

JOEL MCELVANEY

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2337 29th Ave. South
Seattle, WA 98144

PROFILE

Freelance screenwriter. Former HS screenwriting teacher. Industry-trained at Georgia Film Academy. Grounded in story foundations and process. Writes about underdogs surviving tremendous obstacles to achieve justice and truth. Praised for emotionally-resonant characters, crisp scenes, and authentic dialogue.

Writer of eight, polished, un-produced feature scripts, three in the Top 5% on Coverfly, including a high-concept fantasy/comedy Top 5 Finalist in the 2021 Save the Cat! Screenplay Challenge; a dystopian drama/thriller Semifinalist in the 2024 Atlanta Film Festival; and a crime/thriller Semifinalist in the 2023 StoryPros Awards.

EXPERIENCE

IMDB Credit

Co-Writer of Comedy/Mystery short, *Murder at the Writer's Retreat* - 2025

Script Reader

Austin Film Festival — 2023

Screenwriting Instructor

Fulton County Schools, GA — 2018-2020

Language Arts Teacher

Roswell High School, GA — 1997-2020

English Teacher

Hawaii State Department of Education — 1991-1997

EDUCATION

Georgia Film Academy — Screenwriting Teaching Credential, 2018

Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA—M.Ed., 2008

University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI—B.Ed., 1991

SKILLS

Natural presenter, collaborator. Skilled discussion facilitator, editor, and proofreader. Experienced wrangler of rooms full of adolescents.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Bluesky: <https://bsky.app/profile/screenwritermac.bsky.social>

Professional Website: <https://jdmcelvaney.wixsite.com/joel-mcelvaney>

Coverfly: <https://writers.coverfly.com/profile/writer-81f76a5f2-62918>