



Truth and Storytelling

Creativity and Integrity in Constructing the Visual Narrative

By *Emily Edwards*

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“Emily Edwards offers a fresh approach to ideation and the development of screenplays, laying out existing character types and genres and suggesting ways to mix them up in unique and interesting ways. She also emphasizes the pursuit of truth in fiction that can be more truthful than the recitation of facts.” — Paul Gulino, Professor, Lawrence and Kristina Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, Chapman University, US

“This is a smartly written, comprehensive book that includes many nuances of screenwriting that other guides ignore.” —Evan Smith, Newhouse School at Syracuse University, US

“The overriding thesis of bringing truth to the writing experience, and having that truth reside in someone’s experience, or life, makes this book a valuable contribution to the field.”—Bob Arnett, Old Dominion University, US

The book offers a guide for writers to better understand and confront the truths they want to reveal through narrative stories and how to find legitimacy in the fictional characters and situations they create.

Contents

List of Illustrations; 1. Truth and the Search for Story; 2. Creating Authentic Characters; 3. The Shapes of Visual Narrative; 4. The Structures of Time and Perspective; 5. Outlines and the Spines of Stories; 6. The Truths of Style and Format; 7. Guarded Dialogue and Candid Silence; 8. The Scene and the Story; 9. Honest Revisions; Index.

About the Author

Emily D. Edwards is the writer/producer/director of many films and has also published books and articles on popular media. She is currently a professor of media studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

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