

SIX SCREEN PLAYS BY  
ROBERT RISKIN



WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY THE AUTHOR

INTRODUCTION BY ROBERT RISKIN

# Six Screenplays By Robert Riskin

**Jiyuan Zhang**



## **Six Screenplays By Robert Riskin:**

**Six Screenplays** Robert Riskin, 1997 Screenwriter Robert Riskin 1897 1955 was a towering figure even among the giants of Hollywood's Golden Age. Known for his unique blend of humor and romance, wisecracking and idealism, Riskin teamed with director Frank Capra to produce some of his most memorable films. Pat McGilligan has collected six of the best Riskin scripts: *Platinum Blonde* 1931, *American Madness* 1932, *It Happened One Night* 1934, *Mr Deeds Goes to Town* 1936, *Lost Horizon* 1937, and *Meet John Doe* 1941. All of them were directed by Capra, and although Capra's work has been amply chronicled and celebrated, Riskin's share in the collaboration has been overlooked since his death. McGilligan provides the backstory for the forgotten half of the team: indispensable counterpoint to the director's self-mythologizing autobiography and incidentally the missing link in any study of Capra's career. Riskin's own career, although interrupted by patriotic duty and cut short by personal tragedy, produced as consistent, entertaining, thoughtful, and enduring a body of work as any Hollywood writer's. Those who know and love these vintage films will treasure these scripts. McGilligan's introduction offers new information and insights for fans, scholars, and general readers.

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produced as consistent entertaining thoughtful and enduring a body of work as any Hollywood writer s Those who know and love these vintage films will treasure these scripts McGilligan s introduction offers new information and insights for fans scholars and general readers     Robert Riskin Ian Scott,2021-12-07 Because screenwriter Robert Riskin 1897 1955 spent most of his career collaborating with legendary Hollywood director Frank Capra his own unique contributions to film have been largely overshadowed With five Academy Award nominations to his credit for the monumental films Lady for a Day Mr Deeds Goes to Town You Can t Take It with You Here Comes the Groom and It Happened One Night for which he won an Oscar Riskin is often imitated but rarely equaled Robert Riskin The Life and Times of a Hollywood Screenwriter is the first detailed critical examination of the Hollywood pioneer s life and work In addition to being one of the great screenwriters of the classic Hollywood era Riskin was also a producer and director founding his own film company and playing a crucial role in the foundation of the Screen Writers Guild During World War II Riskin was one of the major forces behind propaganda filmmaking He worked in the Office of War Information and oversaw the distribution and later production of films and documentaries in foreign theaters He was interested in showing the rest of the world more than just an idealized version of America he looked for films that emphasized the spiritual and cultural vibrancy within the United States making charity faith and generosity of spirit his propaganda tools His efforts also laid the groundwork for a system of distribution channels that would result in the dominance of American cinema in Europe in the postwar years Author Ian Scott provides a unique perspective on Riskin and the ways in which his brilliant pithy style was realized in Capra s enduring films Riskin s impact on cinema extended far beyond these films as he articulated his vision of a changing America and helped spread Hollywood cinema abroad     Fay Wray and Robert Riskin Victoria Riskin,2019-02-26 Finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize Biography A Hollywood love story a Hollywood memoir a dual biography of two of Hollywood s most famous figures whose golden lives were lived at the center of Hollywood s golden age written by their daughter an acclaimed writer and producer Fay Wray was most famous as the woman the blonde in a diaphanous gown who captured the heart of the mighty King Kong the twenty five foot sixty ton gorilla as he placed her nestled in his eight foot hand on the ledge of the 102 story Empire State Building putting Wray at the height of New York s skyline and cinematic immortality Wray starred in more than 120 pictures opposite Hollywood s biggest stars Spencer Tracy Gary Cooper The Legion of the Condemned The First Kiss The Texan One Sunday Afternoon Clark Gable William Powell and Charles Boyer from cowboy stars Hoot Gibson and Art Accord to Ronald Colman The Unholy Garden Claude Rains Ralph Richardson and Melvyn Douglas She was directed by the masters of the age from Fred Niblo Erich von Stroheim The Wedding March and Mauritz Stiller The Street of Sin to Leo McCarey William Wyler Gregory La Cava Wild Bill William Wellman Merian C Cooper The Four Feathers King Kong Josef von Sternberg Thunderbolt Dorothy Arzner Behind the Make Up Frank Capra Dirigible Michael Curtiz Doctor X Raoul Walsh The Bowery and Vincente Minnelli The book s and Wray s counterpart Robert Riskin considered one of the greatest screenwriters of all time Academy

Award winning writer nominated for five producer ten year long collaborator with Frank Capra on such pictures as American Madness It Happened One Night Mr Deeds Goes to Town Lost Horizon and Meet John Doe hailed by many among them F Scott Fitzgerald as among the best screenwriters in the business Riskin wrote women characters who were smart ornery sexy always resilient as he perfected what took full shape in It Happened One Night the Riskin character male or female breezy self made streetwise optimistic with a sense of humor that is subtle and sure Fay Wray and Robert Riskin lived large lives finding each other after establishing their artistic selves and after each had had many romantic attachments Wray an eleven year long difficult marriage and a fraught affair with Clifford Odets and Riskin a series of romances with among others Carole Lombard Glenda Farrell and Loretta Young Here are Wray s and Riskin s lives their work their fairy tale marriage that ended so tragically Here are their dual quintessential American lives ultimately and blissfully intertwined In Capra's Shadow Ian Scott,2006-01-01 Because screenwriter Robert Riskin spent most of his career collaborating with legendary Hollywood director Frank Capra Riskin s own unique contributions to film have been largely overshadowed With five Academy Award nominations to his credit for such monumental films as Lady for a Day Mr Deeds Goes to Town You Can t Take It with You Here Comes the Groom and It Happened One Night for which he won the Oscar Riskin is often imitated but rarely equaled In Capra s Shadow The Life and Career of Screenwriter Robert Riskin is the first sociohistorical analysis of the Hollywood pioneer s life and work Author Ian Scott provides a unique perspective on Riskin his impact on cinema and the ways in which his brilliant pithy style was realized in Capra s films *An Archaeology of Sympathy* James Chandler,2024-05-31 In the middle of the eighteenth century something new made itself felt in European culture a tone or style that came to be called the sentimental The sentimental mode went on to shape not just literature art music and cinema but people s very structures of feeling their ways of doing and being In what is sure to become a critical classic An Archaeology of Sympathy challenges Sergei Eisenstein s influential account of Dickens and early American film by tracing the unexpected history and intricate strategies of the sentimental mode and showing how it has been reimagined over the past three centuries James Chandler begins with a look at Frank Capra and the Capraesque in American public life then digs back to the eighteenth century to examine the sentimental substratum underlying Dickens and early cinema alike With this surprising move he reveals how literary spectatorship in the eighteenth century anticipated classic Hollywood films such as Capra s It Happened One Night Mr Deeds Goes to Town and It s a Wonderful Life Chandler then moves forward to romanticism and modernism two cultural movements often seen as defined by their rejection of the sentimental examining how authors like Mary Shelley Joseph Conrad James Joyce and Virginia Woolf actually engaged with sentimental forms and themes in ways that left a mark on their work Reaching from Laurence Sterne to the Coen brothers An Archaeology of Sympathy casts new light on the long eighteenth century and the novelistic forebears of cinema and our modern world

**Beckett and Nothing** Daniela Caselli,2020-03-09 This electronic version has been made available under a Creative

Commons BY NC ND open access license Beckett and nothing invites its readership to understand the complex ways in which the Beckett canon both suggests and resists turning nothing into something by looking at specific sometimes almost invisible ways in which little nothings pervade the Beckett canon The volume has two main functions on the one hand it looks at nothing not only as a content but also a set of rhetorical strategies to reconsider afresh classic Beckett problems such as Irishness silence value marginality politics and the relationships between modernism and postmodernism and absence and presence On the other it focuses on nothing in order to assess how the Beckett oeuvre can help us rethink contemporary preoccupations with materialism neurology sculpture music and television The volume is a scholarly intervention in the fields of Beckett studies which offers its chapters as case studies to use in the classroom It will prove of interest to advanced students and scholars in English French Comparative Literature Drama Visual Studies Philosophy Music Cinema and TV studies

*In Capra's Shadow* Ian Scott, 2014-10-17 Because screenwriter Robert Riskin spent most of his career collaborating with legendary Hollywood director Frank Capra Riskin's own unique contributions to film have been largely overshadowed With five Academy Award nominations to his credit for the monumental films *Lady for a Day* *Mr Deeds Goes to Town* *You Can't Take It with You* *Here Comes the Groom* and *It Happened One Night* for which he won the Oscar Riskin is often imitated but rarely equaled In *Capra's Shadow* The Life and Career of Screenwriter Robert Riskin is the first detailed critical examination of the Hollywood pioneer's life and work In addition to being one of the great screenwriters of the classic Hollywood era Riskin was also a producer and director founding his own film company and playing a crucial role in the foundation of the Screen Writers Guild During World War II Riskin was one of the major forces behind propaganda filmmaking He worked in the Office of War Information and oversaw the distribution and later production of films and documentaries in foreign theaters He was interested in showing the rest of the world more than just an idealized version of America he looked for films that emphasized the spiritual and cultural vibrancy within the U S making charity faith and generosity of spirit his propaganda tools His efforts also laid the groundwork for a system of distribution channels that would result in the dominance of American cinema in Europe in the postwar years Riskin's postwar work included his production of the 1947 film *Magic Town* the tale of a marketing executive who discovers the perfect American small town and uses it for polling What Riskin created onscreen is not simply a community stuck in an antiquarian past rather the town of Grandview observes its own traditions while at the same time confronting the possibilities of the modern world and the challenges of postwar America Author Ian Scott provides a unique perspective on Riskin and the ways in which his brilliant pithy style was realized in Capra's enduring films Riskin's impact on cinema extended far beyond these films as he helped spread Hollywood cinema abroad and articulated his vision of a changing America

*Out of the Mouths of Babes* Thomas A. Robinson, Lanette D. Ruff, 2011-12-05 The 1920s marked one of the greatest cultural shifts in American life and the risqu flapper became the icon of the period But there was a counter image of the feminine the decade was also the golden age for girl evangelists who

defended traditional morals and traditional Christian beliefs and attitudes      A Life of Barbara Stanwyck Victoria Wilson, 2015-11-24 860 glittering pages Janet Maslin The New York Times The first volume of the full scale astonishing life of one of our greatest screen actresses her work her world her Hollywood through an American century Frank Capra called her The greatest emotional actress the screen has yet known Now Victoria Wilson gives us the first volume of the rich complex life of Barbara Stanwyck an actress whose career in pictures spanned four decades beginning with the coming of sound eighty eight motion pictures and lasted in television from its infancy in the 1950s through the 1980s Here is Stanwyck revealed as the quintessential Brooklyn girl whose family was in fact of old New England stock her years in New York as a dancer and Broadway star her fraught marriage to Frank Fay Broadway genius the adoption of a son embattled from the outset her partnership with Zeppo Marx the unfunny Marx brother who altered the course of Stanwyck s movie career and with her created one of the finest horse breeding farms in the west and her fairytale romance and marriage to the younger Robert Taylor America s most sought after male star Here is the shaping of her career through 1940 with many of Hollywood s most important directors among them Frank Capra Wild Bill William Wellman George Stevens John Ford King Vidor Cecil B Demille Preston Sturges set against the times the Depression the New Deal the rise of the unions the advent of World War II and a fast changing coming of age motion picture industry And at the heart of the book Stanwyck herself her strengths her fears her frailties losses and desires how she made use of the darkness in her soul transforming herself from shunned outsider into one of Hollywood s most revered screen actresses Fifteen years in the making and written with full access to Stanwyck s family friends colleagues and never before seen letters journals and photographs Wilson s one of a kind biography large thrilling and sensitive Michael Lindsay Hogg Town Country is an epic Hollywood narrative USA TODAY so readable and as direct as its subject The New York Times With 274 photographs many published for the first time

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