



# Screenwriting Unchained: Reclaim Your Creative Freedom and Master Story Structure (With The Story-Type Method) (Volume 1)

By Emmanuel Oberg



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**In *Screenwriting Unchained*, Emmanuel Oberg busts many myths and sets out an innovative method**

This practical, no-nonsense guide leaves behind one-size-fits-all story theories and offers a modern approach to story structure, making it a precious resource for anyone involved creatively in the Film and TV industry (or aspiring to be): writers, directors, producers, development execs, showrunners and, more generally, storytellers keen to reach a wide audience at home and abroad.

Having identified three main story-types - plot-led, character-led, theme-led - Oberg reveals in a clear, conversational style how each of these impacts on the structure of any screenplay, and how we can use a single set of tools to develop any movie, from an independent crossover to a studio blockbuster.

This leads to a powerful yet flexible way to handle the script development process: the *Story-Type Method*®. A new framework that doesn't tell you **what** to write and **when**, but focuses instead on **why** some tools and principles have stood the test of time, and **how** to use them in the 21st century.

**According to readers (see reviews below), Oberg's new approach is a game changer.**

**Here are some of the easy-to-understand concepts explored in *Screenwriting Unchained* that will help you improve *any* screenplay:**

- *How to identify the story-type of your project to make its development faster, easier and solve most story structure problems.*
- *How to leave behind the prescriptive, logistical three-act structure based on page numbers or minutes and replace it with a flexible, dramatic three-act structure that will help you design a rock-solid screenplay.*
- *How focusing on emotion, character development and managing information will allow you to go beyond the "protagonist-goal-obstacles-conflict" basic chain of drama.*

- How to use the fractal aspect of structure to design not only the whole story but also its parts in order to avoid the dreaded "sagging middle" syndrome and breathe new life into your script.
- How to clarify what's at stake and increase your chances of getting the project made with a new take on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.
- *How to use subgoals to Sequence the Action and psychological/emotional steps to Sequence the Evolution of your characters.*
- *How to keep the audience engaged using tools like dramatic irony, surprise, mystery and suspense, adding a third dimension to your story.*
- How to master these tools and principles in scenes through practical exercises before using them in a short film, a feature film, a TV episode or a whole series following hands-on tips and advice.
- How to design an attention-grabbing opening and a satisfying ending.
- How to deal with hybrids and exceptions, as story structure isn't about forcing all narratives into a single formulaic paradigm.
- With *The Rewrite Stuff: 12 Ways to a Stronger Screenplay*, how to approach a new draft creatively and efficiently.
- How to make the difference between selling documents - used to raise development or production finance - and story design tools.
- Once you've developed a killer script, how to best pitch your project according to its story-type and get enthusiastic partners on board.
- ...and much, much more!

*Using many case studies including films as diverse as Gravity, Silver Linings Playbook, Crash, Billy Elliot, The Intouchables, Birdman, Alien, Groundhog Day, Misery, Edge of Tomorrow, The Secret in Their Eyes, Cloud Atlas, L.A. Confidential and The Lives of Others, **Screenwriting Unchained will transform the way you write, read, pitch, design, assess and develop screenplays. Guaranteed!***

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Without question the most useful book in the marketplace on the writing and development process.

Eschewing a dogmatic approach to structure, Oberg allows for a methodology which embraces the diversity of stories that writers wish to tell and comes up with clear and practical approaches to developing narratives.

This is a highly refreshing approach to the subject and one highly recommended to everyone from the aspiring screenwriter to the overburdened development exec."

**--Dan MacRae, Head of UK Development, StudioCanal**

"*Screenwriting Unchained* is an incredibly comprehensive book and an impressive achievement indeed. In particular, the way Oberg devises a properly 'unified theory' that is creatively rather than orthodoxy led makes it a fabulous one-stop, practical tool box for writers and developers. I for one will be recommending it heartily (and using it in my writing no doubt!)"

**--E. J. Clarke, Head of Film and TV at Shoebox Films and author of the *Rowan Oakwing* Series**

"Whenever I worked with Emmanuel, I was always blown away by his razorsharp insight on how to construct and structure screenplays. Now he's collated all his insights into a book that should be required reading for any writer/director, writer or anyone dealing with the script development process. *Screenwriting Unchained* is the lightsabre of screenwriting books: the Story-Type Method cuts through to the essence and guides you when you are lost."

**--Matthias Hoene, Writer/director (*Cockneys vs Zombies*, *Warrior's Gate*)**

"Screenwriters tend to rely too heavily on formula, as if there is a plug-and-play recipe for creating art. What Oberg does with this *Screenwriting Unchained* book is offer a background on what he calls "logistical structure" and why it has worked for so long, but then focuses the writer on "dramatic structure" which instead allows the writer to breathe, present emotion on the page in a more fluid manner, and concentrate on the most important element of storytelling: presenting an emotional experience to an audience. A refreshing new book all writers should consider studying."

**--Max Timm, Int'l Screenwriters Assoc (ISA) and author of YA fantasy novel, *The WishKeeper***

"This is a really clear and intelligently laid out book. Each section flows logically and easily into the next. It is very accessible and the principles are quick to grasp. It has some truly inspired chapters, use of Maslow, break down of types of story and above/below line requirements. There are proper workable tools to use when approaching rewriting too which is so often overlooked in other books. Just when I thought there couldn't possibly be anything more to add on the subject of screenwriting, this book finds it."

**--Simon Bovey FHEA, Screenwriting Lecture at Worcester University**

From the Author

Please see Author's page below.

About the Author

See below

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Kathryn Sheffield:**

Book is to be different for each grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important usually. The book Screenwriting Unchained: Reclaim Your Creative Freedom and Master Story Structure (With The Story-Type Method) (Volume 1) seemed to be making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The reserve Screenwriting Unchained: Reclaim Your Creative Freedom and Master Story Structure (With The Story-Type Method) (Volume 1) is not only giving you considerably more new information but also to become your friend when you sense bored. You can spend your own spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship with all the book Screenwriting Unchained: Reclaim Your Creative Freedom and Master Story Structure (With The Story-Type Method) (Volume 1). You never sense lose out for everything if you read some books.

#### **Daniel Kirk:**

The reserve with title Screenwriting Unchained: Reclaim Your Creative Freedom and Master Story Structure (With The Story-Type Method) (Volume 1) has lot of information that you can understand it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. This particular book exist new understanding the information that exist in this publication represented the condition of the world at this point. That is important to yo7u to be aware of how the improvement of the world. This particular book will bring you inside new era of the the positive effect. You can read the e-book on your smart phone, so you can read it anywhere you want.

#### **Philip Brown:**

The reason? Because this Screenwriting Unchained: Reclaim Your Creative Freedom and Master Story Structure (With The Story-Type Method) (Volume 1) is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap that but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such incredible way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book get such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I were being you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

#### **Anthony Koch:**

Many people spending their time period by playing outside with friends, fun activity together with family or just watching TV the whole day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by reading through a book. Ugh, ya think reading a book can actually hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Smart phone. Like Screenwriting Unchained: Reclaim Your Creative Freedom and Master Story Structure (With The Story-Type Method) (Volume 1) which is having the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's see.

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