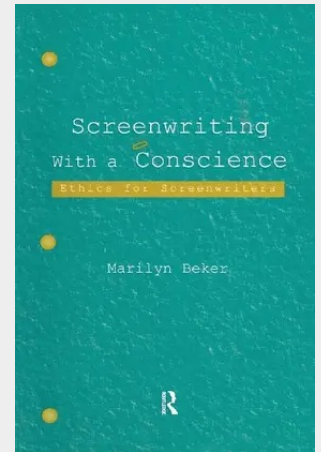


Screenwriting With a Conscience

Ethics for Screenwriters

Screenwriting With a Conscience: Ethics for Screenwriters is for screenwriters who care deeply about what they write; who are aware that movie images matter and can influence audiences; and who want to create meaningful screenplays that make powerful statements while entertaining and winning over audiences. A user-friendly guide to ethical screenwriting, this book makes the case that social responsibility is endemic to public art while it emphatically champions First Amendment rights and condemns censorship. In this dynamic and practical volume, author Marilyn Beker provides methods for self-assessment of values, ideas, and ethical stances, and demonstrates the application of these values to the development of plot, character, and dialogue. Screenwriters are introduced to ethical decision making models and shown--through specific film examples--how they can be utilized in plot and character development. In addition, specific techniques and exercises are supplied to help screenwriters determine the difference between "good" and "evil," to write realistic and compelling characters based on this determination, and to present "messages" and write dialogue powerfully without preaching. This book also puts forth a livable work philosophy for dealing with the ethics of the screenwriting business, and presents a viable personal philosophy for surviving in the screenwriting world. Screenwriting With a Conscience: Ethics for Screenwriters is an indispensable, dynamic guide for the ethics-conscious screenwriter. It is intended for screenwriters at the student and professional level, and is appropriate for beginning to graduate screenwriting courses in film and English programs, and for film courses dealing with Ethics in the Media.

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67,30 €

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Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780805841282

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-0-8058-4128-2

Verlag: Routledge

Erscheinungstermin: 01.08.2003

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: 1. Auflage 2003

Serie: Routledge Communication Series

Produktform: Kartoniert

Gewicht: 390 g

Seiten: 266

Format (B x H): 152 x 229 mm

