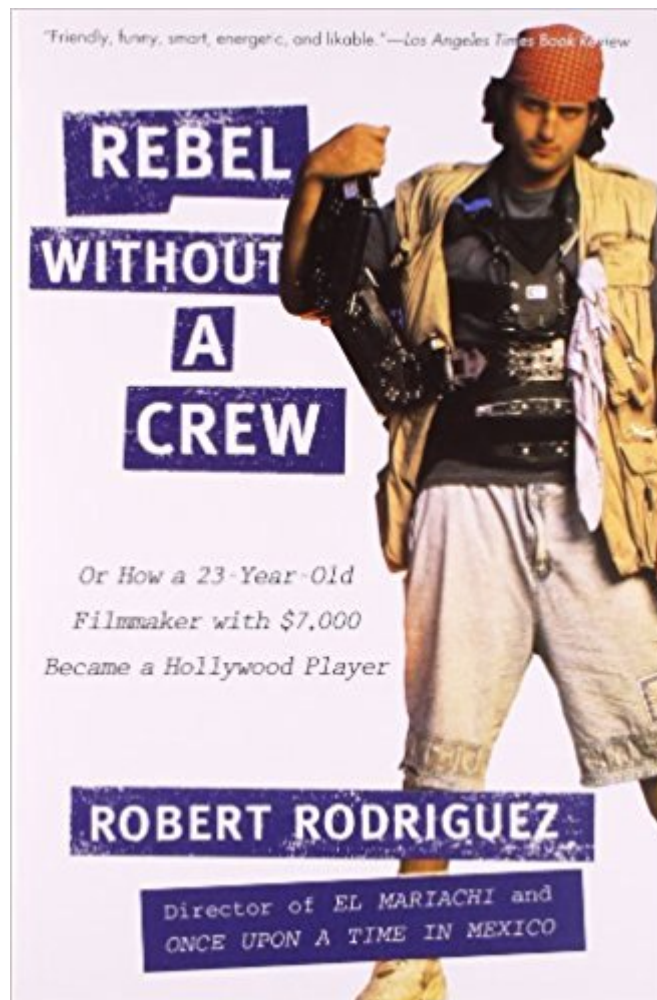




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Rebel Without A Crew: Or How A 23-Year-Old Filmmaker With \$7,000 Became A Hollywood Player



Synopsis

In *Rebel Without a Crew*, famed independent screenwriter and director Robert Rodriguez (*Sin City*, *Sin City 2*, *Once Upon a Time in Mexico*, *Spy Kids*) discloses all the unique strategies and original techniques he used to make his remarkable debut film, *El Mariachi*, on a shoestring budget. This is both one man's remarkable story and an essential guide for anyone who has a celluloid story to tell and the dreams and determination to see it through. A Part production diary, part how-to manual, Rodriguez unveils how he was able to make his influential first film on only a \$7,000 budget. Also included is the appendix, 'The Ten Minute Film Course,' a tell-all on how to save thousands of dollars on film school and teach yourself the ropes of film production, directing, and screenwriting.

Book Information

Paperback: 285 pages

Publisher: Plume (September 1, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0452271878

ISBN-13: 978-0452271876

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.9 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 247 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #16,447 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Movie Directors #20 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Video > Direction & Production #26 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Direction & Production

Customer Reviews

"Robert Rodriguez won critical acclaim and the attention of every studio in Tinseltown with his action-packed debut feature, *El Mariachi*—but the question remains: However did he write, direct, shoot, and edit the flick all by his lonesome—and for a paltry \$7,000? You'll find that out and more in this straight-talking and highly entertaining memoir-cum-moviemaking primer... you will never view an independently made movie (or \$7,000) the same way again."—*Entertainment Weekly* "There's no one in the American film business quite like Robert Rodriguez, who plays completely outside the rules imposed by Hollywood studios. Given his success rate, it's clear his method works."

Rodriguez has long been a hero to independent filmmakers. "The Daily Telegraph" "A hero to the independent film crowd." "The New York Times" "Only someone very young or ignorant would attempt to make a feature film with \$7,000 dollars and no crew. This is because most people know such an endeavor is impossible. Not only did Robert Rodriguez create *El Mariachi* under those conditions but at 23 he became a Hollywood success overnight." *Rebel Without a Crew* is the kind of book one would expect from someone who had the courage to break with convention and enough talent for it to pay off almost immediately. "The Los Angeles Times"

ROBERT RODRIGUEZ is an independent screenwriter and director of more than fifteen feature films. He pioneered the "Mariachi-style" and "one-man film crew" styles of filmmaking, and is the founder of the production company, Troublemaker Studios. Some of Rodriguez's films include *Sin City*, *Desperado*, *Once Upon a Time in Mexico*, *The Faculty*, *Sharkboy and Lavagirl*, *Spy Kids*, *Planet Terror*, and *Machete*. He has collaborated with Quentin Tarantino on *From Dusk Till Dawn* and *Grindhouse*.

One of the best books I've read on filmmaking. Simple, funny, realistic. It describes perfectly the problems and situations that anyone trying to make a low budget film will get. I really recommend reading the book and then watching the movie "El mariachi" afterwards. You understand exactly what he meant on the book.

This is a very motivational book for budding filmmakers. Not in the rah-rah, you're-the-best kind of way. But by leading by example. There are lots of examples of how to get lots done on a tiny budget. But, it doesn't get bogged down in technical details. They're mentioned and then on to the next thing. It's neat to see a daily journal that's been turned into a book that is very easy to read. About one-quarter of the book (75 of 285 pages) is the screenplay for "El Mariachi", which is nice to have and provides much to be learned from, but it isn't required reading. I came away feeling inspired. That's pretty good praise for any book.

I have many books, and have read many on filmmaking, by filmmakers. This is right now my favorite one, for brevity, inspiration, usefulness, motivation, based on both the author's experience & his knowledge. I wish it was out on e-book and audiobook. But since it's not, I had it sent directly to my one dollar scan, and then listen to it and read it on the voice dream app on my iPhone. Also on my

eink a Kindles (The older model Kindle touch, for text to speech, and my Kindle paperwhite, for when I just want to read).(The older model Kindle touch, for text to speech, and my Kindle paperwhite, for when I just want to read). I hope the publisher will eventually put this out on e-book and audiobook. I buy it again. Yes, that good!

I've read this book through cover to cover three times so far.His journey is indeed an unorthodox one, and won't happen to too many other people, because why would it? That was his path and everyone's journey into this industry is different. However, you can learn some GREAT secrets on filmmaking, dealing with studio peeps and how to better your craft in no-time flat. The stuff about him signing with ICM & getting deals? That comes when you do good work and a monkey can sign a contract. The filmmaking and the time-crunches he blasted through...that's where the art is and he explains it all brilliantly.This is simply a must-have book for new, inspiring and hopeful filmmakers. It's like they always say...if he can do it, then you can do it too. :)

Whether you are a filmmaker who has been in the field for many years or one who is anxiously ready to do their first film, I highly recommend reading "Rebel Without a Crew" by Robert Rodriguez. The book is literally reading Robert's journal and almost like being with him every step of the way as he gets the film "El Mariachi" created and more. From beginning to his next project, you can't help but keep reading and not wanting to put the book down. It's that good! If there is one thing I truly appreciate is that he writes without the B.S. and he tells you how he feels from the people he meets, the dinner he has, filming a movie with \$7,000 and more. After buying and reading this book, please pick up the "El Mariachi/Desperado" DVD to further enjoy his work by watching the film, how he made the film and also to watch the popular short film he made, "Bedhead". Last, borrowing Robert's sentence that he emphasizes quite a few times through the book and DVD. "First step to being a filmmaker is stop aying you want to be a filmmaker". You are a filmmaker. Thank you Mr. Rodriguez for the inspirational book and proving to Hollywood and those in the industry that things that may have seemed impossible is possible.

This is the original "Indie Bible" for the rookie Indie Movie Producer. I've purchased it twice, and read it 3 times for knowledge, and especially inspiration. Rodriguez is a true Icon in his own rights in the film industry. He made true movie history.

John F. Kennedy once said, "A man does what he must -- in spite of personal

consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers, and pressures -- and that is the basis of all human morality. Underneath all the craziness of independent filmmaking lies that simple truth, and it is what Robert Rodriguez has done, and what he hopes other filmmakers will do. The best advice Mr. Rodriguez has? DON'T BUY A TRIPOD! I doubt that Mr. Rodriguez will ever read this review, but I still want to give my thanks to him. Without this book, I would have never made my own movie.

When I started taking video courses, this was the first book I read (aside from camera manuals and the assigned texts.) Rodriguez kept a journal from the inception of *El Mariachi* through the distribution of his debut feature and then some. Although the world is much different twenty years later, his hunger and passion still resonate today. While the indie film scene is much more crowded, the tools and resources available allow anyone to craft quality images. The obstacles and ordeals faced in this book are humorous and inspiring. This is a must read for anyone looking to pick up a DSLR and make movies.

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