

Jack Bryant, B.A. English, Literature, 2004

By Sarah K. Miller

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Jack Bryant obtained his bachelor's degree from WKU in 2004. He went on to get his Master in Fine Arts degree from Boston University. “After graduating from BU, I taught at the [New York Film Academy](#) for a semester, then moved to Los Angeles and worked as an assistant at [International Creative Management](#), in the talent department,” Bryant explained in his Alumni Survey. “Then I came back to Kentucky where I worked as a substitute teacher. After that, I moved to New York City and worked on some film productions, then at a film and video game production company, eventually becoming a producer there.” When the economy declined, he moved to Rochester, New York. He worked a few retail and customer service jobs before he found a position at the Rochester Institute of Technology, where he taught for two years. Now, he is an assistant professor at Ithaca College in New York. He teaches screenwriting. Bryant also works as a professional screenwriter for [Silent Giant Productions](#), a NYC-based film production company. He produced two films so far with Silent Giant, the latest of which is called [Fair Haven](#). It was acquired for distribution by Breaking Glass Pictures and is now available to stream on iTunes, Google Play, and Amazon Video.

Bryant said that his degree helped him with his career path. “As a professional writer, my English degree has certainly helped me in obvious ways. But, it also helped me become a better storyteller and a better editor for my students. I've also recently started a new course on writing Speculative Fiction, something I was inspired to do by taking classes with Dr. Karen Schneider while I was at WKU.”

“As far as advice goes,” Bryant said, “I'll pass along a piece my grandmother gave me many years ago: get as much education as you can, because learning is never a waste. Plutarch said that education was the lighting of a fire, not the filling of a pail. You can never have enough. I would advise students to diversify and learn as many different things as they can. While I was at WKU, in addition to literature, I also studied

anthropology, history, mathematics, computer science, film, philosophy, astronomy, politics, and more. I took as many courses as I could, and I've used the knowledge I gained at many different periods in my life. It's helped me understand culture, the past, the present, people -- it's made me a better writer and, I hope, a better person."

