dmytryk : On Screen Writing before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On Screen Writing:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Dated and nothing new By Jakela Nothing you didn't know before. Found some satisfaction in that. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Stunning!! By Martin Cole The is a GREAT read and toolbox. For my money the best of his books. If you want to really get into the mind of the viewer you will love this book 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Learn from a Man who Directed over 50 Feature Films By Eric Lee Smith The author, Edward Dmytryk, directed over 50 feature films, including the well-regarded *The Caine Mutiny* (nominated for best picture) and *The Young Lions*, as well as campy pictures like *Walk on the Wild Sides* and *Captive Wild Woman*, and many war pictures and westerns. In short, the man knew how to direct and he knew the business. This book is one of four that he wrote about the business of film, the topics being filmmaking, directing, editing, and screen writing. This book came out in 1985, from Focal Press - an outfit known for their excellent books on the techniques and technology of photography and film. The book is short, at 178 pages, but packed with insightful details and examples that demonstrate the methods of screen writing. I have not studied filmmaking, much less screen writing, so I found myself learning new things on virtually every page. Dmytryk teaches by example and he stresses the importance of understanding film and how it differs from the stage and the novel. Adaptation is one of the main themes of the book, with excellent chapter length example from *The Caine Mutiny*. Dmytryk's writing style is direct, punchy, and tight. He fascinates, the book simply oozes his years of experience; he

has clearly made every mistake he describes and has exercised all the advice he gives. He covers the technicalities of screen writing quickly, mostly by showing real scripts. The parts I found most enlightening were his detailed breakdowns of script excerpts, especially when they were revised in response to points he made. I enjoyed this book and highly recommend it, even if like me, you have no intention of ever writing a screen play.

Loaded with practical information, including an extensive discussion of adaptation, an obvious but often ignored subject in most screen writing books.