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# The Screenwriter's Legal Guide



## Synopsis

This authoritative guide will help both fledgling and established writers to negotiate the best deal, protect their work, and get fair compensation for it. One of the most powerful entertainment lawyers in Hollywood provides easy-to-understand, expert advice on all the legal issues involved in the business of screenwriting. He gives an enlightening explanation of the screenwriter's position in the industry and then provides a thorough discussion of contracts, options, and working with agents and lawyers. This book shows screenwriters what to give up as a lost cause and what to hold out for.

• Includes current Writer's Guild minimums and recent legal development • "A book that should be in every screenwriter's library."--Syd Field, author of *Selling a Screenplay* •

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## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"As hard as it is to write a good screenplay, it's still only half the game. What's in this book is the other half- and to ignore it is to risk being eaten alive." A Tedious Read? Nope! - 9 Stars! (Jeff Arch, Screenwriter) "The Screenwriter's Legal Guide" is chock-full of example documents that you may encounter in your screenwriting career. In "Protecting Your Money" there is a sample escrow agreement. In "Commissioned Screenplays" you get a certificate of authorship agreement. In "Agreements: Other Provisions to Watch Out For" are typical representations and warranties provision as well as article 28 of the WGA. Whenever the author discusses a type of agreement, sample of that agreement is provided. Overall - 9 Stars! "The Screenwriter's Legal Guide" covers

just about everything you'll ever encounter in this business as a screenwriter. You'll be able to protect yourself on the legal side of this business with this handy, informative guide. Read this book, so you can protect yourself as a writer. -- Done Deal Screenwriters' Bookshelf

As hard as it is to write a good screenplay, it's still only half the game. What's in this book is the other half and to ignore it is to risk being eaten alive. Steve Breimer is the exception to every lawyer joke I've ever heard, and you'd be crazy not to soak up everything he has to offer in these pages. Unless you want to see your ship finally come in and then sail away without you, you should march to the counter right now, take this Legal Guide home, and start reading! -- Jeff Arch, screenwriter, *Sleepless in Seattle*, *Iron Will*, and *Sealed with a Kiss*

Navigating shark-infested waters in a litigious world where fortunes change hands based on legal mistakes, this extraordinary handbook is a guide for anyone in or contemplating entering the entertainment business. It's a must for those wishing to avoid or minimize problems before they impact, a primer in basic deal flow and structure from a man with decades of experience at the highest levels of the business. -- Peter J., management consultant, Media, Entertainment, Technology and Telecommunications

Short of having a brilliant idea for a movie, this is one of the best resources for the aspiring as well as the professional screenwriter. -- Michael Peretizian, Vice President, William Morris Agency, Inc.

The Screenwriter's Legal Guide demystifies screenwriting contracts. An unsurpassed and imperative reference for screenwriters, their attorneys, agents, and managers! -- Marc H., entertainment attorney

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Stephen F. Breimer, Esquire, is a partner of Bloom, Dekom, Hergott & Cook, one of Los Angeles' most prestigious entertainment law firms. He lives in Los Angeles.

This book is useful more for a screenwriter (or screenwriter's counsel) looking to protect themselves from sharp practice by big studios than for my situation, representing a small producer seeking writing talent. Still, I got useful information from this well-organized book.

Get fun for anyone trying to enter the biz.

A solid, but not great, advice book. I believe a new edition needs to be written for this quickly changing industry.

Great information for the emerging screenwriter. Highly recommended. Lots of good information

about the possibilities, perils and pitfalls of screenwriting.

## Informative

As a budding screenwriter, I find this book helpful in a way that I can enrich myself with the knowledge that otherwise has to be earned through hours of lawyer's consulting fees. the

How do you know if you're getting a fair deal? How do you protect your original creation? And what does it mean when they tell you you're going to get a share of "Net Profits?" This is an invaluable resource for screenwriters. Stephen Breimer is an entertainment lawyer who really knows his stuff. It's great that he took the time to make this information available (for a lot less money than he'd charge for an hour of his time!). Screenwriters, don't be taken! Check it out (or better, buy it!).

First and only time I would order from this company. Even though transactions was within time frame for receiving an order, all of the "right side" pages of the book have the last line cut off, either completely missing or half or more of it missing. Looks like the company has this book in a PDF file format and sent it to a press to print/bind the book themselves. Will never do this one again...

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