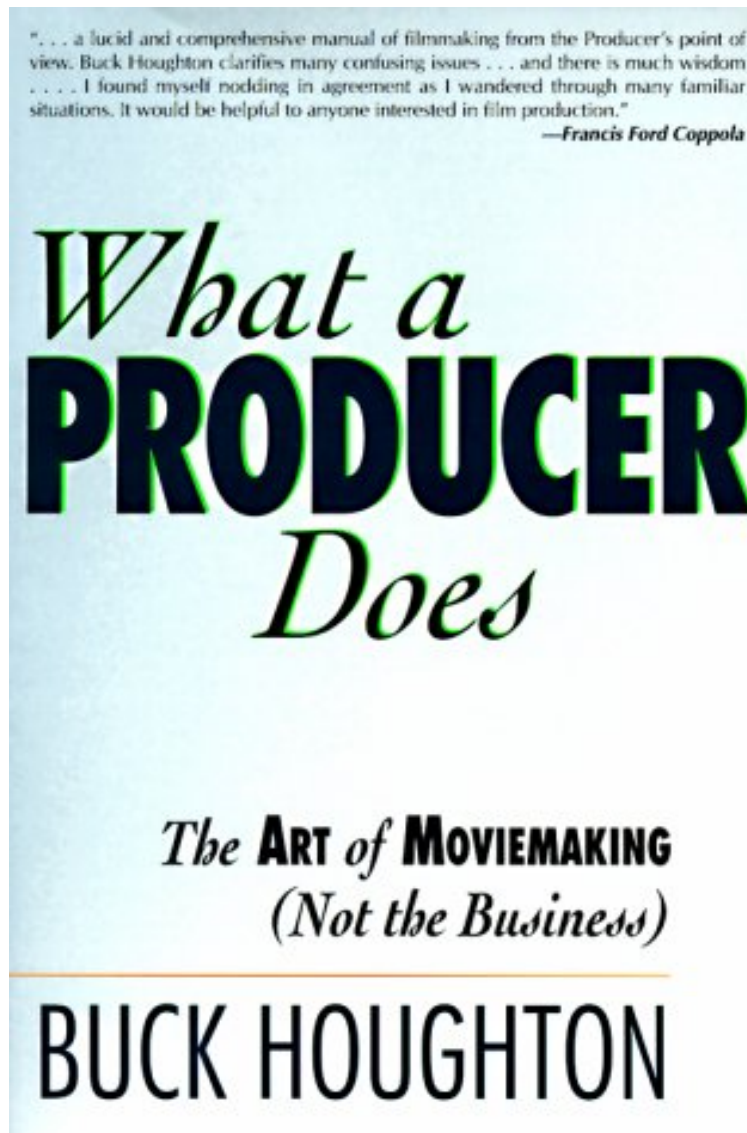


(Mobile book) What a Producer Does: The Art of Moviemaking (Not the Business)

## What a Producer Does: The Art of Moviemaking (Not the Business)

*Buck Houghton*

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**Buck Houghton : What a Producer Does: The Art of Moviemaking (Not the Business)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised What a Producer Does: The Art of Moviemaking (Not the Business):

25 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Off The MarkBy Phreddy TranHoughton eschews all talk of money in his book, but these days, a producer's priority is getting funding for his film. Of course, it was easy for him to disregard financial matters -- he was primarily a TV producer, with a big studio backing his moves. Beyond the

Twilight Zone, his credits were immaterial. Hence, his advice is largely inapplicable to independent producers and students of film -- the likely readers of this book. This book is also dry to the point of going full-Sahara. As just one example, he describes a sound-editing room in tedious detail for no apparent reason. When you consider the fact that today's sound-editing rooms bear no resemblance to the rooms Houghton used on the Twilight Zone, then it's all just wasted ink. And as if this book wasn't enough of a chore to read, it contains numerous typos. Pathetic. If you want to get an inside-look at making movies, you would be better served by renting your favorite DVD's and listening to the commentaries. Then supplement that by reading John J. Lee's reference book, "The Producer's Business Handbook." 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Solid information, but not an enthralling read. By Eric San Juan. What A Producer Does is, well, a bit dry. It's packed with good information, enlightening the reader on the dozens of issues involved in making a film that most of us never even think about. For that, it's worth reading - but not for the writing itself, which is very dry and not all that engaging. The information was sometimes enlightening and eye-opening, and the reading brisk and easy, but it completely lacked depth and did little to touch on the ART of the producer. The book's message can be summed up as follows: "Hire a bunch of good people and stay out of the way. Oh, and make sure they stay under budget." Not a bad book by any measure, but it's very textbook-like in nature. If that's what you want, a big thumbs up. Otherwise, grab this only if you spot a good deal. 22 of 23 people found the following review helpful. A Valuable Learning Tool. By Sarah Glen. I certainly wouldn't recommend using this book to replace a thorough education, but if you're strapped for cash and just want to know how it's done, "What a Producer Does" by Buck Houghton can pave the way. I bought this book because I'm going to film school in the fall, and I wanted to know a little about what I'm getting into. I tried to pick up painting once... I was unpleasantly surprised by all the details involved in something as simple as color selection! Any art requires a good deal of technical knowledge before the artist can actually produce masterful works, but filmmaking is simply too expensive to "try out"! Buck Houghton has offered us practical applications of his craft to show the aspiring producer the do's and don'ts without the confusing technical jargon. Mostly the book deals with the how-to's of dealing with the various artists involved in making a film or TV show. He puts the producer in his place, telling him when to crack down and when to let the experts do their work. This is years of experience put into a simple to understand book. The only reason I gave it four instead of five stars is because I ((opinion!)) prefer books that are more manual-like in their structure (bulleting, charts/graphs, etc.). So if that isn't your bag, ignore the four and make it a five!

This title addresses the job's creative concerns, rather than the fund-raising aspects.