

Instructions on How to Provide Script Coverage

Step One: Be sure to check out the OBS Guide to Coverage, Feedback, and Notes: <https://www.obswriter.com/the-basics-of-coverage-on-obs/>

And here's an overview of the feedback process:

<https://www.obswriter.com/new-coverage-procedure/>

Below are some step-by-step instructions to supplement these presentations.

Check the Screenplay Coverage Exchange forum weekly. To get there, click on "Forums" then scroll down the page until you see "Screenplay coverage Exchange," and click the title. Click a post to view.

The screenshot shows the OBS (Organization of Black Screenwriters) website. On the left is a sidebar with a user profile for 'Meemee' (mtaylor_123@yahoo.com) and a navigation menu. The 'Forums' link in the menu is circled in orange, with an orange arrow pointing to it. The main content area is titled 'SCREENPLAY COVERAGE EXCHANGE' (also circled in orange) and contains detailed instructions for using the exchange. Below the instructions is a 'Recent Topics' section listing forum posts. An orange arrow points from the text 'Click a post to view.' to the first post in the 'Recent Topics' list.

OBS
Organization of Black Screenwriters
EST. 1988

Meemee
Sign Out
mtaylor_123@yahoo.com

Dashboard
News
OBS U – Educational Tools
Forums
Group Forums

SCREENPLAY COVERAGE EXCHANGE

VERY IMPORTANT UPDATED INSTRUCTIONS: This exchange should be used BY ALL OBS MEMBERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED A REQUESTS FOR COVERAGE FORM. POSTS WITHOUT A LINK TO A COVERAGE REQUEST FORM WILL BE DELETED. Any member can provide coverage to any other OBS member, even if you're not in the same writers' group. However, you MUST provide coverage to any person that belongs to the same writers' group. Here are the step-by-step instructions for posting to the coverage exchange: 1. Complete and submit your Request for Coverage Form (found in the dropdown menu of the Screenplay Forms Portal on the left-side navigation menu) 2. Review your completed Request for Coverage form and assure the PDF of your screenplay is attached. 3. Scroll down the Request for Coverage Summary (which appears after you submit the form and can be located in your portal) until you find the Link located in the summary. 4. Copy the link. 5. Go to the Forums, Screenplay Coverage Exchange 6. Add a new topic with your name, date, and title - including draft of the work. 7. In the body of your new topic description including only the following: a logline; the link from your coverage requests; 8. At the bottom of the new topic area write the name of the group for which you and the screenplay correspond (just one group only). 9. Submit 10. Your screenplay is now available for coverage. 11. Consequently, you now must find a screenplay to cover in the exchange. 12. Scroll the exchange daily if necessary until you identify a logline keeping in mind you must cover your fellow group members. 13. "like" the topic of any screenplay you intend to cover. Try to do so within two weeks. 14. Use the coverage from to score the screenplay and give notes. That's it! There will be an instructional video posted to explain this step by step. You can also alert fellow members to your coverage request in your group chat or your group forums if you so desire. However, be sure they return to the Coverage Exchange to "like" the request and access the link.

Recent Topics

- David Byrd - Election V1 - Sample Request (For Educational Purposes Only) 1 week ago By David Byr...
- Hitsville, USA (1hr pilot) by Ron Covington---Group:Empire new By Lori Craw... 41 mins ago
- Trippin' - Eric Avery (Pilot, 30m Comedy) -- Group: Moonlight new By Sadiq Abu 52 mins ago

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Step Two: Click the link in the post..


Hitsville, USA (1hr pilot) by Ron Covington---
Group:Empire

✉ Subscribe for new replies

Last Post

RSS

September 9, 2020 4:32 pm



Ron Covington

(@ronrocearthlink-net)

Estimable Member

★★★★★


Joined: 6 months ago

Posts: 107

This pilot is about the development of Motown through the lens of individual artists. Each episode is a song title and tracks that artist's incredible journey from meeting Gordy and the rocky sometimes amusing, always quirky path the the recording of the tune. The pilot is SHOP AROUND & deals with Berry & Smokey's adventure that began a whole new movement in American music. It's intended for cable or streaming rather than network.

Below is the link. I've also attached the script in case there's a problem with the link

<https://www.obswriter.com/quiz-results/?id=252b86c422e6c0739b7b3207699f4756>

 SHOP2.pdf



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Step Three: After you click the link, it will open the *Coverage Request form*. Scroll to the end of the page where it says “File Upload Title” and click the link. This will open the document that you are going to review.

✕ Your Query Results

Coverage Request

First Name

Christopher

Last Name

Blair Harmon

Email Address

darkmarktwain@yahoo.com

Date Time Title *

Select Date

2020-06-12 05:14:00

Title *

Title and Draft Date

Enter your script title here

NEW YEARS EVE-L

Writers Group *

Enter the primary Writers Group for this script

Enter one Writer Group name here (case sensitive)

Get Out

Primary Medium *

Television, Feature, Web, Streaming, Other?

Feature - Cable/Streaming

Primary Genre *

Horror

File Upload Title

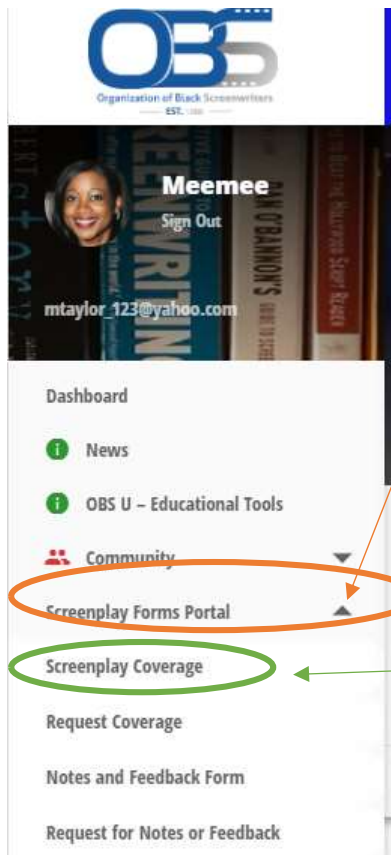
Max file size: 1.15 MB. | Allowed file types: pdf | Max number of file: 1 | Min number of file: 1

NEW-YEARS-EVE-L-script.pdf

253.20 KB

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Step Four: After you have finished reviewing the submitted material and have typed up and saved your notes on your computer, go to the OBS Website, click on the arrow next to “Screenplay Forms Portal.” It will show you several options. Click on “Screenplay Coverage”.




Step Five: The form will automatically populate your first and last name and email address. You will need to change this to the screenwriter's name. You will fill in the blank spaces with the following information:

- “Screenplay Title” – Type in the requestor’s script title.
- “Screenwriter’s First Name” and “Screenwriter’s Last Name” – REMOVE your name and type in the requestor’s full name.
- “Email Address” – REMOVE your email address and type in the requestor’s email address which you can get from the form discussed in Step Three.
- “Associated Writers Group” – Type in the name of the requestor’s writers group. (For example, “A Question of Faith” or “Get Out.”)
- “Reviewer’s Full Name” – Type in your name.
- “Date Time Title” – Add the current date.


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- Fill out the evaluation for the script, giving the star ratings you feel is appropriate. See page 7 for things to consider when evaluating the script.
- “*Detailed Notes*” – Paste your actual comments/feedback here. Make sure your feedback covers any low scores you give. Sometimes the form cuts off your notes so be sure to double check them and, as backup, save them elsewhere and not just on the form in case you need to email them directly to the writer. Then hit Submit!

 **OBS Screenplay Coverage Form**
This form is used only when you provide coverage for a completed draft


This form is used to respond to feedback and notes for completed screenplay drafts only. PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS and read instructions being careful to **replace any default sample entries when required.**

Screenplay Title *
Provide The Name of The Screenplay and Draft Date

 Enter the screenplay title here


Screenwriter's First Name *
If your name appears, please replace with screenwriters's Last Name

Enter Screenwriter's First Name


 MEEMEE

Screenwriter's last name *
If your name appears, please replace with screenwriter's name


Enter Screenwriter's Last Name

 TAYLOR


Enter the screenwriter's email address

 mtaylor_123@yahoo.com



Writers Group Association *

 Enter The Screenwriter's Writers Group











Reviewer's full name *
Enter your name here



Date Time Title *
Select Date

 2020-07-01 03:17:44 PM 

Overall Star Rating *

Very Green           Award Contender

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Evaluation *

Poor, Fair, Good, or Excellent

Premise Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Plot Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Protagonist Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Characters Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Setting Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Dialogue Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Formatting Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Story Structure Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Visualization Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Market Potential Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

First 10 pages Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Last 10 pages Poor ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Excellent

Detailed Notes *

Notes, Observations, Questions for the Screenwriter?



Additional Page Notes and Observations

Would you put your money up to make this movie *



SUBMIT



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Some things to think about when scoring/evaluating a script:

Premise: The premise of a screenplay for a movie or TV show is the driving force behind why everything happens on screen. It's the motive or goal of the story. Is this one compelling? Is it a fresh new idea or a new exciting twist on an old plot? Are you invested in the outcome?

Plot: Plot refers to the main events in a story composed as a sequence of events with meaning. It's not just what happens, but the causal connections of why it happens. Were you compelled to care what happened in the story? Were you able to follow the story? Are the stakes high enough? Were there enough turns in the story? Is there a theme behind the plot? Did it have momentum?

Protagonist: Was there a clear character driving the story? Was he/she a compelling character? Were they relatable? Did they have a meaningful character arc? Did you care about the character and his/her goal?

Characters: Did the supporting characters have distinct personalities? Did they add meaningfully to the story? Was there a worthy antagonist that stood between the protagonist and his/her goal?

Setting: Did it fit the story? Was it unique? Did you feel immersed in the world?

Dialogue: Was the dialogue well-written? Was it clever, characteristic of the characters, and brief? Were there long blocks of dialogue or was it short and succinct? Was it meaningful? Were parentheticals overused?

Formatting: Was the script properly formatted? Were proper scene headings used? Were there lots of misspellings or grammatical errors? Is the page count reasonable? (features – 120 or less, shorts – 45 pages or less, TV shows – 60 pages or less, Sitcoms – 45 pages or less?)

Structure: Stories should have a beginning, a middle, and an end. Boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl back. The tension should be mounting in the script. How was the pacing throughout? Were the scenes executed well?

Visualization: Did the descriptions evoke a visual image? Could you picture the action, especially in the critical scenes?

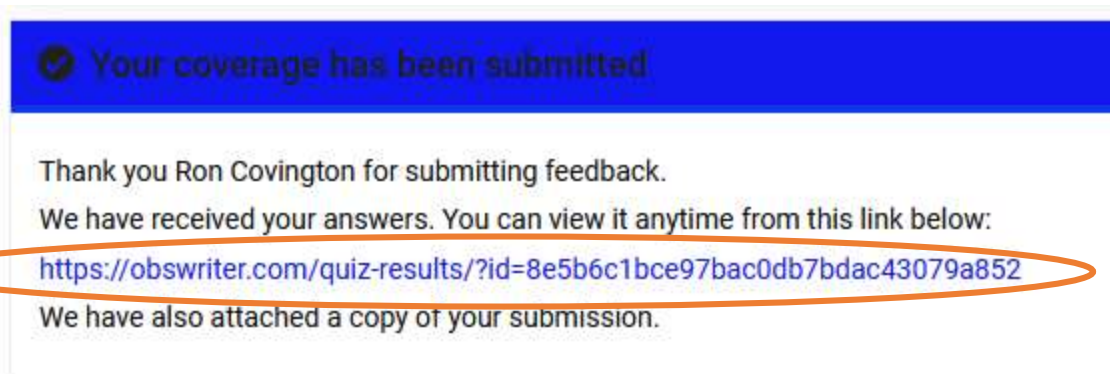
Market Potential: Is this likely to sell? Is there space in the market for it? Is the idea unique? Are there already 50 movies out right now with this topic?

First 10 Pages: Did the pages grab you and pull you into the story? Did it set the tone? (comedy, horror, etc) Did it introduce the main character? Did it set up what the movie will be about?

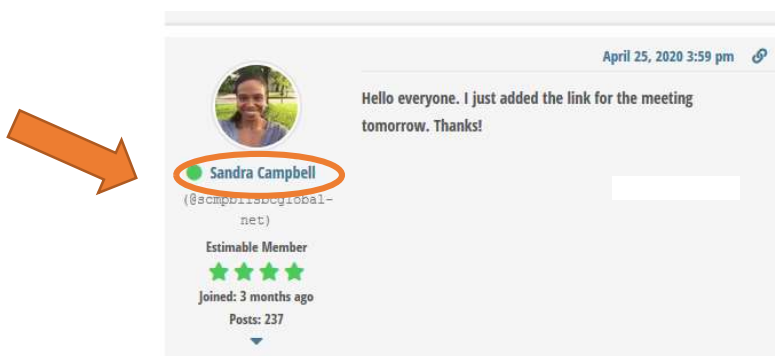
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Last 10 Pages: Did you feel satisfied? Did the ending leave you with a strong emotion?

Step Six: After you submit your feedback, a screen will pop up providing you a link to your feedback. You'll notice that the message thanks the name of the screenwriter instead of you. That's okay. You need to copy this link. Find the requester's email address from Step Three's *Coverage Request form* and send him/her this link to your feedback.



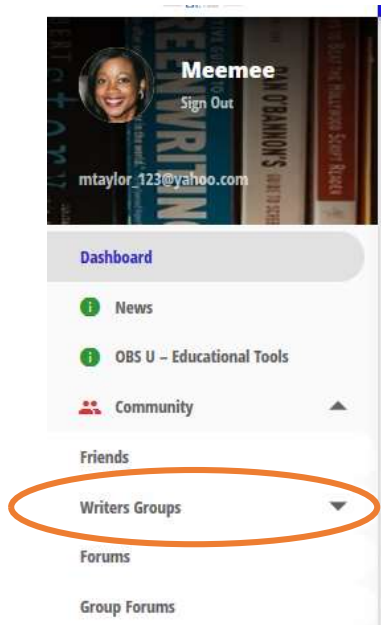
You can also find the requester's OBS page and send them a message with this link to your feedback. You can find their page in several ways, such as go to a post in the Writer's Forum that they've commented on, and simply click their name under their photo to go to their page.



They haven't posted lately? Well here is one sure way to find ANY member of your group. (I'll use A Question of Faith's Group as an example, but this works for any group.)

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A. Go to the Writers Group Page

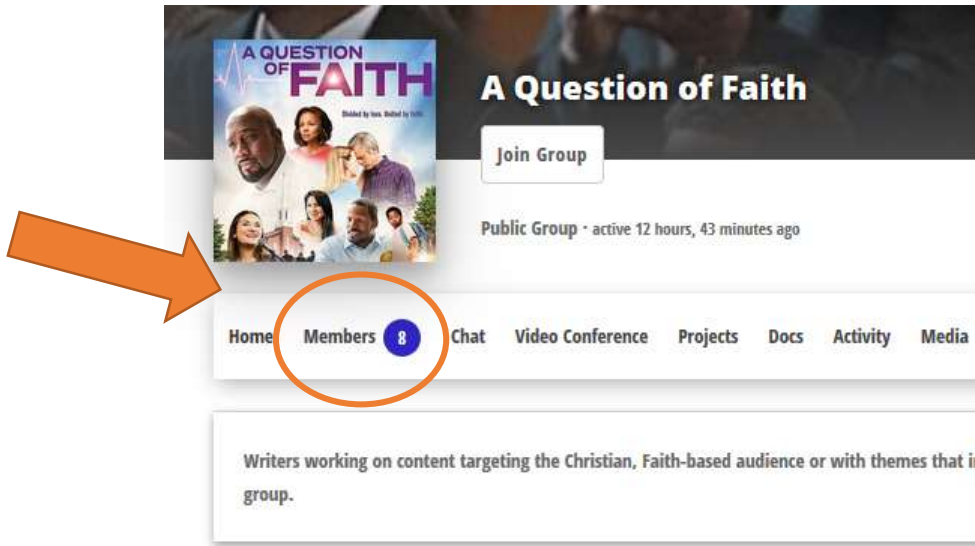


B. Find your group then click on the picture – not the “Join Group” button.

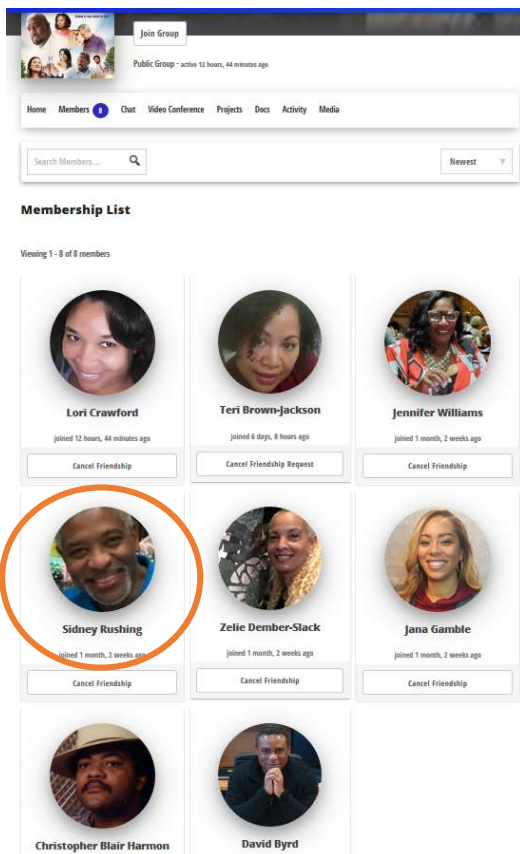


C. Near the top of the page, click on “Members”.

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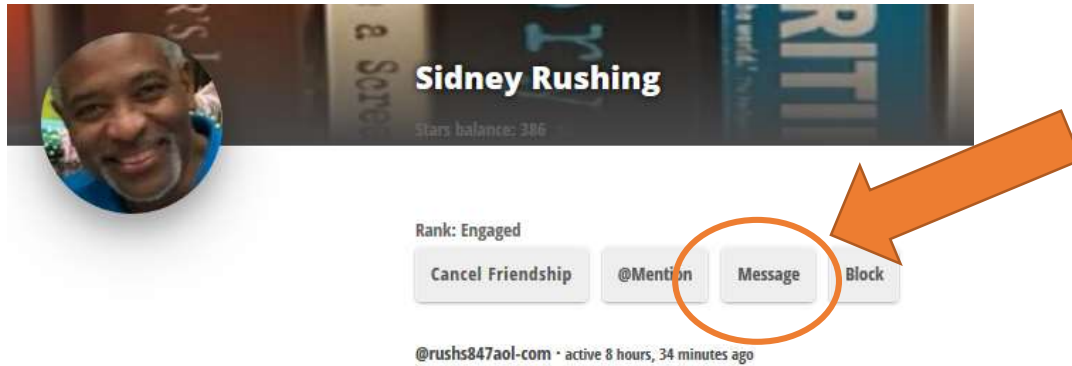


D. It will show you all the members in your group. Click on the requester's photo to go to their page.



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E. After you get to their page, click “Message”.



F. Fill in the information and paste the link to your feedback here and send it.

Send To (Username or Friend's Name)

Subject

Message

That's it! Congrats on helping a fellow writer work on his/her craft! And you will receive 32 points!