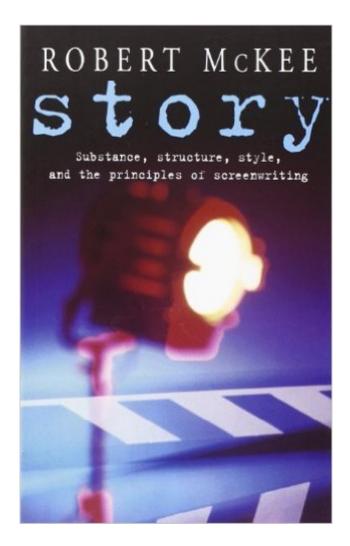
## The book was found

# Story: Substance, Structure, Style And The Principles Of Screenwriting (Methuen Film)





### Synopsis

Structure is Character. Characters are what they do. Story events impact the characters and the characters impact events. Actions and reactions create revelation and insight, opening the door to a meaningful emotional experience for the audience. Story is what elevates a film, a novel, a play, or teleplay, transforming a good work into a great one. Movie-making in particular is a collaborative endeavour - requiring great skill and talent by the entire cast, crew and creative team - but the screenwriter is the only original artist on a film. Everyone else - the actors, directors, cameramen, production designers, editors, special effects wizards and so on - are interpretive artists, trying to bring alive the world, the events and the characters that the writer has invented and created. Robert McKee's STORY is a comprehensive and superbly organized exploration of all elements, from the basics to advanced concepts. It is a practical course, presenting new perspectives on the craft of storytelling, not just for the screenwriter but for the novelist, playwright, journalist and non-fiction writers of all types.

#### **Book Information**

Series: Methuen Film Paperback: 466 pages Publisher: Methuen Publishing; Reprint. edition (November 1, 2005) Language: English ISBN-10: 0413715604 ISBN-13: 978-0413715609 Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 5.3 x 1.5 inches Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (520 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #70,149 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Theory #66 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Screenwriting #143 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > History & Criticism

#### **Customer Reviews**

For me \_Story\_ by Robert McKee is an incredibly useful book in terms of analyzing stories after the fact. If you read a popular, well-crafted book or view a movie or TV show with those qualities and want to understand how it works, what makes it tick, you would be hard pressed to find a better book, and you should just order this book now -- you're in for a treat. If you're an aspiring writer, \_Story\_ may be extremely helpful for you (as evidenced by the many glowing reviews here), but it

might also be problematic in ways you don't expect. It's from this perspective that I'm writing this review. Writing fiction is an incredibly personal experience, so to be clear I'm not saying that people who love this book as a writing how-to are wrong. I think if you have a certain mindset or approach to writing, this book will be extremely helpful to you. But if you don't, you may want to approach \_Story\_ with some caution (which I'll explain in a minute).Some fiction writers employ a very methodical, intellectual approach, putting stories together like watchmakers carefully constructing a complex timepiece, creating detailed outlines first and using them as blueprints to build their stories. This is a completely valid way to work -- in fact, I'm envious of such writers and wish it worked for me. If you already know that you are this sort of writer, you should just order \_Story\_ right now, because you almost certainly are gonna love it and find it incredibly useful.Some writers employ a more organic, intuitive approach, where creating a story is an unstructured process of discovery (the so-called "pantsers", because they work from "the seat of their pants"). In my view this is also a perfectly valid way to work, not inherently better or worse than being a dedicated outliner.

I've read many books on screenwriting, and Story is certainly one of the best. Its conservative, to be sure, espousing all the tenets of Classical Hollywood Narrative: Three act structure, strong active protagonists, inciting incidents, causal chain, action not words - y'know the drill.McKee, however, is not a member of the Syd Field school. Field gives writers rules; McKee offers principles. This is a critical difference. McKee believes in the craft and art of screenwriting above all else. Consequently, Story has a different tone to Field's Screenplay. If you look beneath the surface of Story, you'll find that McKee's principles and views are far more flexible than anything Vogler or Field has offered the screenwriter. While primarily focusing on what he calls Arch-Plot (Classical Hollywood Narrative) he also accepts the existence of other, alternative, forms. He also hails the greatness of those alternative narrative films throughout the book. These alternative narratives are not, however, the focus in Story. McKee believes that an aspiring writing needs to master the classical story form before adventuring elsewhere. His goal in the sheer bulk of Story is to educate, not indoctrinate, the reader about all aspects of Classical Narrative. For many readers this will come across as a conventional approach to screenwriting. That it is. Unlike many other (traditional) screenwriting books, though, this is underpinned by McKee's belief in the craft above all else. He doesn't want you to just absorb, but rather think. about what he is saying. If you don't understand how a traditional story works, and how to tell one well, what chance in hell do you have of telling your multi-passive-protoganist, anti-plot, 2-act, time-jumping magnum work?

Download to continue reading...

Story: Substance, Structure, Style and the Principles of Screenwriting (Methuen Film) Style: The Lady's Guide to French Style, Fashion and Beauty- Get Dressed to Look Charm and Elegant (French Chic, Sense of Style, Style, Style Books, Style ... Dressed, Look Hot, Look Fabulous Book 1) Seeking Safety: A Treatment Manual for PTSD and Substance Abuse (Guilford Substance Abuse) Sum & Substance Audio on Securities Regulation with Summary Supplement (CD) (Sum and Substance Audio) Coping With An Addict: How to deal with drug addicts, substance abusers using pot, prescription pills, cocaine or methamphetamines (Coping With Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Book 5) Clinical Work with Substance-Abusing Clients, Third Edition (Guilford Substance Abuse Series) Screenwriting 101 by Film Crit Hulk! Screenwriting Secrets in Genre Film (Write Now Workshops series Book 1) The Film Encyclopedia 7e: The Complete Guide to Film and the Film Industry Forever Chic: Frenchwomen's Secrets for Timeless Beauty, Style, and Substance On Speaking Well: How to Give a Speech With Style, Substance, and Clarity Don't Be Such a Scientist: Talking Substance in an Age of Style The Visual Story: Creating the Visual Structure of Film. TV and Digital Media GAY SWEATSHOP PLAYS (Methuen Theatrefile) LESBIAN PLAYS VOL 1 (Methuen New Theatrescript) (v. 1) The Methuen Drama Anthology of Modern Asian Plays Chekhov Plays (Methuen Paperback) A Doll's House (Methuen Student Editions) Polypropylene Structure, blends and composites: Volume 1 Structure and Morphology Advanced Organic Chemistry: Part A: Structure and Mechanisms: Structure and Mechanisms Pt. A

#### <u>Dmca</u>