

Review of How To Get Arrested™

By Bob Fraser (02-22-2006)

Opinion by Bob Fraser. After forty-plus successful years in show business as actor, writer, director and producer, Bob has decided it's time to talk about what it takes to make it in tinsel town!

Let's begin with a little moaning and groaning on my part: Michael J. Wallach has written a book I wish I'd written.

The best thing about his book is that it speaks the truth.

As you know, if you read my screeds with any regularity, I'm a nut case about telling actors the truth about what it REALLY takes to achieve a professional acting career.

Because I'm convinced that the truth, about the combination of skills, assets, mind-sets, business acumen, and psychological preparation that is really necessary to make that trip to the red carpet ... well, that truth will lead you toward taking the actions that actually get you there.

In this very clever book, How To Get Arrested™ A Motivational Story For Actors, Mr. Wallach tells actors the truth in a simple and powerful way – by relating the adventures of Dick and Jane.

In this book, Dick and Jane are actors.

Get it? How To Get Arrested™ is a primer for the acting business. And frankly, if you pay close attention to the adventures of Dick and Jane, you will come away with the kind of knowledge you MUST HAVE– to have any hope of success in Show Biz.

Dick and Jane's Trip to Hollywood contains episode after episode that prove the truth of this fact: Different choices, inevitably, lead to different results.

From what they decide to eat on the plane to Los Angeles – to how they listen to the cab driver on the way from LAX to their apartment, to how they settle in ... Dick and Jane begin their journey as friends with different attitudes about what it will take. As they make different choices, distinctions and realizations, each tries to "make a go of it" in Hollywood.

The story for one actor is a constant, forward moving series of actions and results - eventually leading to a high-profile job in a sitcom. Unfortunately, the other friend's fate is all too common. After choosing "unwisely," over and over again, one friend ends up going back home angry, jealous, disappointed, frustrated and hurt. And thinking about selling real estate.

While one actor learns new skills and uses them to advance up the ladder of the film and television business – we watch the other attend to other, more "important" activities such as going to parties, chilling out from self generated manifestations of jealousy and competitiveness, and trying to "hook-up" with somebody who can MAKE IT HAPPEN!

One actor, relying on talent, connections and contacts to get ahead, listens to the wrong people, makes the wrong choices and gets progressively more cynical and angry – while the other one sends out pictures, takes classes, acts in a play, sends out more pictures, auditions, gets new pictures, takes more classes, sends out the new pictures, lands a commercial agent and ... well, you can guess what happens.

That's right. One of them "makes" it. And the other one ... doesn't.

So ... who "makes it?" Dick or Jane?

I'm not going to give that part away – because Mr. Wallach has constructed this delightful fable in such a way that I'm sure you will KNOW which is which, as the story progresses.

Here's the best part, in my opinion:

As you see yourself in these characters – both good and bad – you will also become convinced that making adjustments in the way you THINK the business works can make a huge difference in your results. In fact, it can be the difference between walking the red carpet and pounding signs in people's lawns.

Learning these distinctions, as Dick and Jane take on "the industry," will prepare you for reality. As I like to repeat endlessly: Reality is not optional. The reality presented in the 'fictional' world of Dick and Jane, proves that (as in all good stories) choice determines fate.

That's an important and powerful message.

Mr. Wallach, a talent manager, has coalesced a broad range of knowledge into this easy to read book. He touches on ALL the important actor's issues, giving you a real grounding in those things that determine success in this business. He does it with precise and complete examples of the differences between Dick's way of doing things ... and Jane's way.

All you have to do is determine which example you want to follow.

It is, after all, your choice.

Every actor who cares about working should read How To Get Arrested™. It is one of the easiest to understand explanations of how "this town" really works, I've ever seen.

Personally, I loved the adventures of Dick and Jane in Hollywood.

One minor complaint: I missed Spot.

(You can find out more about Michael Wallach's book by [clicking here.](#))

Also check out Bob's acting career courses on your computer:

<http://www.youmustact.com>