

# afilmwriter.com

every film tells a story...

## A FILM WRITER SCREENPLAY CONTEST RULES & GUIDELINES & RELEASE

(Must be read before submitting screenplay)

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### Official Rules:

1. **A FILM WRITER** accepts all completed feature length screenplays from all genres.
2. A completed and signed entry form and the appropriate entry fee must accompany all entries.
3. Each entry fee will entitle the contestant to enter ONE completed screenplay.
4. You may enter more than one screenplay, but you must submit a separate entry/release form and entry fee with each submission.
5. All submissions are required to follow submission rules in order to be considered. Entries that fail to follow competition rules and guidelines will be disqualified. There will be no refunds for entries that do not comply with competition rules and guidelines.
6. All submissions are final and no substitutions of new drafts or corrected pages for entries will be accepted under any circumstances. Updated drafts may be submitted as separate entries and are subject to all of the same submission requirements and fees as any other entry.
7. Co-authorship is acceptable, but each author must sign the release on the entry form. Entries submitted with incomplete releases cannot be considered. Both entries submitted under a particular Order ID/registration fee must be attributed to the same single author or set of co-authors, no exceptions.
8. Screenplays cannot have been produced nor can they currently be under an option. Screenplays that are currently optioned or have negotiations pending and/or are sold before the A FILM WRITER Contest ends are not eligible for competition.
9. Screenplays must be the original work of the author. No adaptations of other written work will be accepted unless the writer can demonstrate ownership of the rights to the original material. If based on another person's life story, a statement attesting to the rights obtained must be attached. There must be no dispute about the ownership of submitted screenplays or the writer's right to submit a screenplay.
10. It is the responsibility of the screenwriter(s) to ensure that their work is protected. It is highly recommended that you copyright your screenplay with the Library of Congress or register with the Writers Guild of America (WGA).
11. **A FILM WRITER** reserves the right to extend the final deadline for submissions, though an extended deadline is not guaranteed. All entries must be submitted by the final deadline to be accepted, no exceptions. Failure to meet the deadline will not result in a refund of the registration fee.

12. Professionals in the film industry will determine finalists and winners. All entries will have an equal chance to win, based on quality and critical potential in the eyes of the judges. Judges' decisions are final.
13. Finalists and winners will be notified by email and the results will be posted on our website.
14. Participation in the **A FILM WRITER** Contest implies understanding and acceptance of all terms included in the entry form.

### Submission Guidelines

- All entries must be accompanied by the online completed entry.
- All entries must agree to the rules and guidelines release
- The appropriate entry fee must be submitted. Your Order ID is valid for submission of one completed screenplay unless entering more than one with the same payment.
- Authorship on both entry forms must be the same or your entries will be disqualified. You may submit your entries anytime up until the final contest deadline.
- All entries must be in English.
- **IMPORTANT!** No writer or contact information should appear on the entry material itself. The first page of entry materials should include title ONLY, no name or contact information. Name or identification must not appear anywhere else in the entry materials. Author identification on the entry materials can result in immediate disqualification, as we must preserve anonymity in the judging process.
- No promotional materials, illustrations, or artwork will be accepted.

### **Completed Screenplay Submissions & Eligibility**

- Screenplays should be feature length (prefer no less than 70 pages and no more than 125 pages).
- Screenplays must be in 12 point Courier font and formatted according to industry standards. Pages must be numbered.
- Submitted scripts must be original screenplays, and the sole property of the applicant(s).
- Must be 18 years or older to submit. Minors need written permission by a parent or guardian to submit and be eligible.
- All entries must be in English. Absolutely no exceptions.
- All entries must be uploaded in PDF format.
- Under absolutely no circumstances will substitutions of either corrected pages or new drafts of the entry screenplay(s) be made. Screenplays will not be returned.
- If a submitted screenplay becomes optioned or purchased between the time of submission and the end of the judging period, that screenplay will no longer be eligible.
- Competition judges, paid readers and independent contractors of A FILM WRITER AND THE STORY READERS are not eligible to enter.
- Screenplays submitted under a pen name will be immediately disqualified. Screenplay titles cannot be changed upon resubmission under any circumstances.

- Resubmissions per guidelines of the same screenplay for a second read will be read by a second reader but not necessarily the same reader from the first round. The philosophy is to have two different readers, however, the highest score is the score to be considered in any resubmission.

I have read all of A FILM WRITER rules and regulations. I understand and have complied with these rules. To the best of my knowledge, all of the statements herein are true and correct. I understand failure to adhere to A FILM WRITER rules will result in disqualification. As the sole owner and author of submitted material, I fully attest that the following is true and correct:

I have read, understand and agree fully to the official rules of the competition and hereby request that you read, evaluate and judge said material, of which I am sole author and have exclusive rights and authority to submit the same upon the terms and conditions stated here within.

Furthermore, I indemnify A FILM WRITER, its affiliates, sponsors and judges of and from any and all claims, loss or liability that may be asserted against you or incurred by you or any associates, at any time in connection with said material.

I indemnify A FILM WRITER, its affiliates, sponsors and Judges of and from any and all claims, loss or liability that may be asserted against you or incurred by you or any associates, at any time in connection with any promised prizes or timelines. A FILM WRITER and its affiliates in good faith have negotiated prizes and/or awards but cannot be held liable for any third party action or failure to produce said prize and/or awards.

I understand that A FILM WRITER will not use the material or any part of, except in connection with the Awards unless you: (1) enter into an agreement with me granting rights to the material, or (2) determine in good faith that I do not own or control the material because features or elements were independently developed by someone other than me; are in the public domain or; are not novel or new.

I understand A FILM WRITER or affiliates may use my name to promote the contest and that semi-finalists and finalists names will be posted on A FILM WRITER website(s). A FILM WRITER is not liable for a third party posting of such information in any media source.

I have retained at least two copies of said material, and I hereby release you of and from any and all liability for loss of, or damage to, the copy of said material submitted to you hereunder.

If more than (1) one party signs this agreement as submittor, then reference to "I" or "me" throughout this agreement shall apply to each party; jointly and severally.

By submitting your screenplay you accept ALL the rules, guidelines of A FILM WRITER.

