JULIAN MERCER

SCREENWRITER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

WGA West screenwriter with 8+ years in television writers' rooms and feature development. Writes broadcast and streaming scripts, develops pilots and series bibles, and incorporates studio and showrunner notes through multiple drafts while meeting production deadlines.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Story Editor Jan 2024 - Present
Amazon MGM Studios, Culver City, CA

- Write and rewrite scripts for a half-hour streaming comedy, delivering 3 teleplays and 2 rewrites in a 10-episode season.
- Break story with a 7-person room, pitching A and B storylines and running structure sessions for 4 episodes.
- Cut episode runtime by 3 minutes on a final table draft without losing key plot beats, keeping to the network's episode length.
- Joined the casting and table-read process, adjusting dialogue in response to actors' rhythms and notes from the showrunner.
- Mentored the room's writers' assistant on script formatting, notes tracking, and pitch documents.

Staff Writer Jan 2021 - Dec 2023
20th Television, Los Angeles, CA

- Wrote two produced episodes and contributed to the story for a third on a drama series over two seasons.
- Developed character arcs and episode outlines that were approved by the showrunner after one round of notes.
- Delivered revised drafts overnight on production days when the director needed new scenes ahead of a shoot.
- Wrote a series bible and pilot for an original drama that earned a development meeting with a studio executive.

Writers' Assistant Aug 2018 - Dec 2020
Warner Bros. Television, Burbank, CA

- Took notes in the writers' room for 22-episode seasons, producing room summaries within two hours of each session.
- Tracked continuity for story, characters, and timeline across 44 episodes with a master series document.
- Wrote a spec episode on the side, which led to a promotion to staff writer interviews at two studios.
- Assembled episode outlines and final script packages for the showrunner and studio executives.

Script Reader and Development Assistant Jun 2016 - Jul 2018
Paramount Pictures, Los Angeles, CA

- Covered 300+ feature scripts and treatments, writing one-page coverage with a recommend or pass rating.
- Pitched three scripts that moved to executive review and one that entered development.
- Researched comparable titles and box-office data for creative executives preparing slate decisions.

CORE SKILLS

Teleplay writing | Feature screenplays | Story structure | Dialogue | Pilot and series bible development | Writers' room collaboration | Final Draft | Rewrites on notes | Pitching | Character development | Script coverage | Comedy and drama formats | Table reads

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts in Writing for Screen and Television, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

CERTIFICATIONS

Member, Writers Guild of America West