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The AAA Screenplay Contest

Sponsored by *Creative Screenwriting Magazine*

MORE THAN \$12,000* IN PRIZES

In addition, winning scripts will be sent to 300+ development executives, agents, and managers.

* In-kind prizes from Creative Screenwriting and third-party sponsors are expected to total more than \$20,000 by the end of the contest. Some were still being arranged at the time we opened the contest. See <http://creativescreenwriting.com/aaa/prizelist.html> for the official prize list.

ENTRY FORM

Title of script: _____

Writers: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Mastercard Visa

American Express Discover

Check / Money Order enclosed

Please make checks or money orders payable to:
Creative Screenwriting

We can only accept checks drawn on US banks.

Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Cardholder Signature: _____

CONTEST ENTRY CHECKLIST

Screenplay (90–130 pages): 3 hole paper, blank card covers, and 2 brads. Title and writer contact information on title page. Screenplays will not be returned.

Completed and Signed Entry Form. One form for each script, although they may be mailed together. Please sign the form below.

Feature Entry Fee:
\$45/script *Early Discount* if postmarked by Dec. 31, 2009
\$50/script if postmarked by March 9, 2010
\$55/script *One Last Rewrite!* if postmarked by April 11, 2010
entry fee will be at least \$65/script *If We Extend the Deadline*
(Add \$10 if more than 125 pages)

Teleplay Entry Fee:
\$34/script *Early Discount* if postmarked by Dec 31, 2009
\$37/script if postmarked by March 9, 2010
\$40/script *One Last Rewrite!* if postmarked by April 11, 2010
entry fee will be at least \$50/script *If We Extend the Deadline*

SIGN AND INITIAL

I HAVE READ THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE AAA SCREENPLAY COMPETITION AND THE AAA SCREENPLAY COMPETITION RELEASE STATEMENT AND I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM:

WRITER(S): _____

DATE: _____

PLEASE INITIAL TO ACKNOWLEDGE READING THE AAA SCREENPLAY COMPETITION RELEASE STATEMENT:

WRITER(S): _____

MAIL FORMS TO

AAA SCREENPLAY CONTEST C/O CREATIVE SCREENWRITING
6404 HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD, SUITE 415 LOS ANGELES, CA 90028

OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1) All submissions must be postmarked by deadline. The Competition reserves the right to extend the deadline.
- 2) By submitting, you agree to the Release Form (copied below) and to abide by all the Contest Rules.
- 3) Submitted screenplays must be the unproduced, unoptioned, and wholly original work of the writer(s). There must be no dispute about the ownership of submitted screenplays or the writers' right to submit screenplay. Submitted teleplays will adhere to the industry "spec script" practice of being a derivative work based on a pre-existing television series, however submitted teleplays must contain original story and dialogue. For teleplays, any characters created by the writer(s) must be wholly original work. Pilots for unproduced television shows or episodes of an unproduced series will not be accepted.
- 4) Scripts by more than one writer are eligible, but only one prize will be given and it will be the writers's responsibility to distribute the prize. If writers of a script are unable to agree on the distribution of a prize, their script will be disqualified.
- 5) All writers of submitted scripts must be at least 18 years of age.
- 6) Writers of submitted scripts must not have earned more than \$25,000 (in cash or other consideration) for writing services for film or television in the three years prior to the opening date of the contest. Furthermore writers must not have won a fellowship or writing contest that includes a "first look" clause in the three years prior to the opening date of the contest.
- 7) Online submissions must be in either Movie Magic, Final Draft, or Adobe PDF format. Rich Text Format (RTF) and Microsoft Word (.doc) and other word processor formats are specifically forbidden. THE FILE MUST HAVE A TITLE PAGE AS THE FIRST PAGE OF THE FILE. Printed scripts must be in English, printed single- or double-sided on 3-hole white paper with the pages numbered and with the title (for TV specs include name of show), name of writer(s) and contact information on the title page. Font must be 12-point Courier, Courier New or Courier Final Draft. Feature screenplays must be between 85 and 140 pages and in standard spec screenplay format, fastened with 2-3 brads with (optional) blank cardstock covers. Teleplays for hour-long series must be between 50-70 pages. Teleplays for half-hour shows must be between 25 and 55 page (more than 40 only if double-spaced dialogue).
- 8) Hard-copy submissions must contain eligible scripts(s), a signed, initialed and completed application, entry fee (check, money order or credit card information), and, if you want notification that we have received your materials, a self-addressed, stamped postcard with the name(s) of your script(s). Hard-copy submissions must be sent (USPS, UPS, Federal Express, etc...) via a delivery method that does not require a signature. If paying by check, make your check payable to "Creative Screenwriting." Online submissions must contain eligible script (as a Movie Magic, PDF, or Final Draft file), valid credit card information and a valid email address. Confirmation of receipt of online submissions will be done only via automated email at the time of submission. It is the sole responsibility of the

- entrant to ensure that emails from "@creativescreenwriting.com" can pass through your spam filter.
- 9) Employees, occasional or regular or long-term contractors, or immediate family members of principals of Creative Screenwriting, The Screenwriting Expo, and Inside Information Group, Ltd. may not submit screenplays. Writers who and scripts which have won a cash prize from any previous AAA Screenwriting Contest are ineligible. An individual who has performed or is contemplating performing one brief, temporary contract (such as working only at the Screenwriting Expo) may, upon request, be approved to submit at the sole discretion of contest management.
- 10) **NO REFUNDS FOR FAILURE TO ADHERE TO RULES.** Failure to adhere to The Contest guidelines will result in disqualification and forfeiture of entry fee.
- 11) Judging will be performed by trained readers and industry professionals. The finalists' scripts will be read by industry professionals. The decisions of the Judges will be final.
- 12) **Entry fees are nonrefundable.** If a script is submitted and then rewritten, the second version cannot and will not be substituted for the first version. The author may submit it as an additional entry with the applicable entry fee.
- 13) Questions regarding The AAA Screenplay Contest should be directed to: aaacontest@creativescreenwriting.com.
- 14) The official prize list is as stated in the web page <http://creativescreenwriting.com/aaa/prizelist.html>. No other listing of prizes is the official list. This prize list is subject to revision until the official closing date of the Contest (April 11, 2010 or as extended).
- 15) The AAA Screenplay Contest may substitute alternative prizes of equal or greater value in place of previously announced prizes.
- 16) For the purpose of prizes, the precise content of a "Gold Pass" to the Screenwriting Expo is defined by Screenwriting Expo management on a year-to-year basis. It generally includes free admission to seminars, priority seating at events, and entrance to ticketed receptions, but Expo management reserves the right to change the offer without notice.
- 17) A screenplay may win both a Special Jury Prize, if any, and any one of the regular-competition cash prizes (Grand Prize, second, or third-place or Teleplay prizes). A writer may win more than one regular-competition cash prize with different scripts.
- 18) All winners will be responsible for paying their own U.S. income tax. Winners not residing in the U.S. may be subject to withholding if contest management is so advised by its accountant.
- 19) The copy of the rules posted at <http://creativescreenwriting.com/aaa/rules.html> is the only official copy of the contest rules. Any paragraph of any other copy of the rules which differs from this copy (such as the copies posted at <http://creativescreenwriting.com/aaa/step4.cfm> or in the printable PDF version of the entry form) is void to the extent that it differs from this copy.

AAA Contest Release Form

I/we have read all of The AAA Screenplay Contest Rules and Regulations. I understand and have complied with these rules. As the sole owner(s) and author(s) of submitted material, I/we fully attest that the following is true and correct:

1. I/We attest that I/we have read and understand and complied with the Rules and Regulations of The Contest, that I/we are the author/s and sole owner/s of all rights to the Material, which was created and written without any suggestion or request from any third parties that I/we write the Material.
2. I/We recognize that The AAA Contest, Creative Screenwriting, The Screenwriting Expo, and Inside Information Group, Ltd. have access to hundreds of ideas, stories and scripts for motion pictures. Many stories and ideas relate to one or more common underlying themes. I/we understand that The Contest and Inside Information Group, Ltd. agree not to use any portion of the Material unless 1) I/we do not control or own the Material or such features or elements, 2) the Material elements used by you and claimed by me/us to be my/our Material or embodied in the Material is in the public domain, is not new or novel or is not legally protected or protectable, or 3) any third party would be free to use the Material if it had not been submitted to it and been the subject of any agreement with it.
3. I/We agree that any dispute arising between us shall be subject to mediation in Los Angeles, California, through the Los Angeles County Bar Association mediation service, and if such mediation does not resolve all disputes, then through binding arbitration in Los Angeles, California pursuant to the then effective Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association. The arbitrator will be someone with at least 10 years

- of motion picture industry experience and shall have the authority to award all appropriate relief, including equitable or injunctive relief; provided, however, that the arbitrator is not authorized to award punitive damages. The award issued by any such arbitrator may be entered and confirmed as a judgment in any court of competent jurisdiction. The state with jurisdiction over any disputes relating to this Agreement is California, and the sole location for proper venue is Los Angeles, California.
4. Furthermore we indemnify The Contest and Inside Information Group, Ltd., its associates, judges and sponsors against all claims, losses, expenses, damages and liabilities, if I/we do not satisfy all of The Contest's rules and regulations.
5. I/We understand that the submission of the Material into The Contest does not establish any fiduciary or confidential relationship between us, nor is there one intended or created by reason of this letter and/or submission of the Material. I have retained a copy of the Material and agree that you shall not be obligated to return the Material to me, and I release you from all liability if the Material is lost, misplaced, stolen or destroyed. Furthermore, I/we understand that it is our sole responsibility to register Material with the U.S. Copyright Office and/or with the Writer's Guild of America.
6. If more than one writer signs the application for The Contest, then reference to "I/We" within this release letter shall apply to each party jointly and severally.