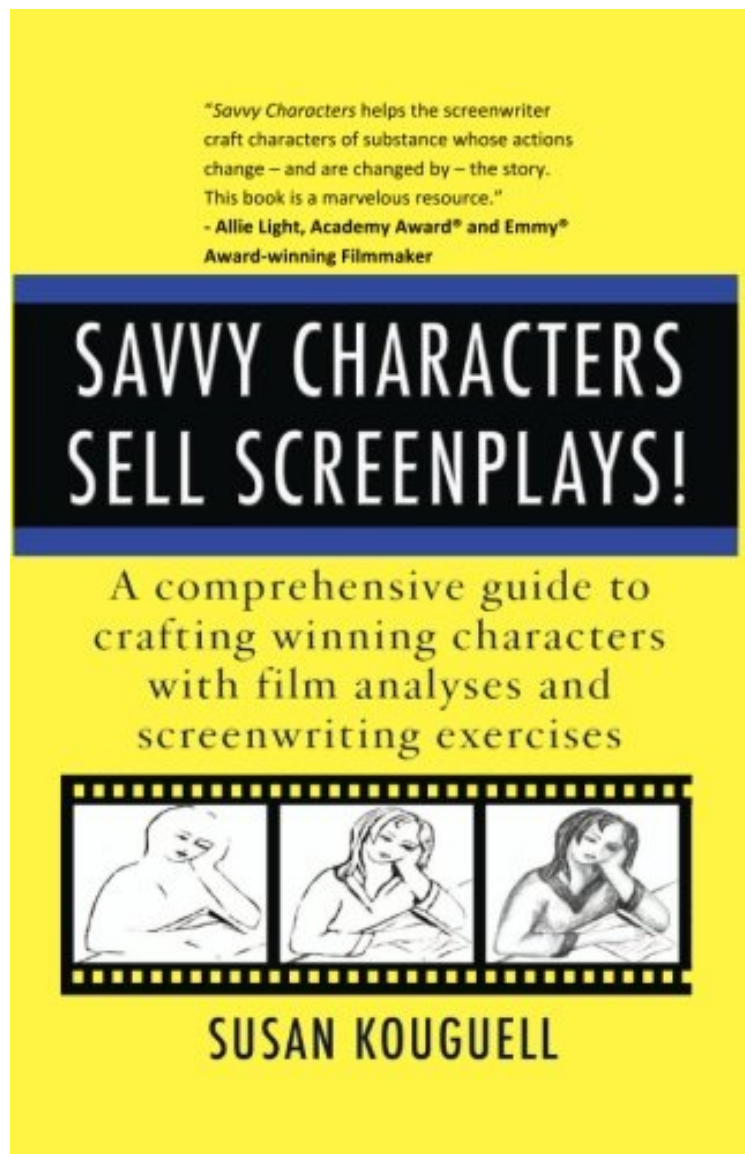


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Savvy Characters Sell Screenplays!: A comprehensive guide to crafting winning characters with film analyses and screenwriting exercises

Susan Kouguell

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By Sara
Got some great tips here for developing better characters and characters that are the heart of your story. It's important for all writers to know this stuff - novels or scripts.

A must-have guide for screenwriters, *Savvy Characters Sell Screenplays!* will help you make your characters thrive in all the essential elements that comprise a successful script. This book has them all -- from protagonists to antagonists, supporting to dysfunctional characters -- learn how to delve into your people and their plots and subplots, settings, dialogue, and relationships. An invaluable resource analyzing and referencing over 220 Hollywood, independent and foreign films, offering 34 screenwriting exercises, and providing six templates from fictional scripts. Whether you are a first-time screenwriter or have written several scripts, *Savvy Characters Sell Screenplays!* offers inspiration and hands-on tools, guiding you through each critical element of screenwriting, with the spotlight on creating and crafting compelling characters so you can write a savvy screenplay that will sell.

"With her engaging, insightful *Savvy Characters Sell Screenplays!* Susan Kougell provides a valuable contribution to the ever-burgeoning world of screenwriting education." - Professor Richard Walter, UCLA Screenwriting Chairman
"*Savvy Characters Sell Screenplays!* is chock full of useful examples and exercises to help beginning and seasoned screenwriters deepen their characters." - Barry Brodsky, Director, Emerson College Screenwriting Certificate Program
"*Savvy Characters Sell Screenplays!* is definitely a welcome and useful addition to the screenwriting repertoire!" - John Bernstein, Associate Professor, Film, Boston University College of Communication
"*Savvy Characters* helps the screenwriter craft characters of substance whose actions change - and are changed by - the story. This book is a marvelous resource." -- Allie Light, Academy Award and Emmy Award-winning Filmmaker
"For over twenty years, Susan Kougell has been a practicing screenplay doctor - and she's never lost a patient. Her latest lucid book is a must for anybody writing scripts or seeking a deeper understanding of the movies they love." Thelma Adams, Yahoo! Movies Film Critic, New York Film Critics Circle Member, author of the novel *Playdate*
From the Author
I have read the very good, the very bad, and the very ugly screenplays, during my many years consulting and teaching, and working as a story analyst, story editor, and writer for film studios and production companies. As a film industry insider, I know what movie executives are looking for in a great screenplay--and as a screenwriter, professor, and script consultant, I know what types of writing tools really work for my students, Su-City Pictures' clients, and for me. Since the release of *The Savvy Screenwriter: How to Sell Your Screenplay (and Yourself) Without Selling Out!*, (St. Martin's Griffin)--many of my students and clients suggested (okay, some demanded) I write another screenwriting book, but this time focusing on crafting characters. And, they suggested (okay, they demanded) this new book offer unique writing exercises and film analyses, and like *The Savvy Screenwriter*, be accessible, not long-winded and plodding, and that my sense of humor remained. *Savvy Characters Sell Screenplays!* heeds my clients' and students' demands...and more.
From the Inside Flap
TWENTY chapters contain... THIRTY-FOUR writing exercises designed to help screenwriters unleash ideas, strengthen their characters, and break through stumbling blocks... SIX templates from fictional scripts provide hands-on assistance with constructing characters, not to mention ... TWO-HUNDRED-PLUS Hollywood, foreign, and independent movies, spanning approximately 70 years, are analyzed and referenced, offering screenwriters specific character-crafting examples to guide them through their writing process. *Savvy Characters Sell Screenplays!* is more than just the aforementioned numbers, it is, as the title suggests, about characters and how to make them thrive in all the essential elements that comprise a successful script.