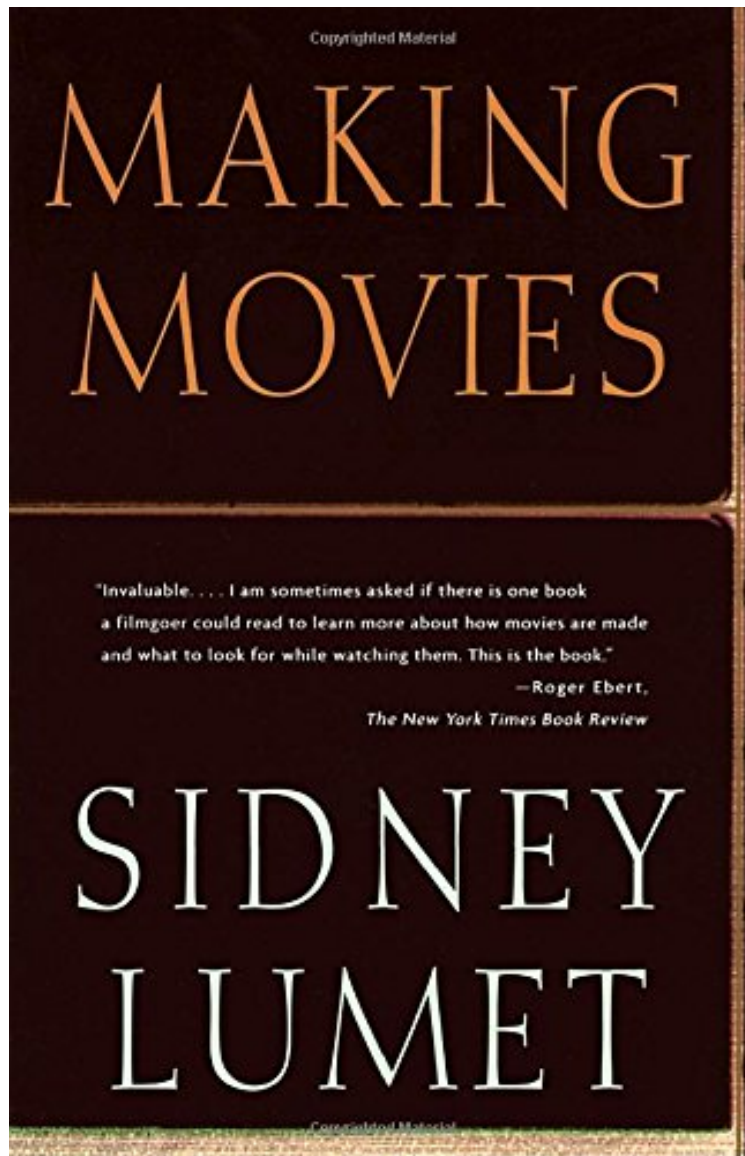


## Making Movies

*Sidney Lumet*

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**Sidney Lumet : Making Movies** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Making Movies:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great Book by a Greater Director By Jordan Hunter Sidney Lumet's "Making Movies" is a wonderful insight into the director's role in the filmmaking process. The entire book reads like Lumet has sat you down to tell you a story. We get a chance to peer into his mind as he makes small but critical choices throughout the Pre-Production, Production, and Post-Production phases in the movie's life. Lumet gives many

clear and specific examples of moments in his career where he had to overcome the odds to get the shot or performance that the film called for. This book is great for the aspiring filmmaker and seasoned industry veteran alike. I knocked off 1 star only because some of the technical processes of filmmaking described in the book are no longer used, and it made the book feel very dated. The writing is still great and it's nice to hear about how films used to be made. The techniques of working with actors still hold up, as well as the detailed descriptions of the director's role within the larger company of talent and executives. I highly recommend this book to anyone who wants to advance their cinema education and gain deep appreciation for the art form. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. For Filmmakers By jerome05 I love this book as a student filmmaker it taught me more than I may ever learn in film school, beyond the technical side of filmmaking and diving deeper into movies as an art form. Lumet takes you on a very personal journey of his experiences making movies and how he has dealt with the highs and lows. The book was also in amazing condition upon arrival, making me value it even more. Cannot recommend this book enough to filmmakers and film fans enough. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A textbook for emerging directors By Mark I was unaware of Lumet as someone who is kind of after his generation, however, many of his films are classics... 12 Angry Men being his first. Lumet was considered a consummate professional... always working under time and budget and creating great film after great film. This book is full of insights and inspirations for anyone who wants a serious film career. It should be essential reading for any emerging director.

Why does a director choose a particular script? What must they do in order to keep actors fresh and truthful through take after take of a single scene? How do you stage a shootout involving more than one hundred extras and three colliding taxis in the heart of New York's diamond district? What does it take to keep the studio honchos happy? From the first rehearsal to the final screening, *Making Movies* is a master's take, delivered with clarity, candor, and a wealth of anecdote. For in this book, Sidney Lumet, one of our most consistently acclaimed directors, gives us both a professional memoir and a definitive guide to the art, craft, and business of the motion picture. Drawing on forty years of experience on movies that range from *Long Days Journey into Night* to *Network* and *The Verdict* and with such stars as Katharine Hepburn, Paul Newman, Marlon Brando, and Al Pacino Lumet explains how painstaking labor and inspired split-second decisions can result in two hours of screen magic.

.com It's well known that a vast number of people work on any given movie in roles as varied as writing scripts, choosing locations, dressing sets, costuming the players, lighting scenes, manipulating the camera, directing actors, editing film, working on sound, advertising the finished product, and screening it to an audience. Have you ever thought about how these components are collated? Or why the director is most often considered the author of a film? Wonder no more, because Sidney Lumet's *Making Movies* is a terrific journey through each stage of filmmaking that is overseen by the director. Lumet, the veteran director of *Twelve Angry Men*, *The Pawnbroker*, *Serpico*, *Dog Day Afternoon*, *Network*, *The Verdict*, and many other fine movies, knows the ins and outs of American filmmaking as well as anyone. In this excellent, personable account, Lumet tells what he's learned about making movies in the course of the last 40 years. He shows why fine directors need to have strong imaginations, extraordinary adaptability, and skill in many different fields. His enthusiasm for his life's work, particularly his love of actors, is evident on every page of this book. As Herculean as the labors of film directing are, Lumet takes great pleasure in his work, almost guiltily admitting that the film director's job is "the best in the world." From *Publishers Weekly* Lumet, the acclaimed director of such films as *Dog Day Afternoon* and *Network*, presents an anecdotal insider's account of the key elements in filmmaking. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Library Journal* Lumet's book is about the agonizing and ultimately rewarding art of filmmaking. And who better to elucidate the process than a legendary director, with credits such as *12 Angry Men*, *Dog Day Afternoon*, and *Prince of the City*? Lumet discusses writers and actors, camera and editing techniques, art direction and sound. Yet *Making Movies* is anything but a clinical textbook. Lumet's career straddled the shift between studio management and the rise of financiers and talent agencies: he's seen both worlds and candidly reveals his predilections, including his disdain for teamsters, critics, and market researchers. He alludes to the tension between film as art and as business and shows that filmmaking is ultimately a capricious, collective enterprise with no sure formulas. Although overly mechanistic at times, Lumet is most lucid in examples drawn from his own experiences. A fascinating look at the artist at work; recommended for film studies collections. - Jayne Plymale-Jackson, Univ. of Georgia Libs., Athens Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.