

# Anita Loos, Famous Scenario Writer, Believes Women Are Truly Great in Emotion But Men Exceed in Mentality



ANITA LOOS

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—“Women,” says Anita Loos, who makes \$100,444 a year writing scenarios—“are great in emotion only—men are great in mentality.”

She had been asked how she accounted for the fact that she, at the age of 26, had come to be considered the highest-paid, and most sought for scenario writer in America.

“I attribute it to the fact that at the age of 14, when I had written my first scenario and had it accepted by D. W. Griffith, I already knew in what fields women were at home, and never made the mistake of thinking that I could write great mental masterpieces. I stick always to the purely emotional subjects—and the emotion of laughter is my special gift.”

## Salaries Astounding

Miss Loos says an outsider can understand why the scenario writer is so well paid. She admits the salaries everyone in the moving picture game gets are astounding, and that there is only one other profession where the pay is as good, and that is the opera.

“In the picture world,” she says, “the man who does the work gets the pay, that’s all.”

Although it is very hard for a woman to break in, according to Miss Loos, once in, there is no easier profession, if—and she pauses for emphasis—

“If you know enough to stop when you are what the profession calls

‘through.’ When your humor has run out, when there is no more tragedy in your drama, when the laugh leaves you and the tear dries before it is shed, then is the time to gather together what you have made, and leave for the woods. And that is precisely what most scenario writers fail in doing—they keep on long after they have anything to say.

## When Comedy Is Tragic

“I like lovely things. I enjoy my beautiful home, but when the time comes when I see that I have written a tragedy thinking it a comedy, I am going to take my husband by the arm, and say to him, ‘pack the lunch basket, my love, and bring along my favorite perfume, for we are going to leave this town and go in for the simple life.’”