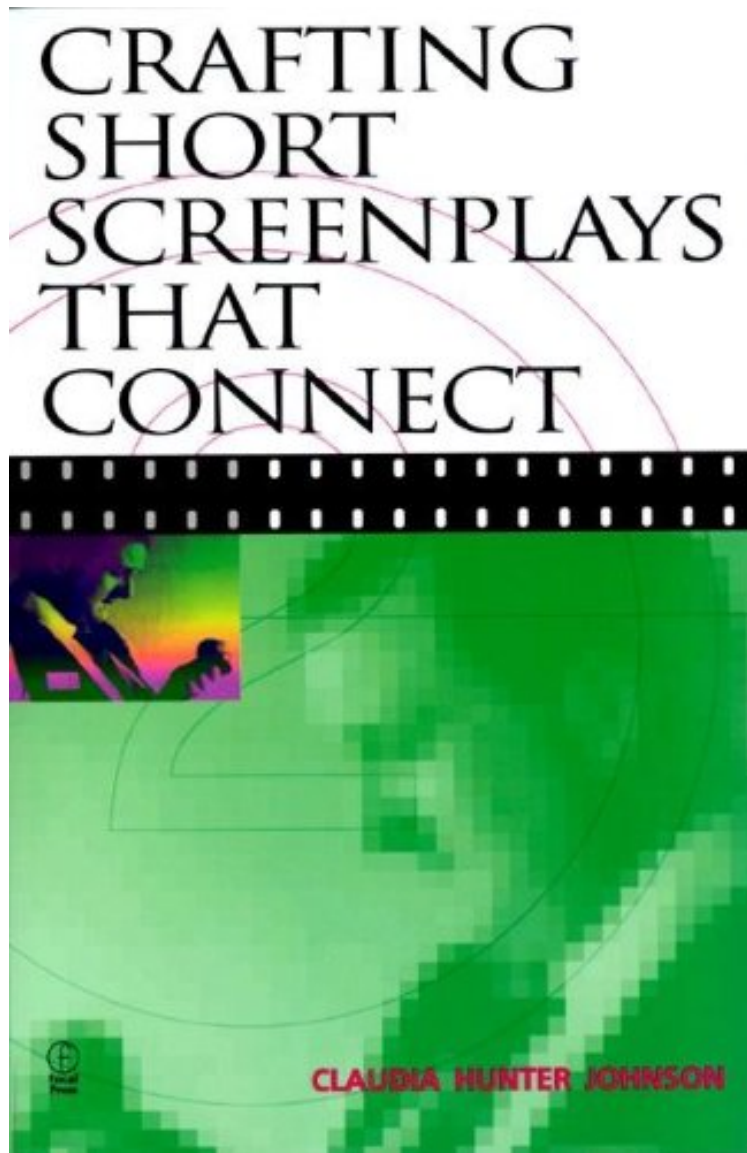


(Download free ebook) Crafting Short Screenplays That Connect

Crafting Short Screenplays That Connect

Claudia H Johnson, Claudia H. Johnson
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Claudia H Johnson, Claudia H. Johnson : Crafting Short Screenplays That Connect before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crafting Short Screenplays That Connect:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. and this one is truly excellent - among my 3 favouritesBy Mr. L. A. AdamsonI've read a lot of books on Screen writing, and this one is truly excellent - among my 3 favourites. It's not only for short scripts, but is useful in general, because of certain techniques that Hunter has developed as a teacher over many years, which she shares, and which have helped me to find my individual and authentic voice, so that I

write about what I really care about, know about and value. Highly recommended. Cheap too!17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. This book is a real gem.By Chuck BrownI stumbled on it recently when I was at the Samuel French bookstore on Sunset Blvd. In the heart of Hell-A (oops, scratch that - L.A. has no heart!) Anyway, there are tons of screenwriting books in that store. Tons. But I happened to pick this one up and start reading the Introduction. Very insightful. So I bought it (should've bought it here, though - it's cheaper), and I ended up devouring it pretty damn quickly. The writing is terrific - very conversational, accessible, smart, and at times bust-a-gut funny. But most impressive, the author sheds light on the importance of "connection" in the storytelling process. It made me think back about how many times in writing classes CONFLICT CONFLICT CONFLICT had been shoved down my throat. Okay, okay, I got it already! But, she points out, it's only half the story (the yin to the yang, or ya know, vice-versa...) - as she goes on to wonderfully illustrate and illuminate. Also, the sample student scripts are great additions. I especially got a big laugh out of "The Making of 'Killer Kite.'" I may have to spring for the companion video just to see how that film turned out.Yeah, yeah, the book has "short screenplays" in the title, but the points she makes are applicable to scripts of any length. You can bet that even this jaded L.A. feature film writer will be incorporating a lot of her insights in his own creative process.I'm looking forward to any follow-ups from this author, because she's finally brought something new - and important -- to the endless discussions (and how-to books) on screenwriting.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Crafting Short Screenplays that ConnectBy debi carruthWhat I liked most about this book was its conversational style. Very down-to-earth, but it maintains a sense of professionalism as well. Claudia really knows what she's talking about - not only book knowledge, but also life experience. Of course, that isn't all there is to like about this book. Her insights are well-thought-out and well-defined. It's good to see something in the genre that doesn't focus on Conflict as the sole driving force in the narrative form. And, finally, on a practical level, I believe the book is well-ordered and well put together. And the length of the chapters is inviting, rather than daunting. You can read a chapter easily in one sitting; because so much of the learning process is not *reading*, but *doing*, I feel that the brief chapters allow much more time to get to the 'doing' portion of learning, the really meaningful stuff. In short, I wish all text-books were this accessible and enjoyable.

The beauty and power of any story lies in its ability to connect to the reader, listener, or observer. *Crafting Short Screenplays That Connect* is the first screenwriting guide to introduce connection as an essential, although essentially overlooked, aspect of creating stories for the screen and of the screenwriting process itself. Written with clarity and humor, this book teaches the craft of writing short screenplays by guiding the student through carefully focused writing exercises of increasing length and complexity. Five award-winning student screenplays are included for illustration and inspiration. The text is divided into three parts. Part one focuses on preparing to write by means of exercises designed to help students think more deeply about the screenwriter's purposes; their own unique vision, material and process; and finally about what screenplays are at their simplest and most profound level--a pattern of human change, created from specific moments of change--discoveries and decisions.Part two teaches students how to craft an effective pattern of human change. It guides them through the writing and re-writing of "Five (Not So Easy) Pieces"--five short screenplays of increasing length and complexity--focusing on a specific principle of dramatic technique: The Discovery, The Decision, The Boxing Match, The Improbable Connection, and The Long Short Screenplay.Part Three presents the five screenplays used throughout the book to illustrate the dramatic principles that have been discussed, and includes interviews with the screenwriters, a look at where they are now and what they are doing, and brief discussion of how each film evolved.

"In this beautifully written and inspiring book, Claudia Johnson leads the reader through the process of writing the short film, along the way illuminating something much bigger--how to write great drama in any form. A very accessible book, well-researched and full of original thinking, *Crafting Short Screenplays That Connect* adds an important part to the literature of screenwriting and filmmaking, and will undoubtedly lead to some great short films."- Linda Seger, author, *Making a Good Script Great*"*Crafting Short Screenplays that Connect* would make a good addition to any screenwriter's library...a very accessible book for aspiring screenwriters." - Videomaker"Whether you want to write short screenplays because you want some practice before you go the distance, or because it's an assignment for your film class, '*Crafting Short Screenplays That Connect*' is for you...It is explicit in its detail and direction. What is perhaps the most unique part of this guide is the fact that it contains five short screenplays that illustrate dramatic principles she teaches."- Jason Antebi, *Done Deal* (scriptsales.com)From the PublisherThe text is divided into three parts. Part One focuses on preparing to write by means of exercises designed to help students think more deeply about the screenwriter's purposes; their own unique vision, material and process; and finally about what screenplays are at their simplest and most profound level--a pattern of human change, created from specific moments of change--discoveries and decisions. Part two teaches students how to craft an effective pattern of human change. It guides them through the writing and re-writing of "Five (Not So Easy) Pieces"--five short screenplays of increasing length and complexity--focusing on a specific principle of dramatic technique: The Discovery, The Decision, The Boxing Match, The Improbable Connection, and The Long Short Screenplay. Part Three presents the five screenplays

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About the Author Florida State University Screenwriter in Residence Claudia Hunter Johnson, Ph.D. has written numerous screenplays for feature film and television productions, including two documentary specials commissioned by the National Endowment for the Arts. Her last screenplay, *Obscenity* (co-written with Matt Stevens), was a finalist for the 1997 Sundance Screenwriters Lab. She has written several award-winning full-length and one-act plays. Her many awards include the Lorraine Hansberry Award, American National Theatre West Award, and Academy Award. In 1993, she won the inaugural PEN/Newman's Own First Amendment Award for her campaign to restore banned literary classics to high school classrooms in Florida. Her widely acclaimed book, *Stifled Laughter: One Woman's Story About Fighting Censorship*, was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.