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**Issue 08 Cover:**  
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**Michael Koelsch**

How to Read  
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Letter from  
the Publisher

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Masthead

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*Backstory*

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## REJECTION LETTER FILE

### **Tim Talbott**

The 1990s were unkind to a certain young, eager writer and now, years later, he responds—in haiku.

## INK TALES

### **The Star Wars**

J.W. Rinzler brings George Lucas' 1974 first-draft script to life with surprising and sublime results.

**By Danny Munso**

## STAGED

### **Absolutely Filthy**

Actor-writer Brendan Hunt cleans up his act by writing and starring as Pigpen in his satirical grown-up look at the children's classic *Peanuts*

**By Jenelle Riley**

## THE BIG LIST

**The WGA's 101 Best Written TV Series**  
*Backstory* was there as the guild revealed its TV toppers, and we republish it here along with an audio podcast from an event you won't want to miss.

**By Jeff Goldsmith**

## TV DVR'D

### **Eastbound & Down**

Danny McBride and Jody Hill on resurrecting Kenny Powers for an epic fourth season.

**By Danny Munso & Jeff Goldsmith**

## TV DVR'D

### **Homeland**

Alex Gansa talks about handling criticism, killing off main characters and writing season three of the hit Showtime series.

**By Danny Munso**

## OFF THE SHELF

### **The Robotard 8000 Presents...**

The fine fellows behind that silly pseudonym, Malcolm Spellman and Tim Talbott talk script fights and writing far outside the box, all for the sake of a good laugh.

**By Sean Kennelly**

## WILD BILL

### **William Shakespeare's Star Wars**

May the forsooth be with you?

Author Ian Doescher mashes up the Bard and a galaxy far, far away...

**By David Somerset**



## WILD BILL

### **Two Gentlemen of Lebowski**

The Dude becomes the Knave—but still abides—in this clever Shakespeare/Coen brothers blend.

**By David Somerset**

## RETRO

### **Die Hard**

Co-writers Jeb Stuart and Steven E. de Souza discuss the seminal action film on its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**By Danny Munso**

## THE DOC

### **Mortified Nation**

Publicly reading a an old teenage love letter led to a stage show, two books and a TV show—and now David Nadelberg documents it all.

**By Germain Lussier**

## BLACK LIST TALES

### **From New York to Florida**

Austin Reynolds turns his senior thesis into a script—and lands the kudos of his dreams.

**By Danny Munso**



## THE CONVERSATION

### **Quentin Tarantino Digs Deep with Robert Blake**

Be a fly on the wall as the Oscar-winning writer-director and Hollywood's old-school bad boy go head to head at a special Cinefamily event in L.A.

**By Jeff Goldsmith**

## COVER STORY

### **12 Years a Slave**

Honesty was the compass point always followed by scribe John Ridley and the filmmakers behind this emotionally devastating true story.

**By Peter Debruge**

## CURRENT CINEMA

### **All Is Lost**

Writer-director J.C. Chandor strands living legend Robert Redford out on the ocean in his new film about sailing and survival.

**By David Somerset**

## CURRENT CINEMA

### **Ender's Game**

Being unaware of all the failed attempts to bring this novel to the screen was writer-director Gavin Hood's saving grace.

**By Sean Kennelly**



## CURRENT CINEMA

### **Gravity**

Jonás Cuarón on co-writing father Alfonso's gripping space epic.

**By Jenelle Riley**

## CURRENT CINEMA

### **Kill Your Darlings**

Co-writer/director John Krokidas and co-writer Austin Bunn explore a formative chapter in the lives of the Beat Generation.

**By Claude Chung**

## CURRENT CINEMA

### **Paradise**

Oscar-winning screenwriter Diablo Cody on her directorial debut and why helming simply ain't for her.

**By Danny Munso & Jeff Goldsmith**

## CURRENT CINEMA

### **Prisoners**

How writer Aaron Guzikowski and director Denis Villeneuve made the year's most twisted thriller.

**By Jenelle Riley**



## CURRENT CINEMA

### **Rush**

Screenwriter Peter Morgan blends truth and fiction while staging the 1970s epic clash between Formula One drivers James Hunt and Niki Lauda.

**By David Somerset**

## CURRENT CINEMA

### **Thor: The Dark World**

Scribes Christopher Yost, Christopher Markus & Stephen McFeely on making a sequel successful and being a member of the Marvel family.

**By Sean Kennelly**

