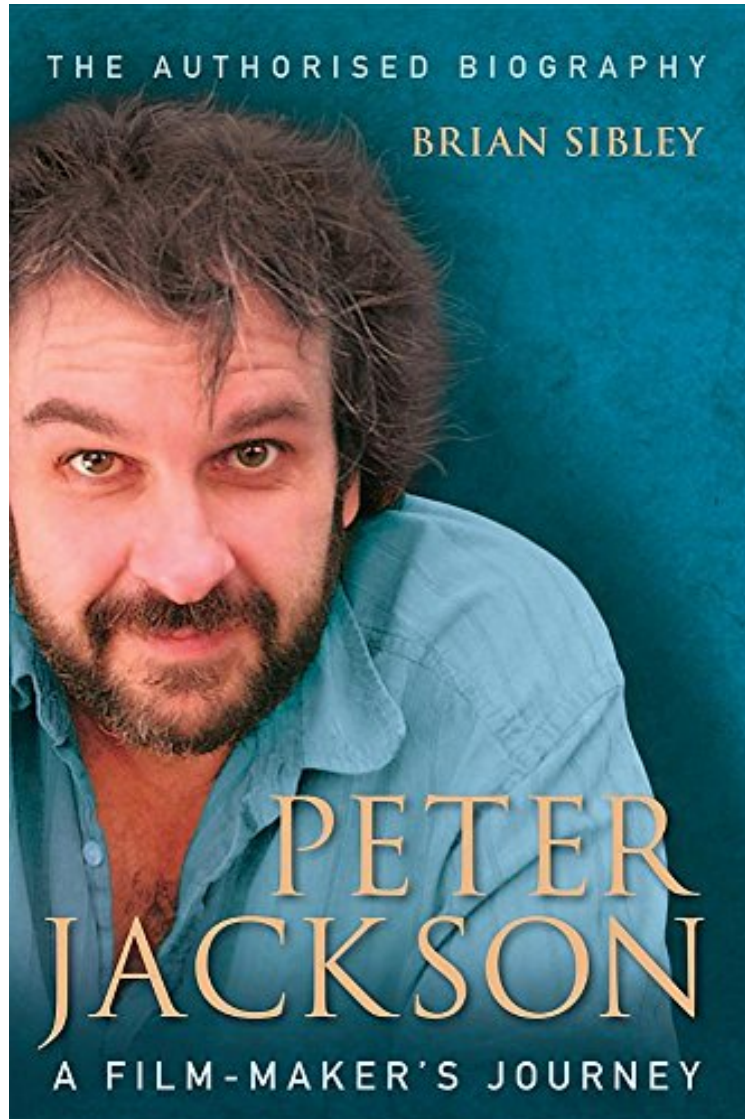


(Get free) Peter Jackson: A Film-makers Journey

## Peter Jackson: A Film-makers Journey

*Brian Sibley*

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**Brian Sibley : Peter Jackson: A Film-makers Journey** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Peter Jackson: A Film-makers Journey:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. FANTASTIC read! (Not for everyone, though...)By Richard DuboisOverwhelming "take home" from reading this book: Peter Jackson is an ultra-focused, driven, creative person who loves movies, and wants to make them the way HE wants. He will not be deterred in any way from what he wants to do.OK-who is this book NOT for?While this book is a biography, it has an extremely specific/narrow focus on his professional career. I mention this because this book is so focused on this one aspect of Peter Jackson's life, that if you

are looking for something else than what this book focuses on, you probably won't be interested in this book. Also, if you are only interested in Peter Jackson's work on LOTR and, to a lesser extent, King Kong (forget the Hobbit movies, this book came out about 10 years ago-WELL before the Hobbit movies, in their current iteration, were even "on the radar" ...), you won't find what you're looking for until about the last third of the book. The first two thirds of the book focus on his early work that very few people have seen, and covers a great deal of his early "splatter" movies. I've read plenty of biographies of people that are "sprawling" and spend equal times recounting a person's personal life as well as whatever aspect of their life they are famous for. If you are looking for a lot about the "man behind the world-famous director", this book won't DIRECTLY give you that insight. INDIRECTLY you learn a lot about Peter Jackson as a person, but only what you can glean through his actions with respect to his job, not through any "personal" stories in the book, because there really aren't any. While the beginning of the book does briefly go through Peter Jackson's life as a kid, there are not a lot of personal anecdotes-the majority of things shared from his early days as a kid revolve around the way his obviously-loving parents supported his dreams of becoming a film maker (going so far as to build a no-frills, yet substantial, addition of a built-in garage to their house for him to have a working space as an aspiring special effects person/movie maker. A GREAT deal of time is spent showing the "business" and "politics" of how movies get made in Hollywood. While Peter Jackson says throughout the book how much he detests these facets of film making, he had to deal with it quite a bit in the early years of his career as he was constantly struggling to find financial backing for his films. As I said, the book is ultra-focused on his professional career, so a great deal of the book covers correspondence back and forth between Peter Jackson and the New Zealand film commission-a national entity charged with strategically funding promising New Zealand film makers. There are TONS of excerpts of letters back and forth that highlight Peter Jackson's humble, yet focused, unapologetic approach to doing whatever he needed to do in order to get his movies made. While the book never "bogs down" with data/financials in the depiction of the intricacies of movie making, it does provide enough in-depth discussion of the way movies are made so that it felt like the introduction to a college course about film making. If you are like me and enjoy immensely the behind the scenes footage that was included with the LOTR and King Kong extended edition DVD movies, you will find plenty of that type of material in this book. Those items are covered more in-depth in the DVD's since they can use visuals to accompany the interviews, but the thought process/design considerations get a good amount of coverage in this book. I found this book to be inspirational not so much because I am a lover of Peter Jackson's LOTR and King Kong movies (which I am a HUGE fan of), but because of what came through LOUD AND CLEAR throughout the entire book: a) He is a humble, unassuming man who is absolutely passionate about film making; b) He is FIERCELY loyal to New Zealand and the people with whom he works-the same people follow him from project to project; c) His genuinely friendly, calm, funny nature and commitment to the work make him a charismatic leader who gets people behind the scenes, and on screen, to give more of themselves than they would have otherwise agreed to; d) He has a youthful/kid-like exuberance for what he does and has clearly created the life for himself that he always wanted!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Delightful Tale of the Greatest Mind in Cinema By Gregory Bennett I am quite a fan of Peter Jackson's work, so when I discovered "Peter Jackson: A Film-maker's Journey" I immediately ordered the book as well as the Kindle edition. I don't have the book yet, so here I'll just share some notes about the Kindle version. In this book, Brian Sibley shares with us a great wealth of tales of Peter Jackson's adventures in learning how to make movies, starting with his relatively early childhood. There are also copious photographs depicting so much of this adventure. One of the fun surprises for me is the great resemblance between young Fran Walsh and her daughter Katie Jackson; both are remarkably pretty and distinctively so. If you enjoy PJ's documentaries about the making of The Lord of the Rings, King Kong, and The Hobbit, you will love this book. (And if you've watched all those special features, you'll likely recognize Brian Sibley as one of the folks who offers a lot of comments about the making of the film. Sibley is more than an accomplished writer of books about films; he's family, a distant cousin to Fran Walsh.) From all those works and lots of interviews and other presentations hither and yon, I was familiar with the general outline of the events of Jackson's career, but I was delighted with the additional stories, new detail, and great insight in this book. The book is authorized by Peter Jackson and in fact about half the narrative and explanation is direct quotes from PJ himself. I'm intentionally avoiding too much detail here because if you enjoy this sort of thing, you will want to read it for yourself. Suffice it to say that the book fills in a lot of blanks in the story, explains a heck of a lot more about how and why things came to be, and what decisions Jackson had to make along the way. Sibley is masterful at including the important parts of the story about the stories while leaving out any unnecessary personal details that might otherwise invade the privacy of the very private Jackson family. There's one interesting oddity, at least in the Kindle edition; Quite often the text switches without warning from Brian Sibley as the speaker to Peter Jackson. I can usually tell immediately from the context whose words I am reading. If it's in the first-person and not otherwise attributed, it's almost certainly a quote from Peter Jackson. Third person, it's Sibley. Of all the wonderful stories in this book, the one that touched me the most was the role that Peter Jackson's parents played in his career. You might recall that he thanked them, Bill and Joan Jackson, at the Academy Awards ceremony when he won the Oscar for Best Picture. Now I really understand why. In addition the obvious genetic disposition toward genius, the love, encouragement, and support that PJ received from his parents led to him becoming one of the most uniquely

accomplished people in history and certainly the best film-maker in the history of cinema. That's a key lesson learned for all parents: Teach them the value of making your own accomplishments and provide the encouragement and support they need, and they will go on to perform mighty deeds of their own. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read very inspirational By Jason Barnett Great read very inspirational. Tons of detail about PJs early career and his incredible determination and ingenuity. Bit slim in the LOTR sections (author feared redundancy w/other books I think) but quite detailed otherwise. Would love to see an updated version.

Authorised and fully illustrated insight into the life and career of the award-winning director, from his childhood film projects up to King Kong, together with Jackson's revealing personal account of his six-year quest to film The Lord of the Rings. Once, Peter Jackson was a name unknown to all but a small band of loyal fans and fellow film-makers. Now he is the newest member of Hollywood's elite fellowship, with his name on the most successful movie trilogy of all time. Written with Jackson's full participation, this extensive biography, illustrated with never-before-seen photos from Jackson's personal collection, tells the inside story of how a New Zealander became Hollywood's hottest property from the early cult classics, through Academy Award-winning success with Kate Winslet's Heavenly Creatures, the abandoned King Kong remake, and the filming of The Lord of the Rings, a project which was abandoned two years into pre-production, rejected by most of the other studios and then picked up by New Line Cinema in the biggest gamble in film history. Drawing upon interviews with fifty of Peter Jackson's colleagues and contemporaries, author Brian Sibley paints a portrait of a true auteur, a man gifted with single-minded determination and an artist's vision. Jackson himself is both revealing and insightful about his entire film-making life, from his first childhood steps filming in Super 8 to the grand realisation of his life's dream: King Kong. Together, these joint narratives provide a truly unique and compelling insight into one of the finest cinematic minds at work today.

'A brilliant collation of facts, figures, anecdotes and production detail, this will be manna from heaven for Jackson fans, who will devour every last page of this illuminating study with unconfined joy.' Film 'A well rounded examination of the once-rotund director, with Brian Sibley delivering an enthralling dot-to-dot account of Jackson's life and career so far, navigating well clear of celebrity fawning. Total Film About the Author Brian Sibley adapted The Lord of the Rings for BBC Radio in 1980, which won several awards, and has gone on to be one of its biggest champions. He is also an acknowledged expert on cinema and television, regularly broadcasting and writing on the subject. His many film-related books include the award-winning The Making of The Lord of the Rings, which impressed Peter Jackson sufficiently to ask him to collaborate on his official biography.