

CHRIS LEONARD

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About me

I've written and edited scripts for over 20 years alongside my journalism and Internal Communications careers in Government, healthcare, railways and education, where I worked with leadership teams to engage employees, including writing/producing corporate videos.

In 2021, I graduated with a Distinction from the Screenwriting MA at LCC. My scripts have placed in multiple competitions (below), and I have practical experience of script reading and editing, on the MA and since for competitions and for writers through paid-for script reading.

Screenwriting and script editing experience

- **Script reader:** For Voices of the Future 2021 screenwriting competition
- **Paid for script reading/ editing:** Clients through networking and Scribe Lounge website
- **MA Screenwriting (UAL 2019-20):** Script edited others' writing; gave and received notes in development workshops; led workshops; ongoing workshops with UAL alumni
- **Mentor to young scriptwriters:** Through 'You Make It' scheme (Writer got onto BBC Comedy Writers Room 2020/21); and a current MA Animation student at UAL
- **Storylining/ scriptwriting/ editing:** As-real script development process to outline and write spec Emmerdale episode with core Emmerdale writer (Samantha Doland-de Vaux)
- **Internal Communications Manager (2013-2019):** Wrote and produced corporate videos
- **Ran London Screenwriters Meetup.com group (2005-2008)**

Credits

- Writer of short film *Paradise Lost* (2021)
- Script Editor of short film *Lauren Hayes* (2020)
- Writer-Producer of short film *Obsolete* (2010)
- Script and Continuity on *When Evil Calls* (2006)

Scriptwriting achievements/experience

Signal Passed At Danger (TV drama series pilot 60mins)

Semi-finalist: ScreenCraft Screenwriting Fellowship (2023)

A Good Death (Episodic TV drama pilot 60mins)

Finalist/ Longlist: Page Turner Awards (2022)

Quarter-finalist: ScreenCraft TV Pilot Script Competition (2023)

In Country (Crime-adjacent drama TV pilot 60mins)

Finalist: Page Turner Awards (2022)

Quarter-finalist: WeScreenplay TV Pilot competition (2021)

Visitor (Filmed monologue)

Asked to write last-minute entry for NGPM agency competition (placed 5th/ 21 entries).

Ripples in Romania (Spec British dramedy feature written for MA)

Quarter-finalist: Stage 32 Feature Drama Contest (2021)

Remembrance (Short written on MA)

Official Selection: HollyShorts Film Festival (2020)

Semi-finalist: Filmmatic Short Screenplay Awards (2020)

New Eden (Spec sci-fi feature)

Quarter-finalist: Final Draft Big Break; ScreenCraft Sci-Fi & Fantasy Contest (2018)

Relevant professional/ corporate experience

MA Screenwriting, University of the Arts London (UAL) (10/19 – 01/21)

- Gave and received written and verbal feedback/notes in workshops, and led workshops
- Received 'A' grade for spec *Emmerdale* script, marked by one of its core writers
- Mentored young writers through You Make It programme; and MA Animation student at UAL

Internal Communications (Contract), BAM UK & Ireland (06/21 - 06/23):

- Provided support to comms team with intranet articles and Yammer, editing staff newsletter
- Script editor for corporate videos

Internal Communications Manager (Interim), National Audit Office (09/18 – 09/19):

- Developed internal comms function in NAO, leading on new IC strategy
- Internal comms lead on new NAO strategy (including scripting and producing internal videos)

Head of Internal Comms, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (03/18 to 09/18):

- Produced short films on business plan and vision
- Scripted quarterly CEO updates and internal Question Time panel events (filmed)

Internal Communications Manager, Great Western Railway (09/13 – 12/17):

- Produced internal re-branding/ strategy videos
- Developed GWR internal brand/writing style guidelines, leading training workshops

Education

- **MA (Distinction) Screenwriting:** University of the Arts London (2019-21)
- **BA (Hons) Film Studies:** Southampton Solent University (1995-98)

Reference:

Kelly Marshall, Course Leader – MA Screenwriting

London College of Communication (UAL)

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