



Terry Whalin <terrywhalin@gmail.com>

REJECTION, FAILURE, PERSISTENCE...

2 messages

The Book Doctors <arielle@thebookdoctors.com>
Reply-To: The Book Doctors <arielle@thebookdoctors.com>
To: terrywhalin@gmail.com

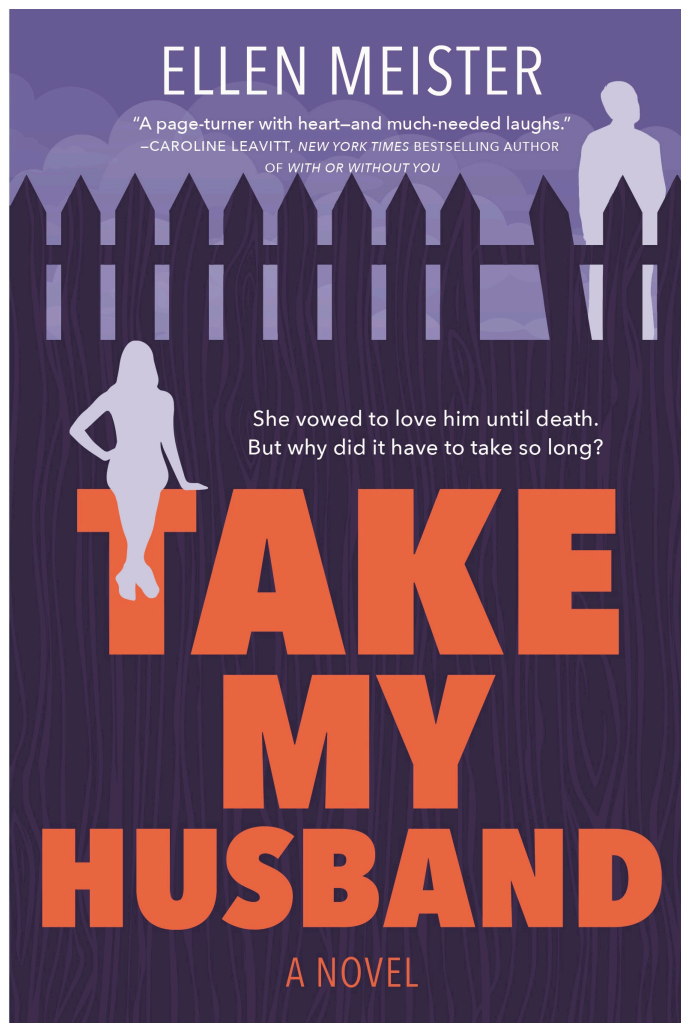
Thu, Nov 6, 2025 at 10:00 AM



Dear Writers,

This week, we bring you Lisa Kudrow, Richard Kind and TikTok star, Theresa Rowley, in a unique, exciting and star-studded virtual event. But first the origin story.

Take My Husband, a book by our friend, Ellen Meister, was published three years ago. David immediately started reading it and couldn't stop. At 3AM, he had an epiphany: This story would make a great TV show. Ellen had been thinking the same. David said, "Let's write a pilot script." Ellen said, "Yes."



After 10 drafts, David and Ellen were sure they'd written an amazing script. They were wrong. But friends and colleagues gave them some great ideas for how to fix it. Twenty drafts later, they were once again sure it was amazing. But they had failed again. Friends and colleagues told them it was better, but definitely not amazing. Back down into the mines they went with their picks and shovels to dig up some comedy gold. Twenty drafts later, it was amazing.

With dogged perseverance, David and Ellen managed to get the script into the hands of an executive at Sony. They were then asked to do a 20-minute pitch for a cadre of Sony executives, which went swimmingly. It appeared that a deal was about to be struck. Then the executive's bosses were fired. There was no deal. At least, they now had a much better script.

Without an agent, David and Ellen continued to pitch it all over Hollywood--to managers, directors, executives. They were rejected over and over again. Along with the soul-crushing failure came great feedback. They kept making the script better. Then Covid hit. Hollywood contracted right before their eyes. They kept relentlessly networking.

A few months ago, a wonderfully talented and generous writer friend, Amy Ferris, introduced Ellen to a fantastic producer named Jane Sibbett (beloved for being Ross's ex-wife on "Friends"), who had come up with a new cool idea: Zoom table reads of new scripts that people from all corners of the globe could attend.



Ellen sent off their script to Jane. Jane said, “Yes.” Turns out she’s a font of creativity and connections. She invited Marta Kauffman, co-creator of “Friends” to give notes. Marta told them (as only a queen of TV comedy who has her face on the Mt. Rushmore of sitcoms can) why parts of their script sucked. After they licked their wounds, they realized Marta was right. About EVERYTHING! Their script got better again.

Ellen’s cousin happens to be the one-and-only Lisa Kudrow. Despite her crazy schedule, Lisa agreed to play the lead role at the table read. Jane got the brilliant Richard Kind of “Only Murders in the Building”. Then Jane attached the hilarious Anne Ramsay, whom they knew from her madcap shenanigans in “Mad About You”. Ellen had discovered a hysterical performer on TikTok named Theresa Rowley. Jane got Theresa on board the *Take My Husband* train.

Noon Miracle presents

A Pilot Script Virtual Table Read
Saturday November 22, 1PM ET

SIGN UP: www.bit.ly/4oe64no

Starring:

Lisa Kudrow
Richard Kind
Anne Ramsay
Theresa Rowley



Take My
HUSBAND

She vowed to love him till death.
And it couldn't happen soon enough.

Written by:
Ellen Meister and David Henry Sterry

Produced by:
Jane Sibbett and Violet Grace Fink



Suddenly, in an instant, after three years of working their fingers to the bone, being beaten down by failure, bludgeoned by rejection, they had an All-Star cast to perform in their Little Script That Could. David has always looked at every rejection as a lottery ticket he bought with a piece of his soul. The more you buy, the better your chances of winning.

**We hope you can join us for the Zoom Table Read of “Take My Husband”
November 22, 1PM ET. Sign up [here](#)!**

Proceeds will be donated to The Freedom to Learn Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting our public libraries and institutions of learning and democracy that provide essential services to our communities, safeguarding intellectual freedom, educational equity, and access to information for all.



Questions?

Email us at arielle@thebookdoctors.com or david@thebookdoctors.com



Copyright © 2024, The Book Doctors, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:
41 WATCHUNG PLZ, #394
MONTCLAIR, NJ 07042