

# Amazon Local Originals - Series Bible Guide

*Please note: The total length of the bible should be around 15-25 pages, not to exceed 25 pages.*

Amazon Studios' series bible format includes:

- **Logline & Intro**
- **Series Overview**
  - o The World
  - o The Tone
  - o The Writing
  - o The Theme
  - o Look & Feel
- **Season 1 Arcs**
  - o Lead characters' descriptions
  - o Plot arcs
  - o Episode overviews
- **Season 2 through End of Series Arcs**
  - o Lead characters' arcs
  - o Plot arcs
  - o Series conclusion overview

## 1.1 LOGLINE, SYNOPSIS & INTRO (2 pages)

Your **logline** should describe your series in two to three sentences, following this format:

- This show is... [*insert factual information about genre and length of episode*]
- This show revolves around [*insert information about main protagonist and location/era*]
- This show follows [*insert key information around the plot and what happens to the protagonist*]
- This show captures [*insert overarching theme and emotion about the series*]

**Example Logline:** The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel

This show is a one-hour comedy/drama. This show revolves around an energetic, sharp, Jewish girl who had her life mapped out for herself and her husband in the Upper West Side New York in the 1950s. After her husband suddenly leaves, our protagonist discovers her own stand-up comedian skills and decides to use this talent to rebuild a different life for herself. The show centers on her journey as she transforms from an uptown housewife to East Village club performer.

Your **Synopsis** should offer a very brief recap of the story the pilot introduced and where we left our characters at the end of the pilot.

Your **Introduction** sets the context and vision for the show. What's the context that makes the show interesting? Why are we excited to tell this story today? What is our vision for the show?

## 1.2 SERIES OVERVIEW (up to 2-3 pages)

- **The World:** Discuss the context of the series given its time period, location, and the backgrounds of its characters. Explain any themes, historical shifts, social movements, etc. that the series will follow.
- **The Tone:** Describe the tone of the series, possibly including a few similar series or films for reference. What is the tone of the show? Is it a comedy or drama? Is it adventurous or serious? Describe the goal for the show's tone. Have we seen other shows like this show? How is it different or similar?
- **The Writing:** are there any tropes that the series seeks to interrogate, challenge, follow, or flip?
- **The Theme:** What recurring theme or themes will this series investigate? How will it manifest itself differently among different characters? What message will be conveyed through this theme?

- **Look & Feel:** Is there a specific way you'd like the world of the series to be depicted? Any cinematographic style you'd like to use? Will any pieces be shot differently from the rest of the series, or from the norm for a series of this genre?

### 1.3 SEASON ONE ARCS (up to 8-18 pages)

- Map out your **characters' descriptions**, including where they start and end the first season. Be sure to include not only plot but how they will evolve emotionally and in relation to each other. What are their desires, what are their fears? What are their strengths and virtues, what are their weaknesses and sins, what makes them excited, what makes them depressed, how do they approach life. Description of the journey and changes that the characters will go through. What will happen to them? How will they change? What are the main points of conflict for the characters that move our story forward?
- Explain what happens in **each episode** - approximately 1-2 pages per episode. What is the story of that episode and how does it play into the bigger arc stories? Is there a theme to the episode? Is there a unique way you are telling the story?
- End season one with a twist or a new mystery (**cliffhanger**) that will make viewers want to come back for season two.

### 1.4 SEASONS 2 OVERVIEW (up to 1-2 pages)

- Map out the **main characters' plotlines** again for each season, along with their emotional arcs, and be sure to conclude each season with a twist that will keep the series fresh and bring viewers back.
- Discuss where our characters will end up at the **close of the series**, both emotionally and plot-wise.