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Jerry Ziesmer

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Jerry Ziesmer : Ready When You Are, Mr. Coppola, Mr. Spielberg, Mr. Crowe (The Scarecrow Filmmakers Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ready When You Are, Mr. Coppola, Mr. Spielberg, Mr. Crowe (The Scarecrow Filmmakers Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Worth a read but a pricey ebookBy PabloInteresting read. The section on Apocalypse Now was the most interesting for me. I wish the author spoke about how the films were received a little more. He just writes about his own experience and then moves on to another movie. He never reveals anything really juicy along the lines of Easy, Riders and Raging Bulls like Peter Biskind.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the Best Books You'll Ever Find on the Making of MoviesBy TimThis book is amazing. I felt I was with Mr. Ziesmer throughout the highlights of his career, seeing everything with his eyes, and learning much about filmmaking and the people that crafted cinema history. As a film-loving Filipino, Mr. Ziesmer's in-depth account of the creation of Apocalypse Now in the Philippines had a special resonance. If you're reading this, Mr. Jerry Ziesmer, sir, from the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU. Thank you for writing this book. You revived my dream of making movies.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ready,Set, JerryBy msmegSince I am acquainted with Jerry I loved his stories even more. They really brought to life stories he has told me.

No movie has ever been made, or made well, without the character who toils just outside the spotlight. He arranged for the spotlight, hired the spotlight operator, and even made sure that it was trained correctly on the stars. At the end of the day, there would be no blinking movie screens, no blinking Oscar winners, no finished films, good or bad, without the Assistant Director. Jerry Ziesmer was an assistant director for over thirty years, working on countless films before his retirement in the middle-nineties. He has worked with some of Hollywood's biggest directors, and its biggest stars. In this memoir, he recounts his time in Hollywood including his work on the sets of Apocalypse Now, Close Encounters, and Jerry Maguire. Written with the craft and humor that made Jerry Ziesmer one of the most sought-after assistant directors in Hollywood, this book will be a treasure for students and fans of twentieth-century Hollywood. Cloth edition previously published in 2000.

Saying that Jerry Ziesmer probably has delivered the greatest assistant director book ever written doesn't do it justice...this book relates that biz and its lore with color, intimacy, candor and horse sense... (Directors Guild Of America Magazine)...one of the best books of the lot... Suffice it to say that Ziesmer's treatment of Apocalypse Now alone is worth the price of the volume. In addition, his discussion of other films that he worked on, including John Huston's Annie, is equally frank, incisive, and entertaining. Ready when You Are is a well-deserved toast to the unsung heroes of moviemaking the assistant directors. (Literature/ Film Quarterly)...the book is at once so personal and so professional that you'll find yourself longing to have "been here when" and worked with Jerry either at DGA or on pictures or both. This is, quite simply, not only the best book ever written about what we so often bandy about as the "craft" of the Assistant Director, it is one of the best books I've read in a long time, period. (The Call Sheet)If you ever wondered who has the best behind-the-scenes anecdotes in Hollywood, then Ziesmer wins hands down. His book contains some astonishing tales, ranging from life-affirming friendships made under the most trying of circumstances through to the most indulgent star behaviour imaginable. Put it all together and you have an instant five-star classic. (Film)...Jerry Ziesmer, who has been a top AD in Hollywood for 30 years, has a real gift for writing that shines through in his recollections from the front lines of movie production. Ziesmer's war stories about filmmaking are hilarious, heartbreaking and hair-raising all at once, as he recounts his experiences... (American Cinematographer)About the AuthorJerry Ziesmer is a long-time member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and the Directors Guild of America. In 2006, Jerry Ziesmer was presented with the Frank Capra Achievement Award in recognition of Career Achievement by the Directors Guild of America for an Assistant Director. He attended Northwestern University and did his graduate work at UCLA where he wrote Stan Laurel: The Little One, a study of comedy film techniques. He and his wife, Suzanne, live in Los Angeles and are currently working for Steven Spielberg on another Cameron Crowe project. They also teach film production classes each year for UCLA extension, as well as mentoring serious film students and young professionals by e-mail at AC563@LAFN.ORG.