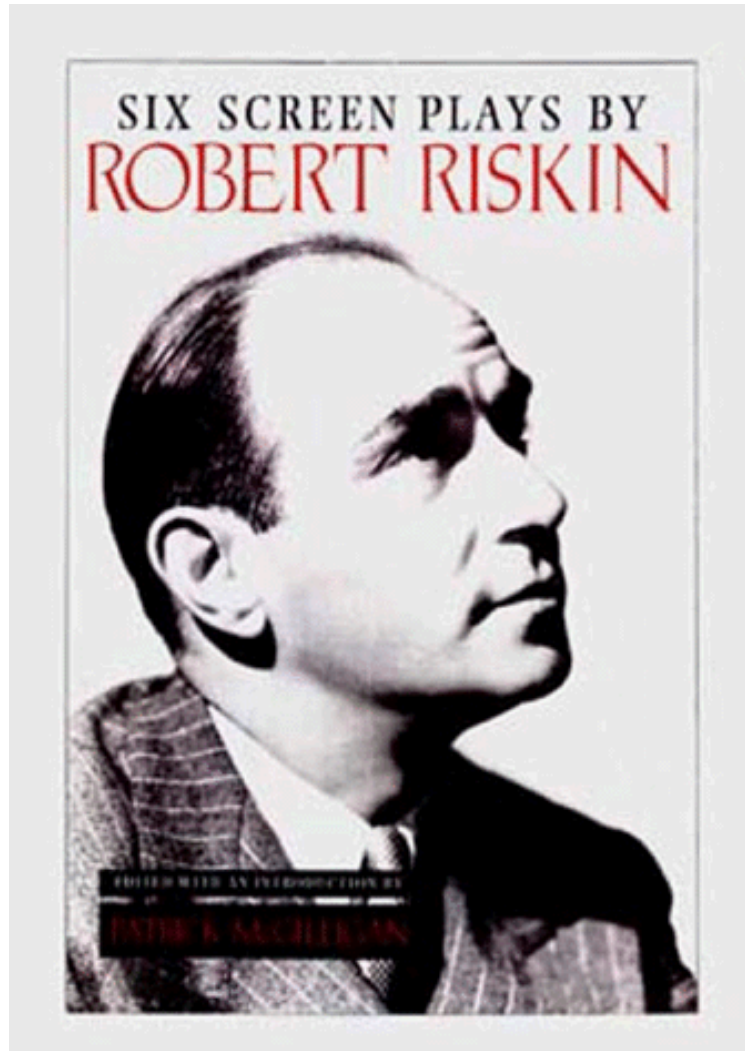


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## Six Screen Plays by Robert Riskin

*Robert Riskin*

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**Robert Riskin : Six Screen Plays by Robert Riskin** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Six Screen Plays by Robert Riskin:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great screenplays, great pacing! By E. M. Hobo Great screenplays by one of Hollywood's greats. What I thought was fun, is that it made me realize that the pacing, that a lot of people say is way higher nowadays, is actually of all times, when it comes to great screenwriting. On top of that, Robert Riskin critically represents past times in America and challenges established roles within society, by showing how some hotshot investor can be influenced by a poor African-American shoe-polisher. I've heard some people comment on how the different roles within society were portrayed in relatively racist ways, by the likes of Robert Riskin. I would say that he honestly represented the dishonest spread of wealth and rights in the USA at the time, while at the same time

showing, that we are all being influenced by everyone around us, meaning that in fact we do all have influence. As such, you might argue, that despite racist times and other bigotry, he managed to show change at different levels.<sup>4</sup> of 4 people found the following review helpful. Screenplay writing at its best By AMH3K This is an excellent book on the great movies made by Frank Capra-but brought to the imagination of Robert Riskin. How enjoyable it was to read them, especially "It Happened One Night" one of my favorites. A must for any classic movie buff.

Screenwriter Robert Riskin (1897-1955) was a towering figure even among the giants of Hollywood's Golden Age. Known for his unique blend of humor and romance, wisecracking and idealism, Riskin teamed with director Frank Capra to produce some of his most memorable films. Pat McGilligan has collected six of the best Riskin scripts: *Platinum Blonde* (1931), *American Madness* (1932), *It Happened One Night* (1934), *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* (1936), *Lost Horizon* (1937), and *Meet John Doe* (1941). All of them were directed by Capra, and although Capra's work has been amply chronicled and celebrated, Riskin's share in the collaboration has been overlooked since his death. McGilligan provides the "backstory" for the forgotten half of the team, indispensable counterpoint to the director's self-mythologizing autobiography and incidentally the missing link in any study of Capra's career. Riskin's own career, although interrupted by patriotic duty and cut short by personal tragedy, produced as consistent, entertaining, thoughtful, and enduring a body of work as any Hollywood writer's. Those who know and love these vintage films will treasure these scripts. McGilligan's introduction offers new information and insights for fans, scholars, and general readers.

.com When we hear the titles *It Happened One Night*, *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town*, *Lost Horizon*, and *Meet John Doe*, we think immediately of Frank Capra, their brilliant and much beloved director. But did you know that these and many other Capra films were all written by the same man, the unfairly neglected Robert Riskin? Such films, like all of Capra's best, are wonderfully witty, a delightful marriage of word and image. With *Six Screenplays by Robert Riskin*, you can read about the lesser-known element of the Capra/Riskin collaboration and treat yourself to six of the best screenplays ever written. Patrick McGilligan has provided good notes to the scripts as well as a fine introduction that describes Riskin's Lower East Side upbringing in New York City, his early career in movies, his collaboration and friendship with Capra, his marriage to Fay Wray, and his sad, untimely death. About the Author Robert Riskin, who arrived in Hollywood in 1930, was one of the industry's greatest screenwriters. He won an Academy Award for the screenplay of *It Happened One Night* and Oscar nominations for *Lady for a Day*, *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town*, *You Can't Take It with You*, and *Here Comes the Groom* (story only). The Writers Guild honored him with its Laurel Award for Lifetime Achievement. Pat McGilligan, a resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has written acclaimed biographies of James Cagney, Robert Altman, George Cukor, Jack Nicholson, and a new biography of director Fritz Lang called *Fritz Lang: The Nature of the Beast*. His Backstory series for the University of California Press, like the Nicholson biography, has been translated into several foreign languages.