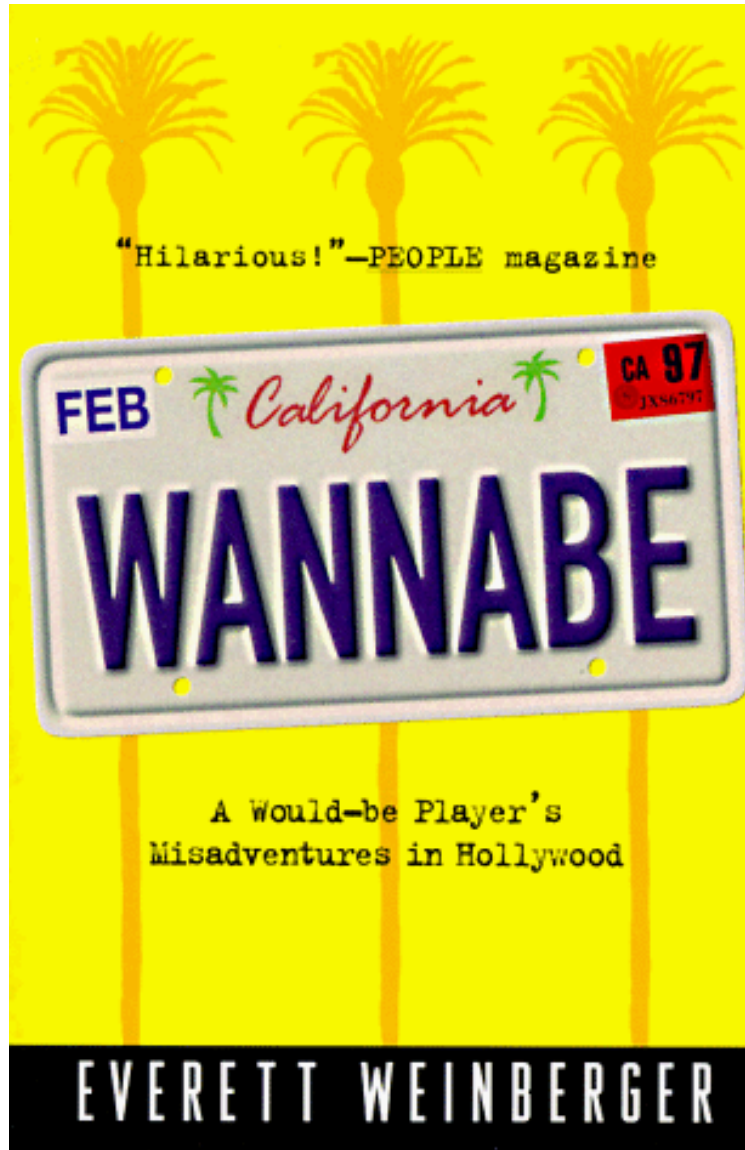


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Wannabe: A Would-Be Player's Misadventures In Hollywood

Everett Weinberger

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Everett Weinberger : Wannabe: A Would-Be Player's Misadventures In Hollywood before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wannabe: A Would-Be Player's Misadventures In Hollywood:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fun book to read By A Customer This is a very fun book to read. Mr. Weinberger may not know this, but some of those temp types aren't exclusive to Hollywood. You can find these in many executive offices throughout corporate America. I like his style of writing, too. It doesn't seem like a tell-all

book to me. I took it merely as his experiences trying to break into the film industry. I would love to see it made into a movie. 1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious By A Customer I like a lot of mere mortals entertained ideas of 'going to Hollywood' and reading scripts and moving and shaking deals. However, after 3 chapters of this book all this changed. Although the author had a bad experience, well actually, a lot of them, I was nevertheless glad that it wasn't me. I've read over and over that unless your relatives work in this industry you have a snowballs chance to make it there - no matter how good your qualifications. A quick and entertaining read with a lot of black humor. Future wannabes will be enlightened. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An account that strikes me as real. By Seph5@aol.com I've just moved to Southern Cal, and like thousands of other ambitious 20 somethings had some serious thoughts of trying my hand at the seemingly well payed, glamour industry that permeates Everett Weinberger's account. "Wannabe," was exactly the realistic description I was looking for to help me on my way. Unless you are connected, and not many of us are, you are going to have to follow the same path Everett Weinberger pursued to get your foot in the door of the entertainment business. His example strikes me as instructive, cautionary, and real. Even if you are connected you will want to think hard about the personal choices you will have to make, if you are to make it. Of particular importance to the "Wannabe," his anecdotes flesh out the cliches we have all heard but do not believe about the ego-maniacs and behind the scenes misery that lay, in ambush, behind the studio gate. Those of us with dreams and ambition, I think, suffer in a society which rewards celebrity above all, for without it we feel as though we have failed. Therefore we should take careful note that the happiest people in Everett's account are the career folks in maintenance. Chances are you already have everything you need to be happy without the glamour and the glitz. Maybe, but if not, check your pride at the door and leave your ego at home because you won't be needing them where you are going. Don't be put off by the Book's packaging which bills it as a, "Hilarious," "Insider Account," which I think does a disservice to Mr. Weinberger. This is a drama, not a comedy, nor is it for those poor souls in search of a trollop of gossip. Mr. Weinberger has been where we want to go for the same reasons we want to go there. You can learn from him as I did.

Everett Weinberger has an Ivy League education and an MBA, but what he really wants to do is produce. He's willing to start at the bottom-even if it means being Alec Baldwin's personal assistant-but after tapping all his L.A. connections, he still can't land a job. He even blows one interview by forgetting to compliment a studio exec on his car. When Everett gets work as a "power temp," life gets even weirder. He becomes second assistant to everyone from Frank Wells to Leonard Nimoy, trying to cope with the incessant phone calls and invisible protocols that keep getting him fired. Wannabe is a scathing and laugh-out-loud funny portrait of a world where even the assistants are political barracudas, by a guy with no bridges left to burn. A real-life Swimming With Sharks, it should be required reading on the Hollywood syllabus.

From Publishers Weekly Weinberger left a high-paying Wall Street job to try to break into movie making in La-la Land, where he worked as a temp in the offices of some of the best-known figures in the industry. He found them almost universally autocratic and vicious in dealing with subordinates; their chief assistants behaved the same. Disillusioned with Hollywood, Weinberger returned to New York City and got a job at Miramax only to discover that the staff were no different from their West Coast counterparts. Now he's working for a bank and considers his film days a "vision quest," a career detour. Weinberger's memoir makes much ado about virtually nothing. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Behind-the-scenes looks at the wacky world of "Hollyweird" are nothing new, of course, nor are young-college-grad-entering-the-world-of-work tales, but put the two together and you have Weinberger's entertaining look at how things get done in the fantasy capital and how hard it is, first, to get started in the biz and, then, to stomach yourself thereafter. Weinberger used his MBA to get a foot in the door as a "power temp" for power brokers at Disney, Columbia, and Paramount. He recounts his observations and experiences cheerfully and straightforwardly, subtly building to the ironies of his story rather than slapping the reader in the face with wry anecdotes and telling observations. Eventually, he left show biz, but you get the feeling that his life was enriched by his strange sojourn among the lotus-eaters. Sharing his experience is highly entertaining. Mike Tribby "Plenty of delicious insider dish." --USA Today "Hilarious!" --People magazine