

# BOOK-TO-SCREEN PITCHFEST

At Pitchfest Los Angeles 2020, an astounding 88 percent of our attending authors received at least one request for their book. Since 2011, a phenomenal 1,169 books have received requests.

When producers see a book's screen potential, they may seek to option the title, which means they have the exclusive right for a limited time to develop it for the screen. They may take their time to develop it, just like with any other source material they receive. The waiting period might feel like forever, but it will certainly be worth it if the producers are able to turn your book into a movie or show.

Over the years, Author Solutions has helped many authors get their books introduced to people in the entertainment industry who have optioned the titles for development. Some are still in the process of being developed, which is not unusual, but some have already made it to the screen.

## What People Are Saying About PitchFest

"I attended Book-to-Screen PitchFest in Las Vegas with three goals in mind: the first was to be able to put myself in a position where I had access to empowering decision makers in the film/television/entertainment industry, the second was to advance the promotion of my book and myself as an author in other media, and the third was a stretch goal where I would gain interest from the producers to entertain the notion of turning my book into a television show or movie. I was able to achieve all three of these goals through PitchFest and Author Solutions has helped turn my dream into a reality."

Chelsea Ashe, author of *Happy Hour Stories: The Dating Misadventures of a Girl Between Her Cocktails*, closed a 12-month option deal in July 2015.



Paula Wagner, producer of such films as *Mission: Impossible*, *Vanilla Sky*, and *The Last Samurai*, optioned the rights for a title discovered at the PitchFest Los Angeles: *Internet Dates from Hell* by Trisha Ventker.

"I'm always looking for projects with real audience appeal, and with Internet dating being such a part of our techno-centric world, I was immediately drawn to Trisha's personal journey of life and love online," Wagner said.



George Lopez's production company Travieso Productions is currently developing Humberto G. Garcia's *Mustang Miracle*, a book discovered by Principal Entertainment at our first PitchFest event.

"This story fits right in with our company's goal to make quality entertainment that crosses all cultural barriers," said Lopez.



Author Reuben Sparks, the winner from PitchFest Las Vegas 2016, secured an option deal with Orlando Jones' Legion of Creatives to develop his book *One Cowrie Shell* for the international market.

"Reuben's impressive literary debut has a natural cinematic quality, and we're excited to partner with him to adapt his story into a powerful event mini-series," said Noam Dromi, Legion of Creatives President.

"THANK YOU for creating a safe and fulfilling opportunity during a global pandemic."

"I'm very excited for what could or may possibly come down the road. A very validating and inspiring feeling to have my book requested by two different companies."

"The best thing about this experience was that I learned how to pitch to Hollywood. So even if it doesn't happen this time, at least I have a pitch now that I can take to other people whether it's an agent or a company on my own."

"The experience of being here was just awesome. I learned a lot."

"I had a fantastic experience. The practice session was great; I got a lot of good feedback. That feedback helped me to make changes, consolidate the pitch and get it more concise. Having the time to practice it made it so easy . . . I was able to just go in there and pitch it!"

"It was an adrenaline rush . . . It's a heck of a lot of fun and we'll see how it goes. The whole weekend was a great experience."

"It was outstanding. I highly recommend it!"

"You learn how to bring [your idea] from book to screen, how to refine, how to sell your idea and sound really great to get people from Hollywood interested."

"I loved it; I had a lot of fun . . . then when I actually did it, I was in there having a ball! I really enjoyed the whole thing; it was really a great experience."

"This has been an amazing experience. I mean, just the stories that have come out of here, it just showcases that an event like this will let authors like me—that have very little to no experience—get together and share our stories. Even if nothing comes of this, this was an amazing experience."

"It was more than I ever thought it could be."

## Some of the books that have been optioned from Author Solutions

### From Pitchfest



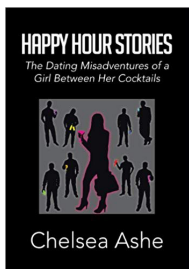
#### *Internet Dates from Hell*

Author Trisha Ventker's chronicles her dating life as a single kindergarten teacher who relocated from the suburbs to New York City to find her soul mate. Fielding over four hundred responses a day, and receiving more than fifty-two thousand hits on her personal online profile in an eight-month span, Ventker shares her frightening but true dating encounters. Follow her through the trials and tribulations to find "Mr. Right". First dates include a conspiracy theorist, a religious fanatic and a sadomasochistic psychiatrist to name a few, but in the end she did find her husband to be on his first online date.



#### *Accidental Droning*

Bo Granger loses his job and turns to flying his drone while his wife gears up for her gubernatorial campaign. But what happens when he witnesses the murder of a wealthy woman on camera?



#### *Happy Hour Stories: The Dating Misadventures of a Girl Between Her Cocktails*

An entertaining memoir that recounts the author's dating misadventures when she decided to mix two of her favorites: alcohol and romance!

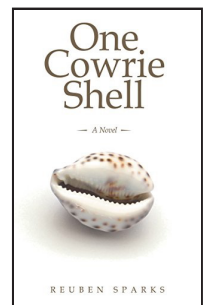


#### *Searching for Sassy: An L.A. Phone Psychic's Tales of Life, Lust & Love*

In *Searching for Sassy*, the author shares how she got her life back from a terrible breakup as she learns to accept her psychic gift. Her path to recovery might be a little odd but this book is for everyone who needs help navigating their lives too!

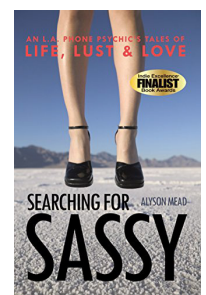
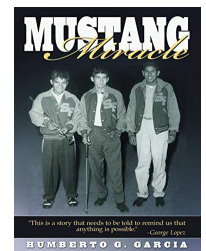
#### *One Cowrie Shell: A Novel*

Against his elder's wishes, a Yoruba youth leaves his people to find his true love. But his plan suddenly goes wrong and is soon forced to travel three continents to search for his dearest. Will he ever find his true love or forever be bound to a meaningless life?



#### *Mustang Miracle*

At a time in America when Mexican-Americans were not welcomed in the white golfing world, five young Mexican-American caddies formed their high school's golf team and, against all odds, broke the racial barriers by winning the Texas state golf championship in 1957.



In addition to Pitchfest, entertainment people have found other titles that they have optioned.



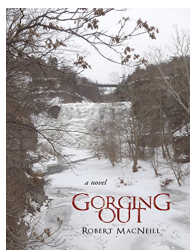
#### **Hush**

It's *Ghostbusters* meets *Misery*. Released as Netflix Original film in October 2018 with the title *Malevolent*.



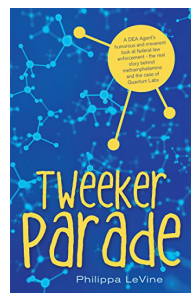
#### **Alias Island** (Mark Oberlin Mysteries)

Murder on a resort island where every resident is in witness protection but does not know all their neighbors are too. So how do you find the guilty party when everybody is a criminal?



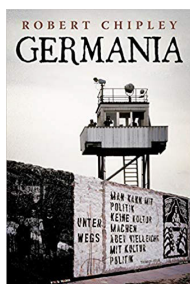
#### **Gorging Out**

After failing his thesis, Roger Froehlich decides to leave his family to find solace in his aunt, Alicia, the most important person in his life. He discovers his aunt is terminally ill and decides to fulfill her last wish—to reunite her with his estranged son, Fritz. However, his new found purpose leads him to Fritz's obscure world of sexual perversion. Will he be able to find his way out?



#### **Tweeker Parade**

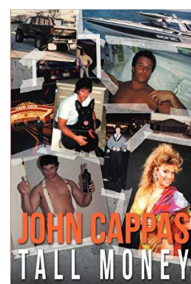
A wickedly funny memoir spanning the 30-year career of retired DEA Special Agent Phillippa Levine as she investigates meth labs in their heyday as one of the only women on the force.



#### **Germania**

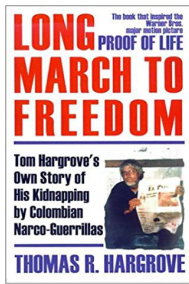
Hans Klug, an interpreter, and a former East German border guard lived a quiet life until he received a threat to expose his deepest and darkest secret. He sought his former colleagues for help who in return for their aid, asks him to locate a missing Nazi treasure. He accepts the deal but now, he must overcome every grueling obstacle that will come in his way.

The author of this book has previously reached an option agreement with his first book, *Gorging Out*.

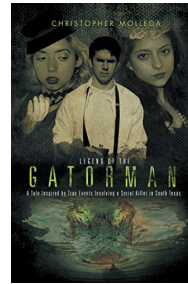


#### **John Capps: Tall Money**

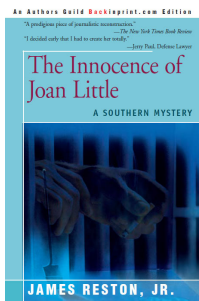
*Tall Money* recounts the wild adventures of the Chicago criminal legend, John Capps. A gripping and felonious memoir—it's a literary work that all criminal buffs should have in their shelves.



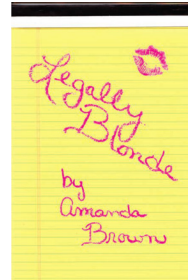
**Long March to Freedom:**  
**Tom Hargrove's Own Story of His Kidnapping by Colombian Narco-Guerrillas**  
 The story behind the drama/thriller movie, *Proof of Life*, starring Russell Crowe and Meg Ryan.



**Legend of the Gatorman:**  
**A Tale Inspired by True Events Involving a Serial Killer in South Texas**  
 In the 1930s, a dance hall owner, Joe Black is caught in a love triangle that's eventually ended by a terrible incident. He wants to keep the event in the shadows but one of his workers discovers his dark secret. Now, Joe has to do whatever it takes to keep his reputation clean. Will he succeed in hiding the skeleton in his closet or will justice get to him first?



**The Innocence of Joan Little:**  
**A Southern mystery**  
 This true crime masterpiece features portrayals of Joan Little, the black woman who was tried for murder after killing a white prison warder and rapist. Her case became an international sensation and also shed light on issues such as a woman's right to kill a potential rapist, civil rights and prisoner's rights.



**Legally Blonde**  
 The book behind the 2002 comedy blockbuster starring Reese Witherspoon!

Call your marketing consultant today  
 to claim your spot at the PitchFest  
 Los Angeles 2021! Space is limited.