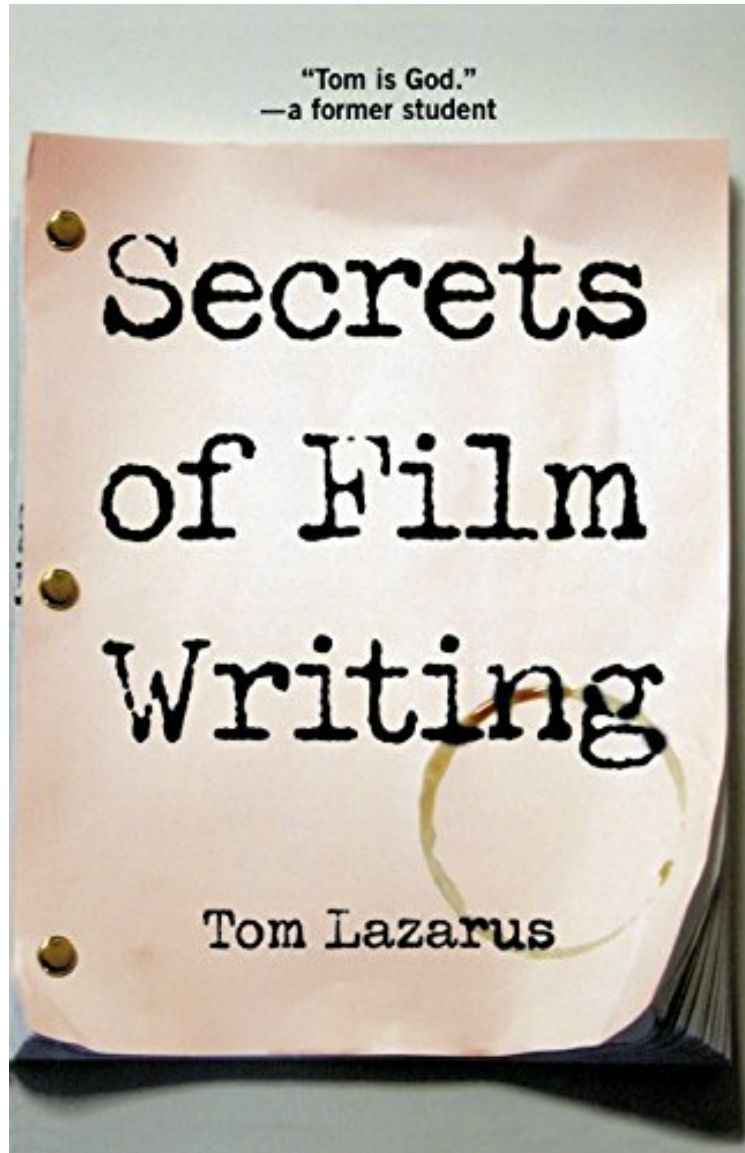


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Secrets of Film Writing

Tom Lazarus

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Tom Lazarus : Secrets of Film Writing before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Secrets of Film Writing:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Bit of a LetdownBy T. EngramThis book was rife with typos, It was more of a personal rant than instructional book. Very interesting bullet points that cut to the meat of screenplay writing were helpful. It's ok.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy Rune[[VIDEOID:moYUDK6M5O37BY]]Great book with a lot of useful information about how to tell a story.I realy

enjoyed it. He explained it so it is understandable. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Sharpen your skills
By J.W. I've read this book twice, six years apart, and it wasn't until I had completed 4 screenplays that I appreciated the beauty of this book. I have accumulated over 40 books on screenwriting since the bug bit me back in the mid-1990's. This is the best book I have found to assist with re-writing. Tom Lazarus shows how to clarify and increase readability and drama of a scene. The writer is very opinionated and has lots of experience in the field. Including many years writing for TV and the hit movie *Stigmata* (1999). This book is a short, easy read but densely packed with 30 plus years of his experience. Lots of anecdotes from his good old days, but he doesn't try to wow you with his credits, he talks plenty about his problems (yes, even after a major motion picture release an experienced writer has trouble getting scripts read) and how the Hollywood scene is changing for writers. Tom also mentions how a lucky break helped get him started. He also covers pitching and has some advice on why a log line is so important even before you start writing. This book will be a waste of time if you haven't completed at least one full length screenplay. Way to prickly for a primer, but for those who have been struggling and want to continue perfecting their craft, this book is like studying with a master.

Most books about screenplays instruct on three-act structure, character arcs, and how to format a script. But you already know all that. *Secrets of Film Writing* reveals a working writer's secrets—the tips, short cuts, tricks, and insider advice that will get your story down on paper, maximize your idea, and seduce your readers. Do you know why actors pick scripts out of a stack? Why montage sequences don't work? Why the traditional three-act structure is obsolete? Lazarus lifts the veil with dozens of secrets like these. Lazarus's insights and techniques will smooth and improve any screenwriter's process and will make any script more readable and ultimately more salable. *Secrets of Film Writing* takes you behind the scenes of feature and television writing and demystifies, once and for all, the Hollywood System.

About the Author Tom Lazarus has had five feature films made from his original screenplays, including the number-one movie *Stigmata*, and has written six movies of the week and over thirty hours of network drama. He is also an award-winning educational filmmaker. He has taught screenwriting for ten years as a UCLA Extension Instructor and continues to write screenplays while writing and directing independent features.