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Book Review/Kitap İncelemesi

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Damla İlerialkan & Recep Yılmaz (2015). Senaryo Nasıl Yazılır? Nasıl Yazıyorlar? [How to Write a Scenario? How Do They Write?]. İstanbul: Alfa Yayınları. ISBN: 978-605-171-032-7

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What is Scenario? This is a very common question every communication student must ask but actually nowadays people whose interested in cinema and writing started to ask this question very often. In dictionaries, there are many definitions of scenario and one of them is explaining exactly what scenario is. "Scenario is an outline of the plot of a dramatic work the manuscript of a motion picture or a television scenario." But how can anyone write a scenario, or how are great scenarists writing it? In this book, Damla İlerialkan and Recep Yılmaz are trying to answer these questions in a very plain way.

The book has two chapters. At the first Chapter, "How to Write?", the authors İlerialkan and Yılmaz have tried to make a description of the scenario in finest details with asking questions and answering those. They have asked questions about everything in the scenario and answered their questions for the reader, so they can understand the text easily. They have tried to examine the scene, narration, storyboard and everything that has to be taken part in the scenario by asking questions about them. İlerialkan and Yılmaz not only targeted the academic professions but also ordinary people from different professional groups who are interested in cinema and narrative writing. This choose led to the book a simple and understandable language in every angle. The authors have enriched the narrative with using the examples of famous movie scripts.

In the second chapter, bearing the title "How Do They Write?", the authors İlerialkan and Yılmaz have decided to enrichment the narrative by using interviews which they prepared meticulously by talking with the famous scenarist from Turkey. There are five interviews in this book, and all of these interviews have a different angle. They have talked Yılmaz Erdoğan about "Scenario as an art of defense", and he explains how his scenarios work as a secret weapon to catch the emotions. The interview with Birol Güven is about "Scenario has to be destructive", he insisted on every act of write has to be different from the other scenarios. Scenarios have to change everything from top to bottom. Safa Onal talked about details, he has said "Even greengrocers shaving process is a serious affiliate" so scenarists have to describe everything in a different circle. Murat Seker talked about what being there means, "If I am in a bus, that means I am not in a jeep", and these differences allow you to head various pathways. Alican Yaras has said the writers have to trust their instincts, "In your head, if you hear all the characters in their unique voices, then your script is perfect", so you have to listen carefully, you have to wait for them to talk to you, writers have to be patience.

İlerialkan and Yılmaz's book, which has been generally mentioned hereinabove, has shown a different angle to look how to write a scenario in a simple way. The book has told every reader never afraid to start writing and it also helps to write act by explaining what is narration, how can you prepare a detailed scene etc. Additionally, the presentation of very important recommendations from famous and valuable scenarists has made the book different and interesting.

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