



# HOLLYWOOD GATEKEEPERS

a step-by-step guide to becoming a reader in Hollywood



## *Life beyond being a reader!*

Being a reader is an actual job. People read screenplays, write coverage and help producers, directors, agents etc decide what projects to produce! Pretty cool, right?

## *But wait, there's more! (yes, we went there)*

Being a reader is a really cool job. And many, many, many...like thousands.... of people enjoy reading so much that they make a lifelong career out of working within this process.

Others start out as readers but soon discover that they want to expand their horizons. Many people choose to use their skills as a reader as stepping stones to other careers.

*“Like what?”  
You might be asking.*

Funny you should ask...

It is a fact that everyone involved in making movies has to know how to break down a screenplay. Being a skilled reader can help you excel in every aspect of the industry. You can be as specialized as you would like, branching into many fields.



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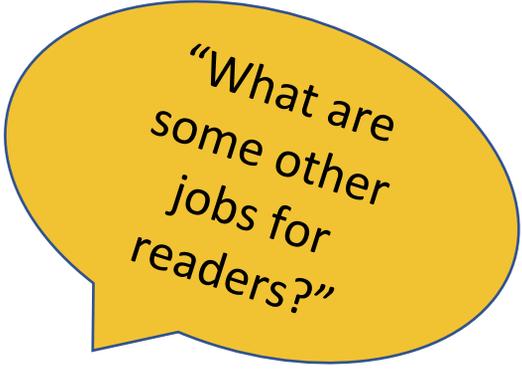
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“Who else reads screenplays?”

Everyone. Production companies in Hollywood go through thousands of screenplays every month. Unrepresented writers aren't allowed to submit screenplays directly to the studios. They have to be represented by an agent, manager or lawyer. So all of those agents, managers or lawyers have to read scripts in order to find projects to submit to production companies.

After a writer manages to get representation, they still have to wait as the script is submitted to a production company. Often a smaller production company will “develop” the movie and then partner with a studio to produce and/or distribute it. This development process involves a lot of people. Story Editors get the script from the producer and give it to the reader. Development Executives work with the writer, using the reader's notes to improve the script. Producers also get involved in giving notes to improve the screenplay and/or cater the project to a certain star, director, etc.



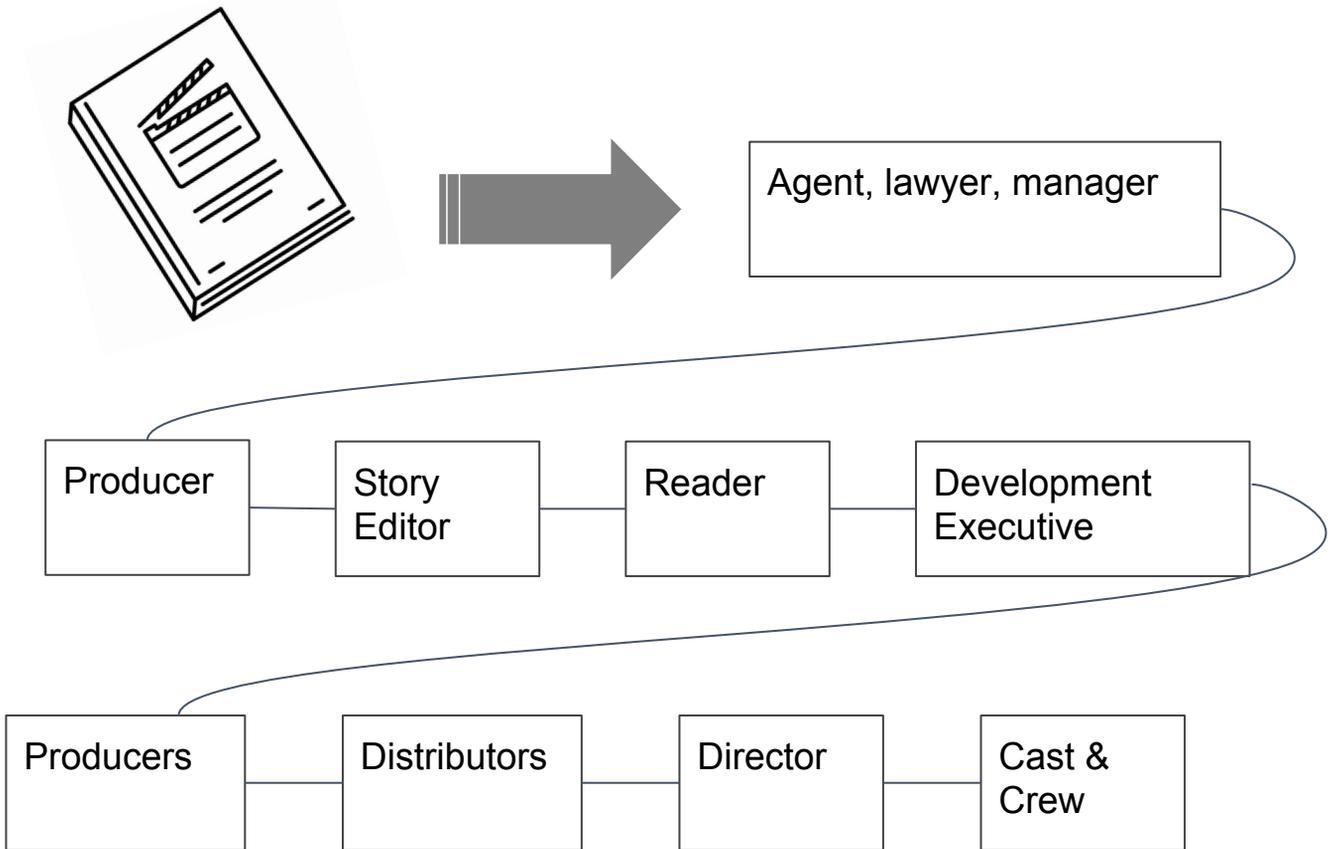
“What are some other jobs for readers?”

*See what we mean?  
There are a lot of opportunities!*

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***The path of a script = job opportunities!***



There are a lot of jobs within the path of a screenplay. Watch the credits of any film. You will see a long list of people involved in making the movie. People that work on multiple projects such as designers, script supervisors, costumers, etc. will read many scripts to decide what project to do. They may need help weeding through those scripts in order to make their decision.

Many readers also become Story Editors, Development Executives and Producers. Many readers in Casting Departments become Agents and Casting Directors. Many readers in Literary Agencies become Literary Agents.

***Are you seeing a pattern here?***



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### *And another thing . . .*

If these jobs are not appealing to you. There is another route you can take that doesn't involve the studio system.



### *Become a Story Consultant!*

Story Consultants work directly with writers. There are many levels to being a Story Consultant. You can work with a writer from the ground up, helping them shape their script or you can do a straight coverage that they can use to get representation. There is a lot of work for Story Consultants, as there are millions of writers looking for feedback. Once you know your craft, you can start your own, online business and start working as a Story Consultant.

If you make it a priority, you really can become a Hollywood Gatekeeper in far flung towns across America. It's a matter of learning your craft. And it's all up to you!

*Stay tuned to learn more.*

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