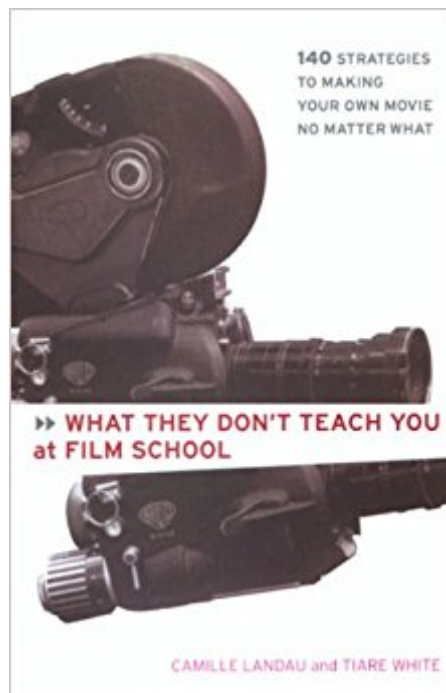




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# What They Don't Teach You At Film School: 161 Strategies To Making Your Own Movie No Matter What



## Synopsis

Two filmmakers who've beaten the system give the real dope on what it takes to get your movie made. Do you have to go to film school to get your movies made? No, say two young entrepreneurs who survived the grind. Here they offer 140 strategies for making movies no matter what. Amateurs as well as seasoned veterans can pick up this entertaining and incredibly useful guide in any place--at any point of crisis--and find tactics that work. Whether it's raising money or cutting your budget; dealing with angry landlords or angry cops; or jump-starting the production or stalling it while you finish the script, these strategies are delivered with funny, illustrative anecdotes from the authors' experiences and from veteran filmmakers eager to share their stories. Irreverent, invaluable, and a lot cheaper than a year's tuition, this friendly guide is the smartest investment any future filmmaker could make. Strategies from the book include: Love your friends for criticizing your work--especially at the script stage; Shyness won't get you the donuts; Duct tape miracles; Don't fall in love with cast or crew (but if you do...). --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Filmmakers Landau and White believe that "if you want to make films, make films." Since only four students in each class of 45 at the country's top film schools get chosen to direct an advanced narrative film, the authors urge hopefuls to honor the trial-and-error, Blair Witch-approved method: "if you want to be a filmmaker," they advise, "put down this book and pick up a camera." Though some of their imparted wisdom reads like an After School Special dialogue, the authors do project a healthy dose of industry know-how that could prove useful to those who have never entered the

cutting rooms and bursar's offices of NYU, USC, UCLA or other prestigious establishments. The book offers concrete, creative suggestions for initiating a writing schedule, pooling financial resources (or choosing the right low-APR credit card) and feigning confidence in the face of blind fear. Among their best advice is this insight: "Your short film is only as good as your feature script" because "all that work and money [spent on the short film] add up, at best, to the invitation to submit a script to someone's office." The authors' enthusiasm for their subject is matched only by their delightful irreverence toward the industry itself, crediting doughnuts, duct tape and Red Vines as the stuff that reel dreams are made of. (Aug.) FYI: Landau and White are in preproduction for Three Loves, their first feature film. Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Camille Landau and Tiare White are graduates of the American Film Institute and the USC film school. Together they have made over 30 short films, many of which have won awards in festivals throughout the world, and Freestyle, an award-winning feature-length documentary. They are currently in post-production for their first dramatic feature, Three Loves, and live in Southern California. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I'm over 40 pages in and it's an easy, fun read that has a lot of insight on the life and everyday situations a director/ videographer/ etc face. Not a technical book, but very insightful. It talks about stuff like choosing actors, how to find creativity by watching life happen around you, why it's important to write scripts to be ready before opportunity knocks and why not to wait to receive permission to make your film! The authors talk about their experience in film school, it's flaws and also the everyday experience of working on the set (like show up first and make sure the coffee is made and how to choose workers who bring positive attitudes). I think my favorite piece of advice so far was to begin production by renting equipment, booking a flight, renting a set etc. So many people just get stuck in the planning stages, but they never get started. I look forward to finishing this book. Good luck to you all.

Camille Landau and Tiara White - congratulations for writing this book. I bought this book from a recommendation of a director friend of mine and I'm the type who enjoys reading books on the entertainment and film industry. Many books lay on my shelf collecting dust because I wait to be in the mood to read them or I just don't want to relive my college days of reading books that remind me of books that are informative but yet make me want to fall a sleep. Needless to say that this is one of

those books that you want to read from beginning to end. Very insightful. Inexpensive. And very motivational. Hmm...was Anthony Robbins in the room while this book was written? Anyway, Landau and White do a good job with this book. If anything, I hope it inspires the aspiring film maker to make films and do something instead of dreaming of wanting to do it. If you want to make films, make films. [CH29] Interesting insight! Recommended reading!

I am an independent author, director/producer of audio and film, small stage actress as well as a student record producer/musician, this book got my attention while I was searching for another book. So out of curiosity I bought it. I feel much of this book is definitely working from something that is so not common today, common sense. I will continue to read it to see what other tips are in store. It is an easy book to read as well as relate to, and I do suggest the future film person to read it. Even if you don't do or believe anything in this book, it is still a good one to keep in your film bag for reference.

I really enjoyed this book. While I was expecting more of a literal take on the "what they don't teach you at film school" part of the book, I was still pleasantly surprised. The authors really break down the information for you and make it easy to digest. It's truthful and written with a down to earth perspective. When I bought the book I was expecting more focus on technique and "rules" associated with the craft but found it to be more along the lines of a really good pep talk. If you're feeling discouraged or overwhelmed with making your own films this is the book for you, full of very good and practical advice.

The authors, although educated at prestigious film schools in Ca., themselves, make some great points that degrees are not necessarily the most cogent points in becoming great film maestros!

Interesting insight!

I can say this is the best film book I have yet read (of only three!). Having produced a few independent shorts myself, I can say that the authors got their material from the hard, chaotic, and fun world of no-budget films. You can save a lot of headaches and ruined footage by following their advice. Most of it anyway, there are a few that seem like they were thrown in just for padding. And despite that, the book is still too short.

If you've read some of my other reviews, then you know that I'm a true filmmaker wanna-be. I love film and read about making films to feed my dream. I've read text book style books, handbooks, and how-to's. This book actually defies those brandings and makes itself into something all together new - an ENCOURAGING, HUMORFUL and HELPFUL book about what you have to do to make a film. What a revelation I've found when by chance I purchased this book here at . For those wondering, this is NOT a how-to guide. What it is - well, it's a great book which does something (repeatedly) that very few other books about the art and craft of filmmaking do - it ENCOURAGES YOU TO MAKE FILMS: small films or grand epics, or videos of your dog - it doesn't matter - all they suggest is that you tell your story. It encourages you to make a film - no matter what - if that's what you want to do - this book ENCOURAGES you to do so. There's a whole lot of sensible information here, along with some gentle guidelines for deciding if filmmaking is really something for you. With chapters titled "Fix the script, the rest will follow", "Sultans, dentists and Uncle Al" and my favorite "Donuts, red vines and keeping the crew together: the care and feeding of the set" you get a feel for the humor that's also used throughout. Ultimately though, you have to ask the question, for a future filmmaker, is this book useful? I'd have to answer a resounding yes! It reinforces the notion that if you make a movie, no matter if it sells or doesn't, makes a million or never screens for anyone but your best friends - you are a filmmaker. That's a great gift to the reader. Buy this book before you invest too much else in text and handbooks, and how-to guides. You won't be disappointed and you'll be getting a very good read. Good luck making your film. Best Regards, turtlex

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