

# The Budget List

- 2023 -

Selling  
Your  
Screenplay  
.com

# — THIS YEARS The Budget List —

**We're excited to announce this year's The Budget List,  
the best unproduced screenplays from 2023.**

At SellingYourScreenplay.com we interface with lots of low budget screenplays throughout the year through [SYS's Six-Figure Film Festival and Screenplay Contest](#), our [script analysis service](#), and our industry connections.

This year we've partnered with [City of Angels Women's Film Festival](#) to also include their top screenplays from their festival, so it's an honor to present those scripts in this year's list.

The Budget List is a roundup of all of these top screenplays. Below you will find log lines for them.

If you're a producer / agent / manager / director / development executive and would like to learn more about any of these projects, please email us at [info@sellingyourscreenplay.com](mailto:info@sellingyourscreenplay.com).

Congratulations to all the scripts that are being recognized on this year's list.

So without further ado, here is the 7th annual The Budget List...

# TOP SCREENPLAYS

## **ATLAS** *(FEATURE DRAMA)*

by Andrew Dawson

An ordinary young man's life is turned upside down after a routine medical examine reveals his body may contain a cure for cancer. However, his insistence it be made free for all sees him subsumed in a war of ideas and ideals as various factions vie for control and he discovers he might have to sacrifice his own life to see it realized.

## **OFF THE MAT** *(FEATURE DRAMA / ROMANCE)*

by John Acquaviva

A gay wrestling champ faces his greatest match: falling for his shy, brainy roommate. As their unexpected romance unfolds, they discover that true strength and love emerge from unexpected places, if only they can find the words to express their feelings.

## **STONEFACE** *(FEATURE DRAMEDY)*

by J.J. Spaulding

An ambitious writer reluctantly returns home to his alienated family where he confronts his dying father and discovers that his brother is now engaged to his ex-girlfriend.



**SYS'S SIX-FIGURE FILM FESTIVAL  
& SCREENPLAY CONTEST**

**-WINNER-**

**THE CORPSE DRESSER** (FEATURE SCI-FI)

by Daniel Cooper

A mortician who specializes in restoring the faces of the 'traumatically deceased' encounters an existential crisis when he finds the next body that crosses his table is himself, 20 years older, with a bullet hole in his head and an ominous message tattooed on his chest.

**-RUNNER-UP-**

**ONLY APPARENTLY REAL** (FEATURE SCI-FI)

by Michael Richter

Philip K. Dick investigates a break-in at his house . Before it actually happens.

**-SEMI-FINALIST-**

**PURGATORY** (FEATURE HORROR)

by Brian Schwab

After falling victim to a brutal and sadistic serial killer, a young paraplegic woman awakens to find herself living out the same grisly series of events over and over again.

## **TASERED** *(FEATURE COMEDY)*

by David M Hinds

After a celebrity therapist known online as The Happiness Angel is tasered, she develops a lethal compulsion to attack her lovers mid-act. It electrifies her sex life and transforms her into a dangerous Jekyll and Hyde-type personality. She experiences the real-life taser-related disorder EXCITED DELIRIUM.



**-QUARTER-FINALISTS-**

## **AMERICAN FALLOUT** *(ACTION / ADVENTURE)*

by Harry Kakatsakis

When a global incident spirals out of control, a lone wolf doomsday prepper agrees to be the mentor for an unprepared owner of a remote gas station and finds she's not prepared to fall in love.

## **ALAKA'I PREP** *(DRAMA)*

by Ross Matlin

A houseless single mother journeys to the far side of O'ahu so her son can interview for kindergarten at the best private school in Hawai'i.

## **SAD VACATION** *(FEATURE DRAMA)*

by Adam Simmel

After deciding to kill himself, a young man travels home to reconcile with his father before it's too late.

## **ON TIME** *(FEATURE DRAMA)*

by Xavier Burgin

Renee Johnson, a mother living in South Central LA, must make a difficult decision when she's late for her job interview.

## **LOCAL TALENT** *(DRAMEDY)*

by Vincent Scarsella

A self-proclaimed TV producer disappears after convincing small-town actors and film crew with dreams of Hollywood, to raise \$60,000 to shoot a sizzle reel that he can then pitch to Networks and Streamers. The sizzle is shot for much less and the TV producer then disappears.

## **ANYWHERE** *(FEATURE DRAMA)*

by Adam Seidel

An underachieving Wyoming roughneck discovers that his charming scumbag brother is secretly screwing his restless and sultry truck stop waitress wife, and takes violent action to save his marriage to the only woman he's ever loved.

## **A MISTLEPAW CHRISTMAS** *(FEATURE ROMANCE)*

by Judith Ingram

An angel cat answers a young girl's Christmas wish and helps her big-city aunt rediscover her hometown ties and capacity for love with a handsome local veterinarian.

## **HOSPICE** *(FEATURE HORROR)*

by Todd Biggerstaff & Paul Gonzales





**SYS'S SIX-FIGURE FILM FESTIVAL  
& SCREENPLAY CONTEST**

*-SHORTS-*



# -WINNER-

## **THE REVVER** (FEATURE THRILER)

by Mike Hanson

At wit's end with a motorhead neighbor always revving his big truck, a beleaguered artist takes matters into her own hands to finish her masterwork.

# -RUNNER-UP-

## **THE RUSTY NAIL** (FEATURE HORROR)

by John Acquaviva

Two best friends on a mission go clubbing when one meets a handsome stranger over drinks and things take a turn for the worse.

# -SEMI-FINALIST-

## **GROUNDDED** (FEATURE ANIMATION)

by Martin Tylicki

A frog awakens to find itself trapped underneath the Colombian rain forest with no memory. In its search for a way out, the frog forms an unexpected friendship with a large tarantula.

## **RAMONA** ( *FEATURE DRAMA* )

by David Woll

A suicidal detective riddled with guilt finds a small measure of redemption when he comes to the aid of an 8-year-old girl whose mother has just been murdered.



**-QUARTER-FINALISTS-**

## **NETS FLICKS** ( *FEATURE COMEDY* )

by Katharine Rex

Two residents of the Bridgewater Assisted Living Facility want to spice up their lives with some Nets Flicks, but first need to figure out whose funeral is coming up next.

## **PAPA** ( *FEATURE DRAMA* )

by Bella Rinsky

A woman in her late forties struggles to accept her father's illness and combats a tearing desire to set herself free.

## **TATTOO** ( *FEATURE DRAMA* )

by Steven T Smith

A vicious tabloid reporter willing to do anything to get his next big story learns the true meaning of “skin in the game.” It’s enough to make anyone’s skin crawl.

## **PRIMAL MAGIC** ( *FEATURE ANIMATION* )

by Heather Parra

After losing his mother to a poacher, a young shape-shifting tiger struggles to find his way as a Guardian.





**CITY OF ANGELS  
WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL**

*- SCREENPLAY WINNERS -*



**-WINNER-**

**EXPIRED** (A HALF-HOUR MULTI-CAM COMEDY)

by Wendy Braff

Five female friends over 50 have had enough of the world taking them for granted, demanding perfection, and ignoring their needs. When a confrontation with one of their cheating husbands lands them all in a holding cell, they collectively decide that they are no longer going to give a fuck and won't be cleaning up the chips that are about to fall.

**MAD ART GALLERY** (FEATURE DRAMA)

by Diane Lasing

When a former child prodigy artist suffers a psychotic break, she joins a wild gallery of mentally ill artists where she overcomes seeing the world in black and white by learning along with her fellow artists how to turn their pain into paint and create an art show that saves the gallery from closing, freeing herself from her husband who doesn't understand the artistic need.

# The Budget List

- 2023 -

“

If you would like to learn more about any of these writers or screenplays please contact us at [info@sellingyourscreenplay.com](mailto:info@sellingyourscreenplay.com)

”

Selling  
Your  
Screenplay  
.com