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On The Cheap: My Life In Low Budget Filmmaking



Synopsis

During four decades Greydon Clark has worked in front of and behind the camera to bring some of the most memorable exploitation movies to life. "On the Cheap" is an in-depth, first person account of a lifetime spent in this fascinating Hollywood sub-culture. From the sexy pep squad of "Satan's Cheerleaders" to the dirty dancing of "Lambada, The Forbidden Dance," to "Joysticks," "Without Warning," "Black Shampoo" and dozens of others, Greydon breaks down each of his films into easily understood categories: screenplay, financing, pre-production, production, post-production and distribution, allowing the reader a true behind the scenes look at the ins and outs of the low budget world. His movies boast Oscar winners - Martin Landau, George Kennedy, Jack Palance - and stars in the making just beginning their careers - Andrew Dice Clay, David Caruso, Julia Duffy, Laura Harring and many others. "On the Cheap" is required reading for anyone interested in film or the art of low budget filmmaking. Greydon tells an amazing story of his days on the fringes of Hollywood, struggling to make films in the most cut-throat business there is. Reading his autobiography is like being taken on a personal tour of the gritty, remorseless but always thrilling ground floor of the film industry.

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Customer Reviews

Anyone who knows and loves Greydon Clark's movies will get a charge out of this involving account of his adventures in the screen trade. There are anecdotes aplenty about the surprising number of big name actors who starred in his pictures... but the real interest of this life spent both in front of and behind the camera is in the nuts and bolts of movie making. Reading this stuff gives one a new respect for Mr. Clark and all the other little guys who basically muscled their way into the film biz and managed to get their vision on the screen no matter what. Great reading for the aspiring filmmaker, the fan and simply for anyone interested in that crazy profession.

As good a history of low budget film making as I have read. I hunt down books of this sort, and he lays it out smoothly, interesting history of how things used to be. Have heard his audio commentary on DVD, this is better. Enjoyed on Kindle.

It may even help things. The book is a fun read that captures the trials of doing what you enjoy doing, even when your not setting the world on fire. Of getting the most bang for your buck. I have a lot more respect for actors who put the film ahead of ego. I like that this book avoids the usual peer bashing that goes into most Hollywood bios. It's refreshing and a class act.

this is the book for you. Greydon Clark tells his story in a lively, entertaining fashion that leaves you wanting more. He gets into the nitty gritty of the making of his each of his many movies and includes fascinating anecdotes of many of the famous actors he has worked with (Jack Palance, Jan-Michael Vincent, Joe Don Baker, Cybil Shepard, Martin Landau, etc....). Highly recommended.

If you love movies and the history of low budget following this is a must read! I've had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Clark and in spite of knowing many of his stories I still was sucked right into the narrative of the book. Great stuff

I had a blast reading Greydon's life in movies story. I like the script format, clever and moves the narration along. And I like Greydon. For some reason I missed most of his films but I'm looking for them now. Film making has changed over the decades and film distribution especially so, but Greydon's adventures in film distribution can only be a valuable read for film makers who need to learn about the business end of 'Show'. I recommend *On the Cheap: My Life in Low Budget Filmmaking*.

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