

THE WRITER'S EDGE

READER PREVIEW



FROM PAGE TO SCREEN

BOOK 29

The Writer's Edge - 2027 Expanded Edition

A Step-by-Step Guide to Adapting Your Book for Film

Find the Cinematic Story. Protect the Rights. Build the Package. Make the Pitch.



B ALAN BOURGEOIS

A selected preview from the complete book.

What This Book Will Do for You



A book is not a movie waiting to be typed into screenplay format. Novels can live inside thought, memory, description, exposition, history, and hundreds of pages. Film must make story visible and audible through behavior, conflict, images, scenes, choices, reversals, and momentum.

From Page to Screen shows authors how to identify the cinematic story inside a book and rebuild it for a different storytelling form without losing what made the original matter. It also addresses the business side of adaptation: ownership, screen rights, options, professional roles, project materials, pitching, collaboration, and the reality that interest is not the same as a produced film.

The practical result is a step-by-step path from rights and story audit through adaptation, packaging, targeted relationships, negotiation, and continued writing - with the author clear about what must survive, what can change, and what is actually being offered.

PROTECT THE HEART. REBUILD THE FORM.

Selected From the Book



Find the Movie Inside the Book

Adaptation begins by reducing the book to its dramatic core.

Write the One-Sentence Movie

Describe the protagonist, goal, central obstacle, stakes, and distinctive situation in one or two sentences.

If you cannot identify the central movie without explaining six subplots, the adaptation is not focused yet.

Choose the Emotional Spine

Ask what changes emotionally from beginning to end. Plot tells us what happens; the emotional spine tells us why the audience stays.

Protect the transformation even when events must be compressed.

Name What Can Disappear

Create a 'not in the movie' list early. Side characters, subplots, backstory, locations, explanations, and favorite scenes may be valuable in the novel but unnecessary on screen.

Cutting is not disrespect. It is adaptation.

Selected From the Book



Compress Without Flattening

A screenplay cannot carry a novel's full architecture, but compression should increase dramatic force rather than simply remove pages.

Combine Functions

Two minor characters may become one screen character if they serve similar dramatic purposes. Several locations may become one. Multiple conversations may become a single scene with greater pressure.

Combine function, not personality at random.

Enter Late and Leave Early

Screen scenes usually improve when they begin close to the point of conflict and end after the dramatic turn rather than after every consequence is explained.

Trust the audience to cross small gaps.

Protect Cause and Effect

Compression fails when events become a highlight reel. Each major beat should create the next problem, choice, discovery, or consequence.

Momentum comes from causality, not speed alone.

Try It Now



The One-Page Adaptation Blueprint

Book title: _____

Screen title (if different): _____

Format: Feature / Limited Series / Series / Short / Other _____

Genre and tone: _____

Logline: _____

Protagonist: _____

Visible goal: _____

Emotional need: _____

Primary antagonist or opposing force: _____

Story engine: _____

Opening image: _____

Inciting disruption: _____

Major commitment/turn: _____

Midpoint change: _____

Crisis: _____

Climax: _____

Ending image: _____

Three elements that must survive adaptation: _____

Three elements that can change: _____

Current rights status: _____

Current script/treatment status: _____

Next professional step: _____

THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING. FIND THE SCREEN STORY - THEN BUILD THE PATH TO IT



The complete From Page to Screen takes the author from the first question - whether the book truly wants to be on screen - through rights clarity, the dramatic core, visual character work, compression, screen structure, scene design, dialogue, screenplay format, adaptation packages, pitching, options and purchases, the original author's role, collaboration, AI, and a realistic professional path from book to screen.

The full book also includes the Book-to-Screen Adaptation Audit, One-Page Adaptation Blueprint, Rights Conversation Checklist, and 30-Day Adaptation Sprint - practical tools for deciding what the screen version is, documenting what you control, preparing the project, asking better rights questions, and moving toward the market without freezing the rest of your author career.

A strong adaptation does not preserve every chapter. It protects the heart of the story while rebuilding the structure, conflict, character behavior, and momentum for the screen. Know what must survive. Know what can change. Know what rights you control. Then build the strongest screen story the material can become.

FROM PAGE TO SCREEN **BOOK 29 OF THE WRITER'S EDGE**

Practical Guides for Serious Writers

GET THE COMPLETE BOOK