

The Writer's Guide to TV Development

TV development is the process of creating and developing a TV show concept into a pilot script and, ultimately, a series. It involves a team of writers, producers, and executives who work together to bring a show to life.

The Development Process

The development process typically begins with a writer or writing team coming up with an idea for a TV show. This idea is then pitched to a production company or network, who will decide whether or not to greenlight the project.

If the project is greenlit, the writer or writing team will begin to develop the show concept into a pilot script. This script will serve as a template for the series, outlining the show's main characters, storylines, and themes.



The Executive Chair: A Writer's Guide to TV Series Development

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 152 pages

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Once the pilot script is complete, it will be submitted to the network or production company for approval. If the pilot is approved, the show will begin production.

The Role of the Writer

The writer plays a vital role in the development process. They are responsible for creating the show's concept, writing the pilot script, and overseeing the writing of the series.

How to Get Started in TV Development

If you're an aspiring TV writer, there are a few things you can do to get started in the field:

- **Write a great spec script.** A spec script is a sample script that you write on your own, without being commissioned by a network or production company. It's a great way to showcase your writing skills and get your foot in the door.
- **Network with people in the industry.** Attend industry events, join writers' groups, and connect with executives on social media.
- **Get involved in development labs and workshops.** These programs can provide you with valuable experience and feedback on your work.

Resources for TV Writers

There are a number of resources available to help TV writers get started in the field. Here are a few:

- **The Writers Guild of America (WGA):** The WGA is a union that represents writers in the film and television industry. They offer a

variety of resources and services for writers, including contract negotiation, grievance filing, and educational programs.

- **The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (ATAS):** The ATAS is a professional organization that recognizes excellence in television programming. They offer a variety of educational programs and resources for writers, including workshops, panels, and networking events.
- **The National Association of Television Program Executives (NATPE):** NATPE is a trade organization that represents television executives and professionals. They offer a variety of educational programs and resources for writers, including conferences, webinars, and networking events.

Pitching Your TV Show

Once you've developed your TV show concept and written a pilot script, you'll need to pitch it to a network or production company. A pitch is a brief presentation that outlines the show's concept, characters, and storylines.

Tips for Pitching Your TV Show

Here are a few tips for pitching your TV show:

- **Know your audience.** Research the network or production company you're pitching to, and tailor your pitch accordingly.
- **Be concise and clear.** Your pitch should be no longer than 10 minutes, and it should be easy for the listener to follow.
- **Be passionate.** You need to be excited about your project in order to convince someone else to invest in it.

- **Be prepared to answer questions.** The listener will likely have questions about your show, so be prepared to answer them thoughtfully and succinctly.

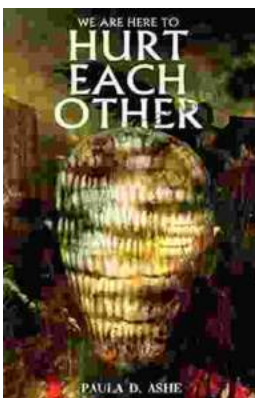
TV development is a complex and challenging process, but it can also be incredibly rewarding. If you have a passion for writing and a great story to tell, then you should consider pursuing a career in TV development.



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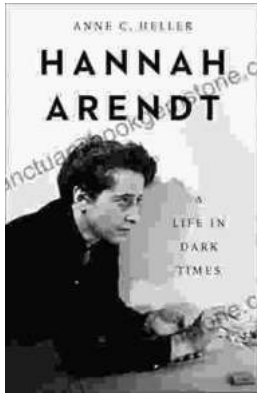
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