



Marisa Nanakhorn Brown
AWGIE-nominated Screenwriter / Script Editor /
Development Executive

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EDUCATION:

2017: Masters of Screenwriting (First Class Honours), Victorian College of the Arts.

2006: Bachelor of Arts (Screen Studies major) / Bachelor of Science, Deakin University. Awarded the Alfred Deakin Medal for Academic Excellence.

TELEVISION DEVELOPMENT / PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE:

Tony Ayres Productions (TAP): Full Time Development Role, 2020-2023.

During my time at TAP, I gained extensive experience in:

- Reading and assessing submitted materials across a wide range of genres, doing coverage, and being the first 'gatekeeper' before projects made their way to Tony Ayres, or our Head of Development, Andrea Denholm.
- Identifying submitted projects that would be suitable for various broadcasters / streamers, working within both the confines each particular broadcaster's focus, and TAP's specific remit (as a company sitting underneath NBCUniversal's International Studios division).
- Putting together development budgets and schedules, briefing our BALA team on contracting requirements, and taking full administrative responsibility for running the script department of each project from early inception through to development (and sometimes into production). With a very active slate, I was always managing multiple projects at a time, across various stages of development and production.
- Liaising with streamers, broadcasters and other stakeholders (including our LA office) on all elements of a project - both creative and administrative.
- Giving detailed notes on scripts and other creative materials - both on projects submitted to us for consideration, and projects in active development.
- Taking the creative lead on a number of projects, working directly with the writers, editing scripts, enacting broadcaster notes, and (on occasion) doing rewrites in lieu of Tony Ayres.
- Being a contributing voice in a number of writers rooms across various projects, working with established writers such as **Belinda Chayko, Ben Elton, Lou Fox, Christian White**, and many others.

FREELANCE WORK:

I am now working as a freelance writer / script editor, and over recent years I've been in writers rooms as a contributing writer for projects with **Northern Pictures, Latenite Films, Princess Pictures, Tony Ayres Productions and Pirate Sized Productions**. I've also been recently been a number of other rooms for shows that have received Screen Australia development funding - this has been a **mix of pre-school, young adult, and adult shows**.

SHOW-SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE (SCRIPT DEPARTMENT / ASSOCIATE PRODUCER):

Notetaking (various production companies):

Between 2017-2019, I worked as a **note-taker / writer's assistant** on a number of film and TV projects (including a **Film Vic placement**, as well as various shows for **Fremantle Media, Stan, Tony Ayres Productions** and **Matchbox Pictures**).



'Clickbait' :Matchbox / NBCU / Heyday/ Tony Ayres Productions for Netflix USA (2019-2020).

I spent 12 months working with TAP / Matchbox on this project, first as a **note-taker**, then as **script coordinator / script department assistant** across both the development and production periods. This gave me my first insight into creating high end television for an international streamer.



'Fires' : Tony Ayres Productions for the ABC (2020)

After finishing on Clickbait, I moved into a Development Assistant / Researcher role on 'Fires', a 6 x 1 hour drama for the ABC, before moving into a full development time role with TAP. As part of this role I also was the mentor / trainer to the script coordinator on the production.



'Spooky Files Season One': Tony Ayres Productions for the ABC and BBC, Writer (eps 5 and 9) and Script Editor (2022-2023)

Wrote two episodes, and was the script editor, on Season One of 'Spooky Files' - a 10 x 24 minute kids show for the ABC and BBC (co-production between TAP and Megaboom Productions), which launched in October 2023.



'Spooky Files S2': Writer (eps 3 and 9), Associate Producer / Script Editor (2023 - September 2024)

After managing the development of Spooky Files S2 across the course of 2023, I moved up into an **Associate Producer** role on the production at the start of 2024 (as well as acting as **Script Editor** on the series, and **writing two episodes**). As part of this role I was managing the entire script team and acting as a liaison between the script department and the rest of the production - as well as writing / supervising ADR sessions, running the post production, running the colour grades / sound mixes, etc.

SELECTED SCREENWRITING ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Feature film screenplay 'Welcome to the Neighbourhood' was shortlisted for production via Screen Canberra's **Accelerator Program** (for low budget, genre-based feature films) in 2016
- Was the only international writer selected for the highly competitive 2017 **Aotearoa Short Film Script Lab** in Auckland (supported by the NZ Film Commission)
- Selected for the 2017 **Attic Development Lab** (for female-led genre feature film projects) as part of the 2017 Stranger With My Face International Film Festival in Hobart, Tasmania
- Selected for the 2018 **Plot Twist Television Writing workshop** (part of the Film Vic Emerging Practitioners funding)
- Selected for both the 2018 and 2019 **Cinespace Storylab Development Program for Culturally Diverse writers** (part of the Film Vic Emerging Practitioners funding)
- Shortlisted for the 2018 **AWG Diversity Showcase** and **SBS Short Scripted Initiative**
- **Shortlisted for Film Victoria development funding** for 'Welcome to the Neighbourhood' (feature film) in 2018
- Longlisted for the **AWG 2018 Monte Miller Award** (short form) for 'Perfect F*cking Christmas'.
- Longlisted for then **AWG 2024 John Hinde Award** (short form) for 'Another Moment'
- Shortlisted for the **2023 Untapped program** via Australians In Film with a Thai supernatural thriller feature called 'Dark Half'.
- Shortlisted for the **2024 Untapped program** via Australians In Film with a horror comedy feature called 'Welcome to the Neighbourhood'.
- **Nominated for a 2024 AWGIE** for her episode 'Welcome to Tranquility' (S01E05 of Spooky Files)

REFERENCES:

Andrea Denholm, Head of Development at Tony Ayres Productions // andrea@tonyayresproductions.com

Tony Ayres, Head Creative at Tony Ayres Productions // tony@tonyayresproductions.com

Guy Edmonds, Creator / Showrunner, 'The Spooky Files' // guy.edmonds@gmail.com

Belinda Chayko, Writer / Showrunner: chayko@bigpond.com

Christian White, Co-creator, 'Clickbait' // chrwhite01@gmail.com