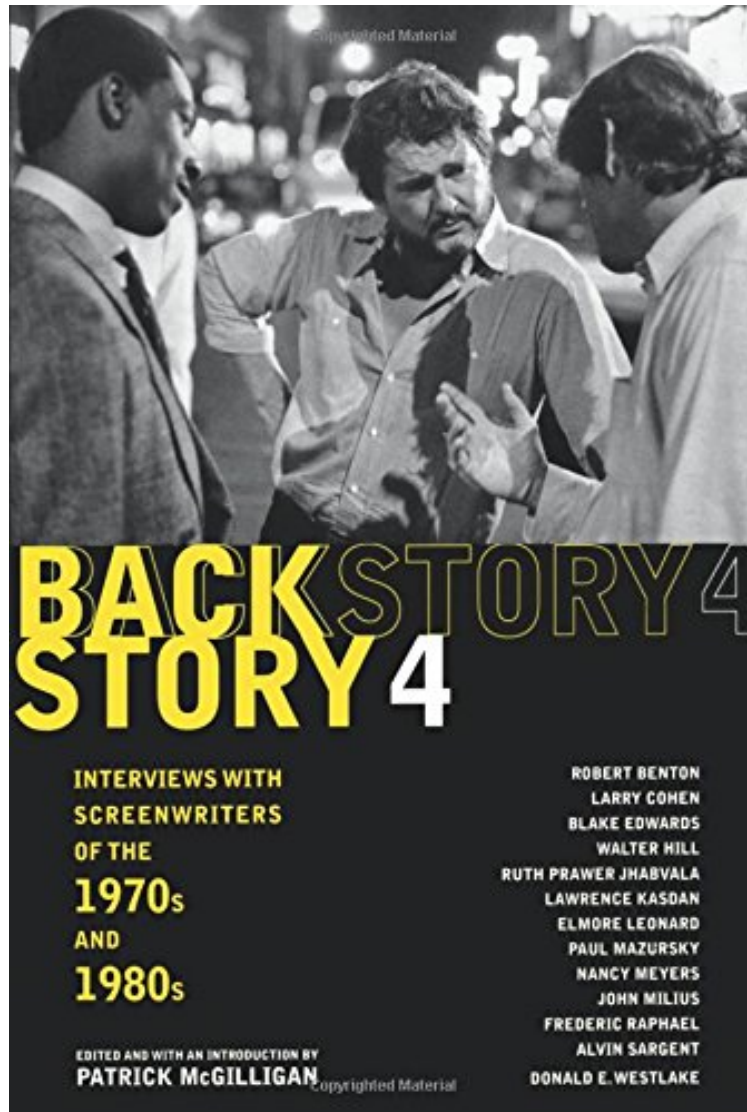


## Backstory 4: Interviews with Screenwriters of the 1970s and 1980s (Backstory (Paperback))

From Patrick McGilligan

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From Patrick McGilligan : Backstory 4: Interviews with Screenwriters of the 1970s and 1980s (Backstory (Paperback)) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Backstory 4: Interviews with Screenwriters of the 1970s and 1980s (Backstory (Paperback)):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Informative and Amusing Reading for Film Freaks By Chris Ward If

you're at all interested in the way films actually get written and produced, this is an invaluable-- and very entertaining-- resource. I picked this up to read the interview with Donald E. Westlake, one of my favorite authors. I ended up reading the whole thing in a few hours. The fun of this is to see what screenwriters think of the films that have been made from their work, and how many of their products have actually made it to the finish line (surprisingly few). These artists know how Hollywood works, how hard it is to push through a script to completion, and how maddening the process can be. Many of these screenwriters are also directors-- Walter Hill and Robert Benton and Larry Cohen tell about their mostly low-budget beginnings in fascinating interviews. Their work habits, their inspirations, their grudges and triumphs-- it all makes for great reading.

Continuing Patrick McGilligan's highly acclaimed series on Hollywood screenwriters, these engrossing, informative, provocative interviews give wonderfully detailed and personal stories from veteran screenwriters of the seventies and eighties focusing on their craft, their lives, and their profession. Backstory 4 is a riveting insider's look at how movies get made; a rich perspective on many of the great movies, directors, and actors of the seventies and eighties; and an articulate, forthright commentary on the art and the business of screenwriting. The screenwriters interviewed for this volume include well-known Oscar winners as well as cult filmmakers, important writers who were also distinguished directors, and key practitioners of every commercial genre. These writers have worked with Steven Spielberg, Woody Allen, Peter Bogdanovich, George Lucas, Francis Ford Coppola, Robert Altman, Clint Eastwood, and other film giants of the so-called New Hollywood. The stories of their collaborations--some divine, some disastrous--provide some of the most fascinating material in this volume. They also discuss topics including how they got started writing screenplays, their working routines, their professional relationships, their influences, and the work of other major writers and directors. Backstory 4 features interviews with Robert Benton, Larry Cohen, Blake Edwards, Walter Hill, Ruth Praver Jhabvala, Lawrence Kasdan, Elmore Leonard, Paul Mazursky, Nancy Meyers, John Milius, Frederic Raphael, Alvin Sargent, and Donald E. Westlake.

"Backstory 4 lives up to the high standards of the previous volumes, providing us with intimate, funny, insightful conversations with the highly articulate and film-literate screenwriters and writer-directors of many of the most memorable American films from the 1970s and 1980s, the era of the movie brats, the cult film, and the blockbuster. Each interview is a revelation. Both the interviewers and the subjects are great company. Editor Patrick McGilligan has done it again." - Matthew Bernstein, editor of Controlling Hollywood

"From the Inside Flap" Backstory 4 lives up to the high standards of the previous volumes, providing us with intimate, funny, insightful conversations with the highly articulate and film-literate screenwriters and writer-directors of many of the most memorable American films from the 1970s and 1980s, the era of the movie brats, the cult film, and the blockbuster. Each interview is a revelation. Both the interviewers and the subjects are great company. Editor Patrick McGilligan has done it again." Matthew Bernstein, editor of Controlling Hollywood