



THE VICTORIAN DRAMA LEAGUE

Supporting community theatre in Victoria

THE VDL SCRIPT CRITIQUE SERVICE

Submission guidelines updated 2024

I've written a fabulous play! Can it be promoted via The VDL library catalogue?

Local playwrights are welcome to submit scripts for assessment by The VDL's script critique service.

Who will assess my play?

Three readers with combined experience in acting, directing, producing and play writing will each read your fabulous script and decide on its suitability for The VDL catalogue. The answer will be **Yes, No or It has merit but needs more work!**

How long does it take before I hear the outcome?

Our aim is to complete the process within 6-8 weeks.

How will I be contacted?

You will receive a letter outlining the decision and a summary of comments from the readers. This decision is final.

What is the cost of submitting my script to the critique service?

For VDL members: \$40

For non-members: \$70

Great! How do I submit my script?

These guidelines must be followed if you want your fabulous script to be read and assessed:

1. Word processed using Arial or Times New Roman font size 12.
2. Set out according to guidelines from Australian Plays (see link on Script Perusal page)
3. Thoroughly revised and polished and perfected by you.
4. Thoroughly checked for spelling, grammar and punctuation errors by a competent proof-reader.
5. Pages numbered.
6. Your name and contact details on the title page.
7. Email your script to **vicepresident@vdl.org.au**
8. Complete payment via direct deposit - BSB: 033 009 Acc: 440329. **Reference deposit as Script Critique (your name).**

After my fabulous script is accepted, what happens next?

Limited shelf space means The VDL library can no longer accept hard copies of local playwrights' work. However, your play will be listed in The VDL's online script catalogue. You will need to provide details of how prospective readers and companies can contact you for a copy of your script, for example your website or email address. It is your responsibility to keep your contact details up to date.

Is there a charge to be listed on The VDL website catalogue?

No, The VDL will be proud to give your fabulous play the exposure it deserves!

What happens if a company is interested in producing my play?

We will notify you of any production requests that come to The VDL. It is your responsibility to keep your contact details up to date so we can do this. You can choose to act as your own production agent or you can nominate The VDL to act for you.

What does 'acting as my own production agent' mean?

It means you liaise directly with the interested theatre company. You issue a performance licence which includes details such as royalty payments etc. In other words, you are responsible for all the paperwork.

Can The VDL act as my production agent?

Yes, you will also be offered the option of nominating The VDL to act as your production agent ie: to issue a performance licence and gather royalties on your behalf and pass them onto you. The VDL charges a 15% commission to act as your production agent. A separate document outlining the contract between yourself (the writer) and The VDL (the agent) will be provided to you if you wish to take up this option.

Good luck with your fabulous play!

Enquiries to: vicepresident@vdl.org.au