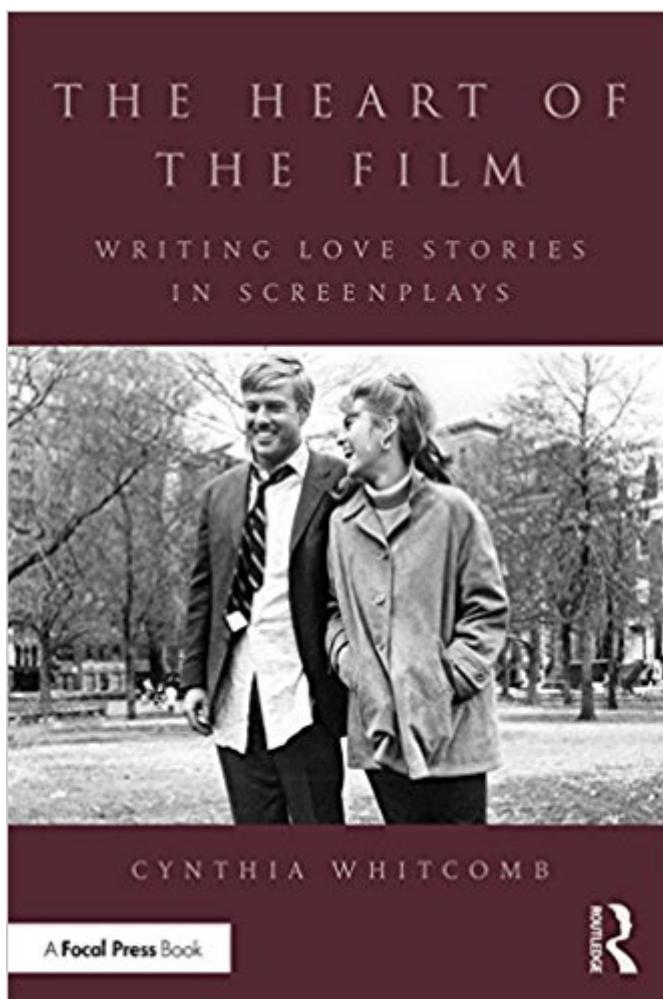


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# The Heart Of The Film: Writing Love Stories In Screenplays



## **Synopsis**

Most movies include a love story, whether it's the central story or a subplot, and knowing how to write a believable relationship is essential to any writer's skill set. Discover the rules and laws of nature at play in a compelling love story and learn and master them. Broken into four sections, *The Heart of the Film* identifies the critical features of love story development, and explores every variation of this structure as well as a diverse array of relationships and types of love. Author Cynthia Whitcomb has sold over 70 feature-length screenplays and shares the keys to her success in *The Heart of the Film*, drawing on classic and modern films as well as her own extensive experience.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I write novels, but after reading this book, I now know how to tackle the difficult art of writing love stories. The author breaks down the mechanics of how to start and develop a romantic relationship into four easy steps. The book includes many examples of movies from a variety of eras to help you

understand her points. Along the way, she gives invaluable tips on how to make your writing crisper and more believable. I highly recommend this book for screenwriters and novelists alike.

The Heart of the Film is a brilliant, infinitely accessible new book about writing love stories by Cynthia Whitcomb. It would be a perfect textbook in a high school or college screenwriting class, but it's also for writers in their own home or office. What I love most (I mean, besides the content and the cool references to movies and stars) is Whitcomb's conversational tone. Where else would you get this: "You can't just take two perfect-looking Barbie and Ken dolls, rub them together and get sparks." She takes the elements of a great love story (the meet, the crack, the people, and the obstacle) and shows the reader how to develop those elements to write a compelling love story. She uses the full spectrum of film history to provide examples, some as a brief reference and others in depth. (I particularly appreciate that she credits the screenwriter for each movie she references.) While The Heart of the Film is written with screenplays in mind, the principles and concepts here are relevant to fiction, nonfiction, and graphic novelists who want to up their game in the love story department. It's a fast, easy, fun, informative read. You'll read it, and then use as a reference book. I totally recommend it.

This book breaks down the art of writing a love story into clear components that are easy for even a novice writer to understand. It is filled with vivid examples from the screen, taking each love scene apart to explain why it worked (or didn't work.) Not only that, it was fun to read! I didn't expect an instructional book to be such a page-turner!

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