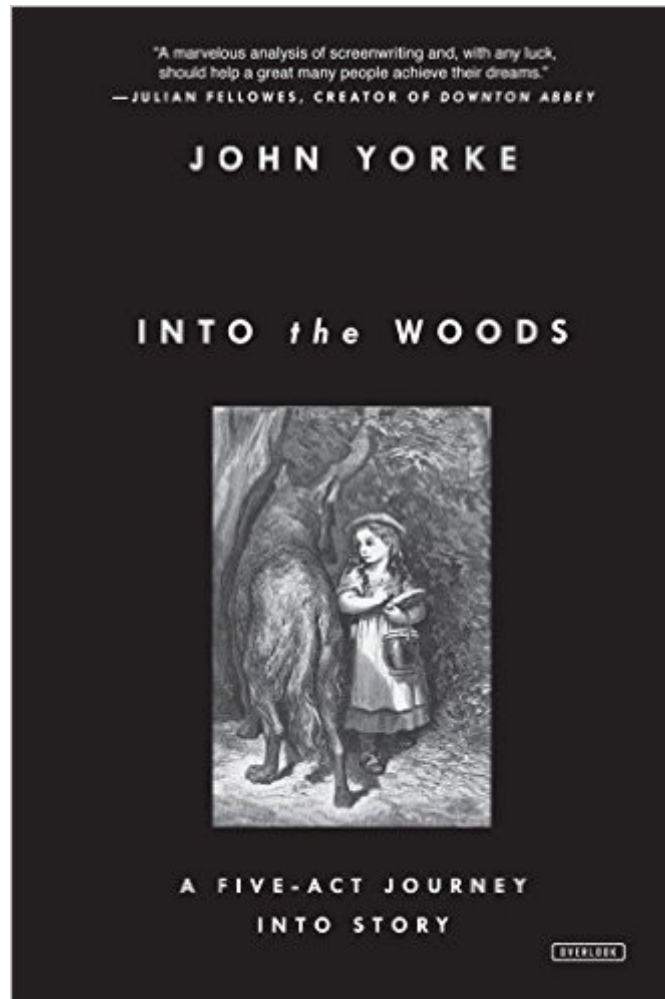


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# Into The Woods: A Five-Act Journey Into Story



## Synopsis

The Revolutionary guide to dramatic writing, whether you're writing the next Chinatown, Breaking Bad, or Glengarry Glen Ross. The idea of Into the Woods is not to supplant works by Aristotle, Lajos Egri, Robert McKee, David Mamet, or any other writers of guides for screenwriters and playwrights, but to pick up on their cues and take the reader on a historical, philosophical, scientific, and psychological journey to the heart of all storytelling. In this exciting and wholly original book, John Yorke not only shows that there is truly a unifying shape to narrative—one that echoes the great fairytale journey into the woods, and one, like any great art, that comes from deep within—he explains why, too. With examples ranging from The Godfather to True Detective, Mad Men to Macbeth, and fairy tales to Forbrydelsen (The Killing), Yorke utilizes Shakespearean five-act structure as a key to analyzing all storytelling in all narrative forms, from film and television to theatre and novel-writing—a big step from the usual three-act approach. Into the Woods: A Five-Act Journey Into Story is destined to sit alongside David Mamet's Three Uses of the Knife, Robert McKee's Story, Syd Field's Screenplay, and Lajos Egri's The Art of Dramatic Writing as one of the most original, useful, and inspiring books ever on dramatic writing. 20 b&w illustrations

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There are many, many books written about screenwriting. Some are really good and some aren't. There are as many trains of thought about the craft of writing screenplays as there are movies made. What makes John Yorke's book Into the Woods a "A Five-Act Journey Into Story" unique is

right there in the title â “ five acts. He teaches about writing in a five act structure as opposed to the three act structure that most people know and love. He illustrates how to write this way by using examples. He names his chapters after the 5-acts: Act I - Home, Act II â “ Woodland, Day, Act III â “ The Forest, Act IV â “ The Road Back, Night, and Act V â “ Home Again, Changed. If you are familiar with writing you can see, just by their names, how these acts describe the journey of any character in a movie or book. There are half a dozen or so simple yet insightful illustrations sprinkled throughout the book to help you visualize the concepts being taught. In each chapter Yorke discusses, in great detail, elements you must incorporate into your story to create a good screenplay, including topics such as the inciting incident, scenes, character development and creating subtext. He uses popular movies and classical plays to illustrate his points. Yorke definitely is able to articulate what he is teaching in a way that most anyone can understand. The book is designed to teach writers new concepts and ideas and to reinforce old ones, but at the same time, it's just plain fun to read. It's written in a conversational tone and that keeps it interesting. As I read through the book I had a few â œah-haâ • moments where I said â œYes! I get it!â • and that's when I realized what a powerful tool this book is for a regular writer such as myself.

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