

★ ★ ★ ★ LUCY V. HAY ★ ★ ★ ★

WRITING
& **SELLING**

THRILLER

SCREENPLAYS

FROM TV PILOT

TO FEATURE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★ creative ESSENTIALS ★ ★ ★ ★

10 Tips For Writing Your Own Psychological Crime Thriller

With Lucy V Hay

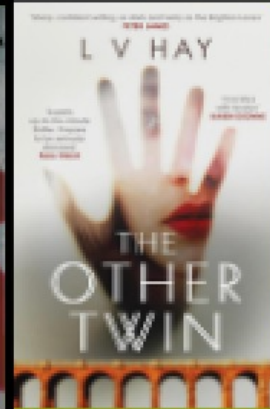
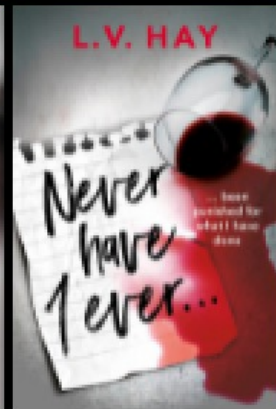
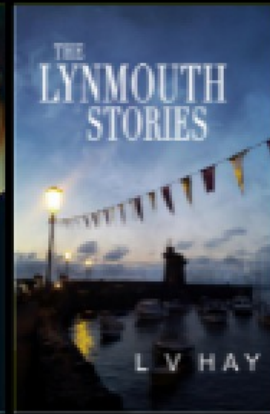
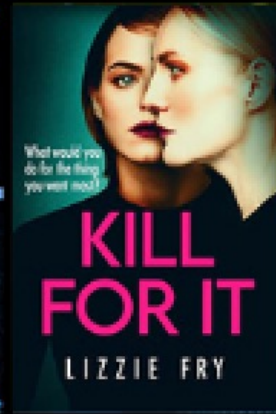
🖱 www.bang2write.com

✉ bang2write@gmail.com

f www.facebook.com/Bang2writers

Why listen to me?

- Published author
- Written 7 of these!
- **LV Hay & Lizzie Fry**
- Big 5
- Indie Publishers
- Digital-First
- Self-published
- Script editor for movies & TV
- **www.bang2write.com**



Latest
crime
novel
out
July 18th
2024
With Joffe
Books

★ ★ ★ ★ LUCY V. HAY ★ ★ ★ ★

WRITING

& SELLING

THRILLER

SCREENPLAYS

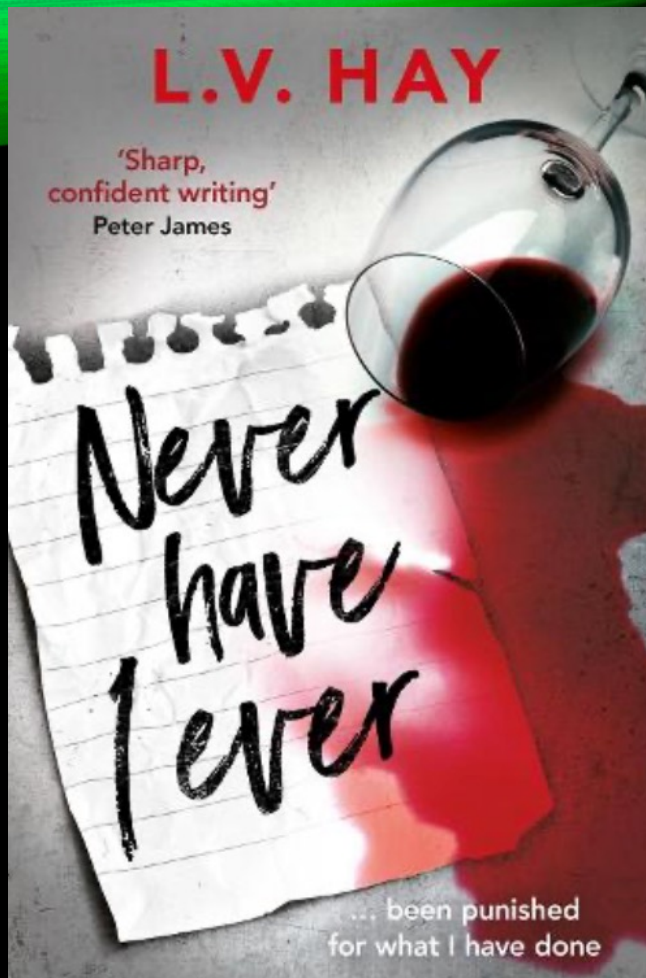
FROM TV PILOT

TO FEATURE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★ creative ESSENTIALS ★ ★ ★ ★

Tip 1: Study Screenwriting!

- **Thrillers = genre of the 2020s**
- Audiences love it in movies & TV
- Adaptations are hot right now
- 'Screenwriting is structure'
- **Screenwriting = plot-led**
- Crime stories = plot-led
- Stand out with meaty plots!
- (All these tips work for scripts too)



Tip 2: All About Premises

- **Intrigue is everything**
- Mystery is important
- Don't forget The Hook
- Commercial hook = desire-led
- **Dramatic hook = asks audience to put themselves in protagonist's place**
- "What would YOU do?"

★ ★ ★ ★ LUCY V. HAY ★ ★ ★ ★

WRITING

& SELLING

THRILLER

SCREENPLAYS

FROM TV PILOT

TO FEATURE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★ creative ESSENTIALS ★ ★ ★ ★

Tip 3: Create A Compelling Protagonist

- **Flawed and damaged**
- Female leads feature in this genre
- Issues with men, children, home
- **Can't go to police for some reason**
- Likeability – don't worry about this
- Believability – rich history of crime!
- **Authenticity – research is key**

★ ★ ★ ★ LUCY V. HAY ★ ★ ★ ★

WRITING

& SELLING

THRILLER

SCREENPLAYS

FROM TV PILOT

TO FEATURE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★ creative ESSENTIALS ★ ★ ★ ★

Tip 4: Protagonist's Mission

- What does the protagonist want?
- Why can't the police handle it?
- What is the antagonist's 'evil plan'?
- **What is the crime?**
- **Why does the antagonist do it?**
- Cover-ups & conspiracy
- Abduction & hostage-taking
- Stalking & poison pen letters

★ ★ ★ ★ LUCY V. HAY ★ ★ ★ ★

WRITING

& SELLING

THRILLER

SCREENPLAYS

FROM TV PILOT

TO FEATURE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★ creative ESSENTIALS ★ ★ ★ ★

Tip 5: Secondary Characters

- Relatability is key here
- **Their job = HELP or HINDER**
- Protagonist in his/her mission
- Diversity key in 2020s
- LGBTQ, BIPOC, Disabled
- **Research tropes**
- Tropedia
- Tropes.org

★ ★ ★ ★ LUCY V. HAY ★ ★ ★ ★

WRITING

& SELLING

THRILLER

SCREENPLAYS

FROM TV PILOT

TO FEATURE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★ creative ESSENTIALS ★ ★ ★ ★

More Thriller Tips ...

- **TIP 6: Build suspense SLOWLY (don't rush)**
- Study visual representations of structure
- www.bang2write.com/resources

- **TIP 7: Don't forget your setting!**
- Storyworld as character in own right
- Mine? Seaside towns out of season

- **Tip 8: Choose your ending VERY wisely!**
- Plot backwards to 'find' the beginning

More Thriller Tips ...

★ ★ ★ ★ LUCY V. HAY ★ ★ ★ ★

WRITING

& SELLING

THRILLER

SCREENPLAYS

FROM TV PILOT

TO FEATURE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★ creative ESSENTIALS ★ ★ ★ ★

- **TIP 9: Remember your reader!**
 - Key themes readers enjoy in this subgenre?
 - Justice, culpability, responsibility
 - Mental health, systemic failures
 - Feminism and politics
- **TIP 10: Let it sit ... and get feedback**
 - NEVER send out or publish a first draft
 - Beta readers & peer review
 - Pay for an editor (Like B2W)

★ ★ ★ ★ LUCY V. HAY ★ ★ ★ ★

WRITING
& **SELLING**

THRILLER

SCREENPLAYS

FROM TV PILOT

TO FEATURE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★ creative ESSENTIALS ★ ★ ★ ★

10 Tips For Writing Your Own Psychological Crime Thriller Novel

With Lucy V Hay

🖱 www.bang2write.com

✉ bang2write@gmail.com

f www.facebook.com/Bang2writers