

THE PRODUCER'S PERSPECTIVE



**TOP 5
ACTION ITEMS
FOR WRITERS**

BY KEN DAVENPORT

Hey There!

Thank you for reading “Top 5 Action Items for Writers!”

I’m proud to say that my office is one of, if not the only, commercial producing office that actively seeks script submissions from playwrights across the country.

You do not need an agent . . .

You do not need a Tony Award . . .

You just need a script.

And, let me tell you, I’ve learned a TON about the pitfalls of playwriting from working with writers just like you who have raised their hands and asked for feedback.

These Top 5 Action Items for Writers are a few of the most common, and most useful action items that I give my consult and script coverage clients.

Now, every script is unique, so action items are never the same for every writer, but this list of the Top 5 Action Items is a good start.

My goal is to help you write the best script possible, so that you can realize your potential and fulfill your dreams, whatever they are. . . being a published playwright, landing that licensing deal, or even . . . winning a Tony Award! Trust me, it can happen.

I hope this E-Book will help you take your script to the next level. And, if you want personalized action items and feedback from me, I encourage you to check out my [script coverage services](#).

Now go get ‘em!

Best,

Ken Davenport

TOP 5 ACTION ITEMS FOR WRITERS

1. Submit, submit, submit. Submit to anything...festivals, contests, agents . . . worst that happens is the say no, best that happens is they say yes. They're both learning experiences. Never be afraid to ask for feedback if you're rejected. Again, worst that happens is they don't respond. At least you did your due diligence. If you're a member of [The Producer's Perspective PRO](#), check out our Festival submission resource on the site. If you're not a PRO member, I'd recommend exploring playsubmissionhelper.com.
2. Have a pizza reading. Finished that big round of revisions and can't see the forest for your own trees? For the price of a couple of pizzas and some wine, you get to hear your piece read out loud and get some valuable feedback.
3. Read somebody else's stuff. The best way to know if you're writing up to your own snuff is to read other people's work. Pay special attention to the things that you don't like or don't engage you and find out why. Avoid those traps/traits in your own writing (or even better, try and make them work!).
4. Don't be afraid to throw things away (but don't really throw them away). The beauty of the modern writing era is that it is super easy to save a new copy of something. If you're stuck, don't be afraid to cut scenes or characters if they aren't working, but hold onto that last draft in case you find you've gone down the wrong rabbit hole. Realize that that beautiful scene you wrote is just killing your pacing or doesn't belong? Cut it out and save it in its own file for later. I cut an entire 10 pages of a script once only to realize that the segment was the key to a totally different show I was writing nearly five years later. I would never have had that moment if I hadn't copied and pasted.
5. Take notes, but not all of them. I can't count the number of times I've gotten clients who say they've heard 20 different things about a script from 20 different people. At the end of the day, you're the final arbiter for what happens in your script, so resist the urge to let others write it for you. Like I always say, take the notes that resonate with you and throw the rest away (no matter how well-intentioned they are or how much you trust the source). It's your baby, and you know how to raise it.

LEARN MORE ABOUT SCRIPT COVERAGE!

Nothing beats personal feedback, right?

To find out more about our script coverage services, [click here](#) or visit:

www.theproducersperspective.com/script-coverage