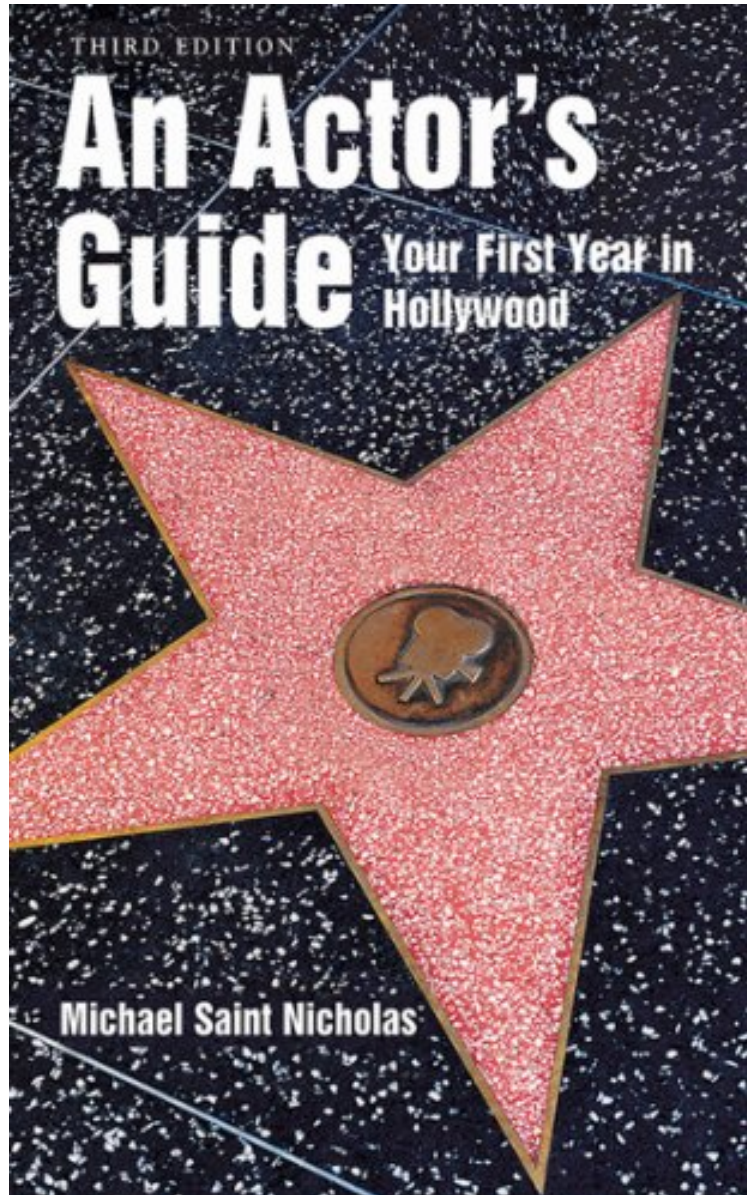


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An Actor's Guide--Your First Year in Hollywood

Michael St. Nicholas

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Michael St. Nicholas : An Actor's Guide--Your First Year in Hollywood before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Actor's Guide--Your First Year in Hollywood:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Important Inside Information. By AntDNicholas speaks of many things my drama teachers failed to. Perhaps my instructors went straight into teaching after college rather than actually trying their hands in the field. Only someone with firsthand experience could write this book. Thank you, Mr.

Nicholas. This is a true, new actor's Hollywood survival guide! Author of Grandmother is Home to Stay 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great!! By Brittany I absolutely love this book. I have been buying a lot of books similar to this one and I can honestly say this is the best book. It has great information. It has great detailed facts and if you plan to move to L.A. this will be very helpful.... 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Outdated and misleading By GRACE E WRIGHT I love the author's ebullient enthusiasm and clear intent to motivate and inspire his readers. However, this third edition was updated in 2006 and even in 6 years this book has become outdated and is lacking INTEGRAL information. I am an actress who recently finished my degree at USC and my school has tried to prepare me for the realities of the show business industry in a way that many theater schools do not. I have been fortunate to meet many casting directors, agents, producers, writers, and young working actors through my school's many resources and I can say that based on my firsthand knowledge, I found the information in this book to be staggeringly limited. This book does not cover self-submissions or casting websites (it only mentions a site called "[...]" which does not exist/is a website that has nothing to do with breakdowns), it does not cover personal branding and self-promotion, and doesn't go in depth enough regarding means of finding representation, the pros, cons, and differences about agents and managers, is not detailed enough about how to find "money jobs," or which areas/neighborhoods are good/bad to live in. It gives a basic overview about casting workshops and showcases, but as important as those are to actors just starting out, I think more coverage of those topics (which lead into finding representation, which is your #1 goal starting out and can make or break your experience) is necessary. The BEST parts of this book are the last chapters--"Creating a Positive Experience" and the later interviews with people in the industry. That said, many of the industry interviews in this book are with people who have good advice but aren't YOUNG, or up-and-coming. I think that is a relevant perspective that is starkly absent from this book. This book is a fine jumping off point if you're right off the turnip truck/know virtually NOTHING about the industry or LA. If you have even a basic understanding of the city and the business then this book is a little bit.... rudimentary. A better book is "Hit the Ground Running" by Carolyn Barry: Hit The Ground Running The Smart Actor's Guide While I disagree with plenty of her advice and opinions, I think this book is more relevant and up-to-date. I'm certainly not saying to follow this book as a Bible... but at least it's a more current guide.

An Actor's Guide Your First Year in Hollywood should be required reading for any young actor headed to La-La Land with a dream in his heart and a shine on his shoes. Sure, it's a great guide to auditioning, getting a SAG card, finding an agent, landing parts, gaining exposure, and creating publicity but it's also packed with real-world advice from a fellow actor. Getting to know Los Angeles, finding a place to live and a job to pay the bills. An Actor's Guide presents the whole picture, for career and for daily life. Remember to thank us when yours is a big star!

From Library Journal Nicholas has penned a pep talk and warning for the novice actor intent on finding employment in the performing-arts mecca of the world. An actor himself, he provides personal tips and insight, including a questionable chapter on how to stay mentally, emotionally, and physically fit. On firmer ground, he includes advice from casting directors, photographers, agents, other actors, and a writer/producer, a publicist, a manager, and an acting coach. He coaches how to become an extra, what are the requirements for membership in the Screen Actors Guild (a sample SAG contract is included), and how to audition. Nicholas emphasizes the importance of photographs, resumes, and, most of all, perseverance. Addresses for soap operas, game shows, and talent agencies are included. Encouraging but mostly realistic, Nicholas's book could be helpful to those who will not be dissuaded from moving to the coast in search of glamor, but libraries that already have M.K. Lewis's comparably priced *Your Film Acting Career* (Gorham House, 1993) can make this an optional purchase. Kim R. Holston, American Inst. for Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters Lib., Malvern, Pa. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. "I'm buying up a bunch of copies to keep in my back pocket for everyone who asks me how to get into this business." (Sinbad) From the Inside Flap Ready-talent and a little bit of luck's wind can help establish a network among Hollywood's leading directors, producers, and fellow actors. The actor, who must at all times be prepared to change gears without losing sight of motivation, will find this revised edition of *An Actor's Guide: Your First Year in Hollywood* an absolutely necessary companion to surviving and thriving in Hollywood. This book teaches actors how to gain and put into practice all the necessary skills needed to succeed in Hollywood. Packed with wise, realistic advice from an experienced and successful writer/actor, *An Actor's Guide: Your First Year in Hollywood* teaches actors how to: **Survive your first year in Hollywood**; **Take clear cut steps and launch your successful acting career**; **Understand the road maps of Hollywood language**; **Contact agents, studios, soap operas, game shows, and gain exposure**; **Audition, Get a SAG card, build credits and create publicity**; **Land a dream role and handle contracts** With detailed advice from top industry professionals and well-known actors, *An Actor's Guide: Your First Year in Hollywood* provides additional first-hand tips and an easy-to-use appendix section that makes knowing Los Angeles and navigating Hollywood comparable to a breeze.