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CARTWRIGHT**

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FINANCING  
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MEET ABC  
CASTING DIRECTOR  
**MARK TESCHNER**

May/June 2012

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**THE NOBLE 238**  
**Rejected Authors Bond**



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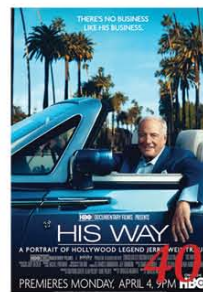
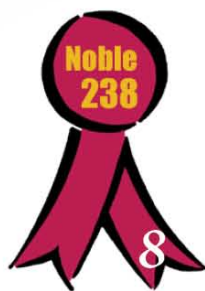


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# Constructing Your Dream

**B**lueprints are the detailed plans architects reference throughout the construction phase of building a structure. In filmmaking, a screenplay is the blueprint. A director uses it to create his/her vision for the film, and then conveys it to the actors and crew. If you don't already have a blueprint for your entertainment career, I hope this issue of *Hollywood & Vine* motivates you to develop one.

Constructing a dream in show business is like designing the blueprint of a rollercoaster ride with its ups and downs. While it's quite natural to have a plan for the highs, you must also have one for the lows. On a daily basis, artists are exposed to "No" in one form or another—from not being right for a dayplayer part on a sitcom to receiving a rejection email from a literary agent like *The Noble 238* (p. 8) to experiencing film financing blues (p. 16). There are times when an artist's pursuit seems hopeless, pointless, profitless and other 'less' positive conditions.

You can prepare for the journey ahead by writing down a plan of realistic goals on paper (or screen), but not in your head. Focus only on goals that are controlled by you. Examples of goals NOT to include in your plan are: sign with an agent, book a role, sell a script, make your music video go viral or get an executive job at a studio.

While all of those results are possible to achieve, you have little control as to whether or not you will achieve them. What you can control is completing the action steps aligned with your desired results. Here are a few realistic goals: act in a showcase where casting directors are invited, be 'off book' (lines memorized) for every audition, attend a networking event with a panel of agents, query producers and investors about funding a project, create a social media campaign to market a video, apply for 10 studio job postings a week or hire a headhunter.

Inside this issue of *H&V*, actors will have an opportunity to meet ABC Network's long-time casting director Mark Teschner (p. 22) who believes talent can sustain an artist in the midst of adversity. We also have two new columns. Rep Report (p. 18) offers insight into agencies and Box Office (p. 19) provides stats on film trends. Hopefully this information is useful in creating your career plan.

Since constructing is the art of building, who else is better suited to construct a dream than an artist? If you want to be on top of your game, listen to the renowned voice of Nancy Cartwright (on the cover), who is one of Hollywood's highest paid voice-over artists. She talks about mastering the craft, dealing with rejection and building a brand (p. 24).

Setting achievable goals makes success more attainable. I just started reading J. Pincott's book entitled, "Success," a compilation of inspirational quotes. One of our world's extraordinary artists declared: "Our goals can only be reached through a vehicle of a plan, in which we must fervently believe, and upon which we must vigorously act. There is no other route to success." —Pablo Picasso

While there may be an element of luck or as some call 'favor' associated with some celebrities' stardom, stop comparing your journey and stop waiting on the intangible. Put on your hard hat and begin constructing that dream of yours. Still not convinced?

Find a building that was built without a blueprint, and I bet you'd never step foot in it. Don't let that be true for your dream—you have every right to step into it and live it. 🏠

Seize the journey!



Angela M. Hutchinson

Editor-in-Chief

[angela@hollywoodvinemag.com](mailto:angela@hollywoodvinemag.com)





# Leave Word

## Merci Beaucoup!

"Reading the March/April edition from Paris. Vive Internet!"

– *Samantha Guveli, Writer*

"Received my copy of *Hollywood & Vine*... Looks great."

– *Dan Wunsch, Industry Veteran*

"Very nice magazine."

– *Robert W. Sweeting, Writer*

"I am so impressed with this magazine! Congratulations on creating something so inspiring! Please let me know if there is anything that I can do to spread the word."

– *Diana Krach, Writer*



"Your magazine is sooooooooooooo high class. Where can people buy copies when I blast out on Facebook?"

– *Kerri Pomarolli, Comedian/ Author*

[Subscriptions can be purchased at [www.hollywoodvinemag.com](http://www.hollywoodvinemag.com).]

"Love your magazine's vision."

– *Vanoy Burnough, Actress/Writer*

## Appreciate the Love

"*Hollywood & Vine* is amazing - good work..."

– *Rachel Walker, Publicist*

"Love what you guys are doing with the mag – always refreshing to see someone focus on rising talent."

– *Drew Miller, Marketing Professional*

"*Hollywood & Vine* is Awesome!!!! Just wanted to say congrats... You've done an amazing job and I will do my part to get the word out to all the up and coming industry folks that need to make this a must read as part of building their careers."

– *James Moorer, Producer*

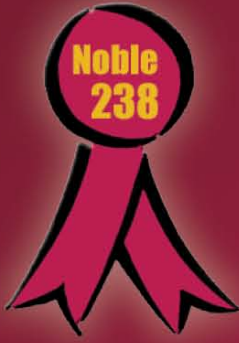
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*By* DAWN QUIGLEY

# THE NOBLE 238 REJECTED AUTHORS BOND

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**W**riting is often a lonely pursuit. The romanticized notion that writers have an ocean view office which gives their eyes a respite while they write the next great American novel couldn't be further from the truth. As a published author of minor (and I stress the minor) success let me tell you the unfettered truth: we sit in basements with low wattage light bulbs while hacking away at our novels that just don't seem to ever get finished. And we do it in solitude. Alone. All we have to keep us company is a Starbucks latte, a five year old computer that keeps freezing on us, and a spark of a dream that, although the chances are slim to none, our manuscript may someday find itself on a literary agent's desk and we'll get that long awaited, much desired, e-mail saying, "Yes! I love your manuscript! Let's make a book!"

This past week I received an e-mail from a large literary agency housed in New York, which is the Mecca of book publishing. Finally, after rejection upon rejection, the elusive salutation awaited me in my inbox. Hallelujah.

And then I opened it: "Dear writer, thank you for your submission, but I regret to inform you that we will not pursue representation. While your work certainly has merit, it simply isn't right for our list." Fine. Okay. This is just another rejection in my mountainous pile of rebuffs. The odd thing was that I had already been rejected by this agency a few weeks ago, but ok, thanks for letting me know...again. But it wasn't over. Not by a long shot.

I then, minutes later, received another e-mail from the same agent stating, again, that they didn't want to represent my novel. Yep, I heard you the first time...and the second time. But I noticed something interesting in this e-mail. It was a notice that the message was attempting to be retrieved. And the cherry on top of the rejection sundae was, instead of including my e-mail address in the "blind copy" (Bcc line), it was mistakenly added to the "carbon copy" (Cc line)—

Along with the 238 e-mail addresses of rejected authors.

I'm used to form rejection letters, but not one where over 200 other writers could see that I was rejected. My first reaction was of confusion. Why was I getting multiple notices that my writing sucked? And apparently so were my fellow 238 rejectees.

Let's call this agency Literary House (I'll protect their name even though they didn't return the favor). A mass response was sent to us fellow rejected writers. Soon after, one bold writer replied to all of us and reworded the original agent's email to point out the mistake that the agent apparently did not know how to use Bcc (or made a mistake that bond 238 authors). At first there was a negative response from some of the writer recipients who were upset that their email address had been compromised. But shortly after, something happened that turned the tides of this tidal wave of negativity. The following writer responded to us all with a single word: "AWESOME!"

That one word evoked a massive campaign which went viral all within a matter of minutes and continued for several days, and possibly bonded some authors as life-long colleagues. All of us 238 rejected authors turned the tables on this literary titan by banding together with round after round of "Cc'd" responses. This experience truly made this my favorite rejection, and I'm sure many of my fellow authors share that sentiment.

Here are some of the replies from the 238 dejected writers that made me laugh until I cried:

"A rejection letter to over 200 people? You don't see that every day! And I thought I was rejected because I was from Mississippi."

"Hello Fellow Rejected Writers, I am one of you. This is the 30th agent rejection letter I have received; albeit the strangest; Too bad we can't all get together at some bar and share a beer. I just don't think there's any place big enough to fit us all!"

"I'd fly anywhere to meet this group of people."

"Maybe we should form our own agency and go by the name 238."

"Hail the '238'!"

"I am intrigued at the individual who doesn't know how to use the Bcc function at [Literary House]."

"It's actually hilarious since they represent writers and don't know how to read."

"1. Sorry - you're rejected! 2. I said you didn't make the cut! 3. DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME? I SAID NO!"

"That's quadruple jeopardy. Shall we take them to court—four times?"

"This is the best multi-rejection I've ever received. I have never laughed so hard. And you know what they say ... misery does love company. Best of luck to you all."

"238 shall rise again!"

This volley around the globe lasted a few fleeting hours and by day's end a Facebook group formed, blog sites went up, Twitters went tweeting, one person suggested we all write a collective novel and round robin each page, a logo was created, and one of the 238 even quipped a poem in the manner of Tennyson and dubbed us "The Noble 238." The crème de la crème was an offer to publish our mass rejection story from

the Editor-in-Chief of *Hollywood & Vine*, a print magazine focused on the business of breaking into Hollywood

For a few fleeting hours I felt like Dorothy in the "Wizard of Oz" connecting elbow and, arm in arm, with my fellow 238ers we skipped

down the yellow brick road of rejection. Together we went 'off to see the wizard,' but in this case it was the 'wonderful agents of Oz.' Soon we'll disappear into the dark dens of our literary lairs, but for a moment in time, the curtain was lifted and we saw the mighty Oz behind the curtain. And we saw that, just like Dorothy, all humans make mistakes and are rejected which reminds us of our simple humanity.

Rejection, my friends, is a part of life. I think of what, at the time, seemed like failure in my life: a job I didn't get; the boy in college who didn't return my love; and friends who have turned their back on me. But if not for those moments I would not have: my current job which I love and has a location to die for; a wonderful husband who is my soul mate; and dear friends who have been with me through the travails of life. Rejection closes paths and puts up road blocks but also redirect us in new directions which lead down roads we never would have pursued. Call it fate, karma, or divine intervention, but that mistaken click of the Cc button has bolstered my spirits and now that inevitable next rejection won't have the same sting.

And what does fate hold for my literary future? Will I succumb to the "No's" and give up? Well, I guess it's the same for all of you with a dream whether you be an aspiring author, actor, artist or someone praying for a job to end months of unemployment. Our futures are whole chapters yet to be written. And with that I'll leave you dreamers with a response from a fellow 238ers: "Never give up! Never surrender!"

*Dawn Quigley is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. Her writing has appeared in both national and regional publications along with being a finalist in the MN Loft Literary Center's Mentor Series and its Minnesota Emerging Writer award.*

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# INSIDE 49 OF THE NOBLE 238

ALL OF THE 238 AUTHORS WERE OFFERED TO SUBMIT A PROFILE. HOWEVER, ONLY 49 DESIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SPECIAL FEATURE. ONE OF THE FUNNIEST MISTAKE'S EVER MADE BY A NEW YORK CITY LITERARY AGENCY IS BRINGING TO HOLLYWOOD & VINE'S READERS WORLDWIDE THE NOBLE 49/238. THESE AUTHORS SHARE THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE, MANUSCRIPT TITLE, GENRE, STORYLINE, BRIEF BIOGRAPHY AND THEIR REJECTION MANTRA/CANDID THOUGHTS ON DEALING WITH HEARING "NO" AS A WRITER.



**Zondra Aceman**, Virginia Beach, VA

MANUSCRIPT/GENRE: "Blame it on the Sandman!" / Fantasy Science-fiction

STORY: The Baron Sandman is preparing his Nightmare World for universal domination. The fate of all lies in Dream World, as written in the Prophecy. BIO: I'm a Kindergarten teacher in Germany and was frustrated by the lack of good supplements for my curriculum. As a result I created my own picture books which eventually led me to writing both children books and young adult novels. MANTRA: Oh Mr. Sandman send me a publisher. Make him the best that I've ever seen. Show him my book from cover to cover. He'll meet the new heroine for today's young teen.



**Kelly Baker**, Colorado Springs, CO

"The Waters of Nyra" / Young Adult Fantasy (YAF)

STORY: In a world where dragons enslave dragons, the exiled hatchling Nyra must find an ancient ally to save her colony. BIO: I am a college graduate from the University of Colorado at Boulder holding a degree in ecology. In addition to writing, I enjoy running, hiking, drawing, and making silly film parodies.

MANTRA: You cry a little. You sulk a lot. But as a wise mechanic once said "out from the ashes come the roses of success." As a creator of any kind, you must master the art of optimism. For in rejection is refinement, a chance to reflect and rebuild. Fault is a malleable medium, one from which masterpiece are born.

[kellymichellebaker.webs.com/thestory.htm](http://kellymichellebaker.webs.com/thestory.htm)



**Stacie Berg** "Mind Games" / Suspense

STORY: A small town reporter with a damaged reputation uncovers something that could save a town, but no one will believe her, and time is running out.

BIO: S. Z. Berg is an award-winning national journalist, blogger at The Huffington Post, and the author of the novel "Mind Game." Her works can be found in The New York Times, The Scientist, Marie Claire and others.

MANTRE: Rejection is the first step to a bestseller. Wear sturdy shoes. It's a long road.

[www.CelebritiesSpeak.com](http://www.CelebritiesSpeak.com)



**Andrea Berthot**, Winfield, KS "Dream Things True" / YA

STORY: Anna dreams of medical school, but at night she dreams of Shakespeare. But it's not just

a dream – when she sleeps, she becomes Juliet.

BIO: I am a teacher and mother. I have published seven short stories: "A Virgin Fire" in A Space of Your Own Room, "The Harvest" in Moondance, "Forever Hold Your Peace" in Luna Station Quarterly, "The Transubstantiation of Marjorie" in Magnolia Journal and "The Perfect Women," "The New Dress" and "A Second Wind" in Melusine.

MANTRA: When people reject my novel, I feel bad – for them.

@AndreaBerthot



**Steve Black**, Concord, NH Royal Playdate / Children's Picture Book (CPB)

STORY: What happens when a lonely Princess convinces a muddy boy to play dolls with her? There's treasure and pie, dragons and navies, golden swords and fancy balls, and even the threat of a bath. Imaginations run wild, and the entire kingdom, including the dragon, gets in on the fun.

BIO: I'm a tax law professor, a father of four, and the creator of many bedtime stories. I've been cited by Forbes (though not for my bedtime stories!), and my legal articles have been published in the National Law Journal, William Mitchell Law Review, the BYU Journal of Public Law, St. Mary's Law Journal and Tax Notes, among others.

@taxprof

MANTRE: "I never failed once. It just happened to be a 2,000-step process." - Thomas Edison



**Brendan Butts**, Boston, MA "Switchgrass" / YA

STORY: Set in 2084, an impoverished sixteen year old boy with special abilities is forced to leave home and make his own way in corporate controlled America.

BIO: Currently unpublished in the Fiction Genre. I am the head programmer and game master of one of the oldest internet sci-fi role playing games.

MANTRA: One day my ex is going to seriously regret breaking up with me. Just not today.

[www.facebook.com/random55z](http://www.facebook.com/random55z)



**Victoria Candida**, Schenectady, NY

"Implode" / YA

STORY: An aspiring journalist tries to figure out if it is worth pursuing the unattainable by soliciting people to interview for a newspaper article. BIO: I am a public high school senior. I've written two novels already and I'm hoping to start a career in literature. My favorite novel is "The Catcher in the Rye." I play the ukulele and sing at local open mic nights.

MANTRA: Who needs 'em anyway?

@victoriacandida



**Jonathan Coleman**, Bloomfield Hills, MI

"Ultraviolet" / Fantasy

STORY: Young Alex Gates is whisked away on a wonderful and perilous journey when he's told about his superpowers.

BIO: Only seventeen years old, Jonathan Coleman has been writing for years, finally

finishing his first novel, which he soon hopes to publish. The winner of numerous poetry awards and writing contests, he aspires to pursue literature and creative writing throughout his entire life.

MANTRA: Faithless is he who says farewell when the road darkens.

[www.facebook.com/geesenationlehgo](http://www.facebook.com/geesenationlehgo)



**Amy Croall**, Los Gatos, California

"Death of a Siren" / YA Fiction (Teen)

STORY: High school student Katie Bunny has been given a second chance at life. But here's the catch: she only has thirty days to do everything she's always wanted

BIO: Even as a teen, I wrote and illustrated my own short stories. My first full-length novel came when I was just sixteen.

With the help of a friend, I created four characters very near and dear to my heart. Clay, Seth, Keira and Aisha have made it into my books in one way or another over the past ten years.

MANTRA: For me, rejection goes both ways. If the agent doesn't want me, I don't want them. However, I've been stuck in 'Rejection Limbo' for years, still receiving the brush-off from queries submitted in 2010. Yet, I still want to believe in that elusive silver lining!

[www.facebook.com/amycroall](http://www.facebook.com/amycroall)



**Suzanne DeWitt**, Newburyport, MA

"The Adventures of Charlie, Misunderstood Hero" / Picture Book (PB)

STORY: Irreverent doggy hero saves the day by peeing on the leg of a mean boy in a grocery store to rescue a little girl's blankie.

BIO: Former high-tech journalist and long-time blogger. Work underway includes a novel, a reluctant reader chapter book for boys centering on video gaming, a non-fiction book that unfolds the stories contained in our grandmother's old recipe boxes, and a workbook which explores use of the imagination as a spiritual discipline. MANTRA: Imagine yourself as a toddler all over again, reaching for the TV remote, or trying to climb up to the high shelf where the cookies are stored, or coveting the stuffed rabbit in the arms of your friend. "No Suzanne. No. No, no, no." All the while your two-year-old emotions shriek "But I WANT it!"

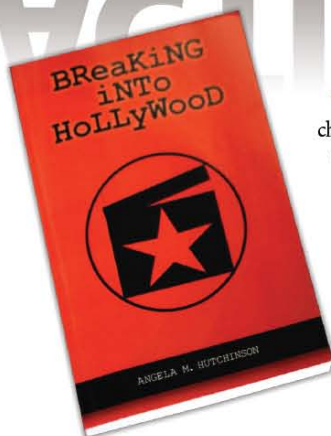
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-Actress/Singer, Los Angeles

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**Janet Dietrich**, Bluff Dale, TX  
"Tatiza" / Realistic  
Contemporary Middle Grade  
(MG)

STORY: When a baby giraffe is abandoned on fifth grader Bethany's property, the results are good, bad and timely in a small Texas town.

BIO: Once a technical writer by profession, I now write for fun in the small town where a life detour took me and my formerly urban family. The docile giraffe herd at a nearby wildlife center helped inspire me while writing this story.

MANTRA: Rejection should not be viewed as being pushed away from something good. Rejection should be viewed as being pushed toward something great.



**Dr. Andy Dykeman** (author)  
& **Kris Wright** (illustrator), St. Louis, Missouri  
"Happiness" / CPB

STORY: This is the story of Nora and her cat, Happiness.

BIO: A man of a million hats, Dr. Andy has been a drummer in a punk rock band, a chimney sweep, a forensic technician and a chiropractor. He lives in Saint Louis with his wife and two cats and still believes there is so much left to do in this world.

The illustrator Kris has been drawing and painting and making art his whole life. He regularly participates in art shows as well as lending his talents as the design director of an advertising agency. He, too, lives in Saint Louis with his wife Nikki and two super fun daughters, Poppi and Marley. MANTRAS: Andy: "What rejection?"; Kris: "By drinking."



**Miriam Fontayne**, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
"The Fallen Queen" /  
Autobiographical novel with

horror and fantasy tones  
STORY: Marie, with the help of her ghostly friend, escapes from her problematic family life to a captivating but dangerous world. A tale of an eating disorder.

BIO: Born in Quebec, from French Canadian parents, Miriam Fontayne has an unconditional love for languages (she is fluent in French, English, Spanish and Portuguese), nature, gastronomy and literature. Her passion for writing first manifested at age 13 with her first poems. She currently lives in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

MANTRA: Sending query letters is certainly one of the most painful things aspiring writers have to do: we have to send summaries barely grasping the essence of our work to very infamous literary agencies, which play a role similar to the gods of literature to us. It's good to share the experience with someone. It helps us in staying positive. After all, many of the most prolific writers have been in the same shoes before.

@MiriamFontayne



**Liz Greenberg**, Huntington, Vermont  
"The Quest for -Est" / MG  
Realistic Fiction

STORY: Disappointingly average fifth grader Leanna Price is on a journey to find the superlative that best describes her and sets her apart from her peers.

BIO: I am an elementary school teacher

with more hobbies than free time. I am currently working on another middle grades manuscript inspired by and speaking to the quirky boy essence I observe each day. I also blog about my weekly adventures cooking with fifth and sixth graders in the classroom. MANTRA: Every time I get a rejection, I remind myself that it took Madeline L'Engle somewhere between 24 attempts to get anyone interested in publishing, "A Wrinkle in Time."

thisclasscooks.blogspot.com



**Sheryn Gung**, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
"The Autumn Year: Growing Up Slowly is Still Growing" /

Self-Development Fiction for YA  
STORY: Eco-conscious 20yo Ellen feels left behind. In her Autumn Year she discovers what growing up really means as she embraces the 7 Keys to Becoming Authentic. BIO: Author, TV presenter and speaker, Sheryn Gung, has had articles published in magazines and journals and has been guest editor and covergirl of Insight Magazine. With a background in personal development and martial arts, she is active in the wellbeing/spirituality field. Sheryn specializes in 'children of the new earth.' MANTRA: A big learning curve for me was not taking rejections personally. My manuscript might not be right for that agent or publisher, but I know it is perfect for someone else who is looking for exactly the stories I have to tell!

www.EarthDream.com.au



**Randi Hacker**, Lawrence, KS  
"The Speed of Time" / YA

STORY: What if you had 1 week to get used to the fact that your father was dying, 1 day to live through his death and 1 hour to live beyond it? BIO: I have been a writer since the 20th century. My credits include satirical essays published in The New York Times Book Review and Punch Magazine, educational material for children, a TV show called "Windy Acres" broadcast on Vermont Public Television and one YA novel entitled Life as I Knew It published by Simon & Schuster in 2006 and named one of the Books for the Teen Age 2007 by the New York Public Library. I have a 16 year old daughter. MANTRA: I have received countless responses from editors and agents that go something like this (and this is a conglomerate paraphrase, you understand): "Beautifully written. We love the humor and the story is engaging and original. I'm afraid we'll have to pass on this. It's not right for our list." To which I must respond "Huh?"



**Samantha Hoffman**, Hesperia, Michigan  
"The Arena Wars" / Fiction  
(Werewolf/Vampire/Romance)

STORY: Two friends are abducted and forced to fight to the death in the Arena Wars, a brutal series of fights run by vampires for entertainment. BIO: My name is Samantha, and I'm nineteen years old. I've been writing since I was in the first grade, and I've started several books over the years, but "The Arena Wars" is the first book that I've actually completed.

MANTRA: It only takes one "Yes" to change everything.

www.wattpad.com/story/1024465-the-arena-wars



**Casey Hopper**, New Haven, CT  
"London Rendezvous" / YA/  
MG

STORY: Stolen jewels, a missing best friend, a faceless enemy and a covert organization, only Kit Hawthorn can put all the pieces of her life back together.

BIO: I'm a 27-year-old who spent a lot of my life overseas as I kid which inspired me to write the adventures of a trouble-magnet, globe-trotting teenage girl. When I'm not writing, I'm busy taking care of my two awesome kids.

MANTRA: I like to shred them, make a bonfire in my backyard and then dance around it.

www.facebook.com/caceymhopper



**Mary Hull**, San Dimas, CA  
"Eyes from Heaven" / YA

STORY: Vincent and Marcus move to Meadowcreek to seek the devotion of Lily. When you walk through darkness, how will you find your way?

BIO: I graduated from Azusa Pacific University with a Master's degree in Nursing as a Board Certified Family Nurse Practitioner. I have been writing for 4 years and Eyes from Heaven is my first novel. My novel is available for purchase through Kindle.

MANTRA: It's not that I'm smart, I just stay with problems (situations) longer... Albert Einstein

www.eyesfromheaven.com



**Angela M. Hutchinson**, Los Angeles, CA  
"BReaKiNg iNTo HoLLyWoOd" / Self-help  
comedic memoir

STORY: Angela reveals her adventurous experiences of pursuing an entertainment career in the glitz n' glam capital of the world—Hollywood. From her solo cross-country road trip from Chicago to Los Angeles, to her crazy inmate-roommates, to establishing success as a Hollywood business insider, her vibrant journey was written to ignite the dream of artists, serve as a resource for industry professionals and inspire anyone pursuing a dream.

BIO: Angela M. Hutchinson is the founder of the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, BReaKiNg iNTo HoLLyWoOd, which helps artistic professionals pursue their careers with enthusiasm, creativity and integrity. She is also the Editor-in-Chief of Hollywood & Vine magazine.

MANTRA: Our difficulties prepare us for our victories.

@iamBiH



**Brian James**, New York, NY  
"Brown Like Me" & "Rufus Moves" / PB

STORIES: Brown Like Me / A little girl, Lyla, who is from a mixed race family. She feels different because she doesn't look like either her mom or dad. Lyla develops a new sense of acceptance of herself and others when she makes a friend from Italy whose skin color is similar to hers.

Rufus Moves / Rufus, a young puppy, tries everything to stay put and not move



away from the home and friends he loves. He embarks on a journey that teaches him courage and the knowledge that change can be good.

**BIO:** As a New York City real estate agent, I needed a gift for the daughter of one of my clients. She could not grasp the concept of moving. After an unsuccessful search for an upbeat and cheerful book, I realized that I should write one myself and *Rufus Moves* came to life.

**MANTRA:** Rejection of any sort can be a hard pill to swallow, but with the recent event of a mass rejection I am inspired to step up my game. There is a Japanese proverb that says: Fall seven times, stand upright—that is what I hope all of the 238 take away from this experience, get up and try again!

[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1251902253](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1251902253)



**Erin Jewkes, Kaysville, UT**  
*"The Faerie Trials" / YA Fantasy (YAF)*

**STORY:** Shya and her people live in fear of being kidnapped by the cruel Faeries and forced to prove themselves in the brutal Trials. With the prince's help, can Shya save her best friend and her kingdom from the Trials? Can she save herself?

**BIO:** I am a homeschooling mom of 4 kids. She loves to sing, read, and write the kind of books that she loves to read.

**MANTRA:** I appreciate all the successful authors who share their rejection stories: it makes me think there still may be hope for me!



**Heidi Eisenmann-Jones, Mountain View, MO**  
*"A Tale of Minglemist" / YAF*

**STORY:** Madeline Brown and her employer, retired biology professor T. P. Dunlap, are pulled into a dragon-filled, spine-tingling adventure in a land called Minglemist.

**BIO:** I live in the rural Ozarks, immersing myself in nature, listening to the invisible presences there. This story is my way of inspiring others to find the hidden doorway in nature that leads to another world behind the physical, rich with wisdom and creative power.

[www.talesofminglemist.blogspot.com](http://www.talesofminglemist.blogspot.com)



**Peter Kelley, Minneapolis, MN**  
*"Paraglide" / YA*

**STORY:** Siblings Jim and Erica Winters' mother is kidnapped while on vacation in London. Her captors demand the one thing they can't produce—their long-absent father.

**BIO:** Peter is the author of the young-adult novel, *"Paraglide"*. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife, two daughters and a cranky nineteen-year old cat named Brownie. He graduated from American University with a Master's degree in International Relations. When he's not writing he loves travel, biking and watching soccer.

**MANTRA:** Rejection is the price of admission to the circle of the published, proof that you've opened the door and invited others into your own private worlds.

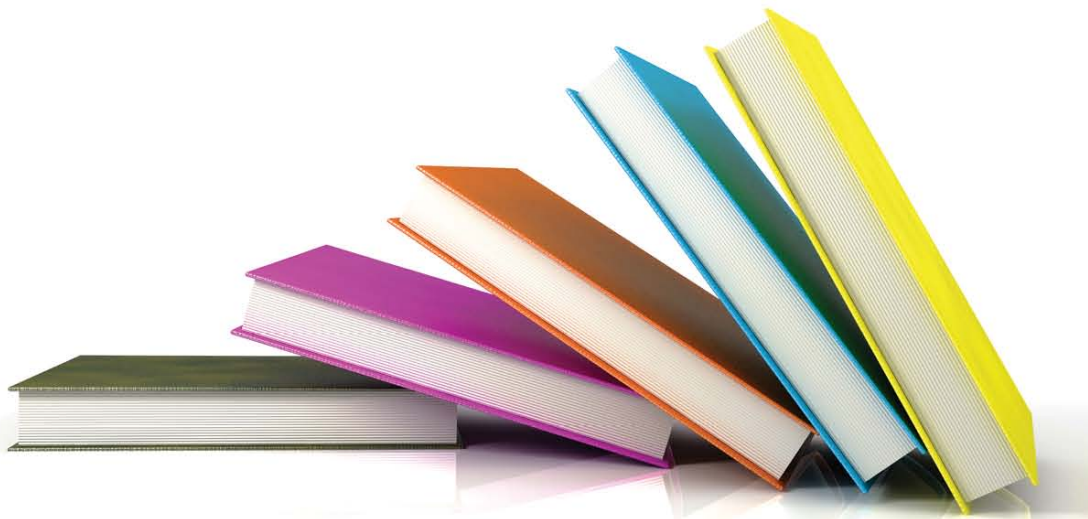
[peteranthonykelley.wordpress.com](http://peteranthonykelley.wordpress.com)



**Kate Matthews, Sonoma, CA**  
*"The Little Pink Book of Cancer Cartoons" / Humor, Health & Wellness*

25

## "I once read about a man who received 695 rejection letters before his big break came!"



**BIO:** A little book of witty and ironic cartoons to amuse anyone who has had to cope with the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.

**BIO:** Kate Matthews, wife, mother and unsuccessful entrepreneur and builder of custom drafting tables, was diagnosed with bilateral breast disease in 2010. To keep her dark feelings at bay, Kate began drawing one-panel cartoons that identified some of the sillier and more ironic aspects of the breast cancer experience.

**MANTRA:** We got your book, but did not look. We are so swamped, we cannot tell if it's good enough to sell. But for the future, here's a tip you can use to make things stick: Your work, you know, It has to be exactly like the "Trilogy" with vampires, witches and fangs galore, or at least a lot of gore! It didn't sound like that, you see. So we didn't read the summary.

[www.Facebook.com/cancercartoons/www.cancercartoons.com](http://www.Facebook.com/cancercartoons/www.cancercartoons.com)



**Diane McGuire, Bridgewater, MA**  
*"The Last Zombie" / MG*

**BIO:** After the 'disease' is over, a young girl and her father care for 'the last zombie' as they wait for the scientists to return.

**BIO:** I am a retired science teacher and short story writer wishing to see her first novel published before she turns 60.

**MANTRA:** I deal with rejection by writing something else.

[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100003695705747](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100003695705747)



**Mirta Meltzer, Washington DC**  
*"Cooking with Grandma" (Cocinando con Abuelita) / PB*

**STORY:** A colorful picture book with easy recipes where children can have fun

cooking with an adult. The book is about a grandmother, two children, a cat and a bird cooking together. It was created for family interaction, the two versions English / Spanish are displayed side-by-side to provide young readers with an easy opportunity to learn the two languages.

**BIO:** Mirta Meltzer was born in Buenos Aires, where she studied art and developed her work as a visual artist. In 1996 she moved to Washington DC, where she currently teaches art and writes and illustrates children's books. Her artwork is displayed in private collections and in museums such as The National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington DC and in the National Printmaking Museum in Buenos Aires among others.

**MANTRA:** I think rejection is part of the game but would be nice to be more than an email address. I am still pursuing my dream of having my book published. I'm proud to be part of the 238.

[www.mirtameltzer.com](http://www.mirtameltzer.com)



**Cyndi Moore, Emmett, ID**  
*"Scars of the Earth" / YA*

**STORY:** Amanda was born to help souls trapped in the torments of their past. She wasn't allowed to want, or need anything else. No healer was.

**BIO:** I'm a mother and wife, although I can't seem to get Ryan Gosling to realize that I'm unavailable-Stop calling! I have had a love affair with books all of my life. While writing and performing stand-up comedy, I realized that I wanted to be an author when I grew up. *Scars of the Earth* is available on Amazon, and you can find me on Facebook.

**MANTRA:** Rejection letters don't faze me in the least. I spent my whole life dealing with rejection from the opposite sex, so I've built up a tolerance.



**Dani Nau, Muscatine, IA**  
*"Give Me Ears To Hear Me Speak" / YA*

**STORY:** Welcome to the world of the lost souls, a world for the suicidal. But is this a world for insight or for a darker purpose?

**BIO:** My name is Dani Nau and I am a 20-year-old graduate from St. Ambrose University. Along with my passion for writing, I am a substitute teacher. Inspiring students to love writing as I do and to follow their dreams is important to me, along with writing of course!

**MANTRA:** To be quite honest, my reaction to rejections depends on when I receive it. For the first couple of rejections, I was giddy because someone had actually responded to my work! This band of "reject" authors has become a strong team willing to reach out and help console, humor and most of all support their fellow authors. I can't imagine a better response to a rejection!



**Xavier Neal, Cedar Park, TX**  
*"The Art of Mistrust and Pixie Dust" / YA Fantasy Fiction*

**STORY:** The Lost Boys are Neverland's Ocean 11, conning their way around this world and right into Peyton Darling's life, a descendent of the beloved Wendy.

**BIO:** I'm 24 and have been writing before I could actually write. Writing pumps through my veins as my blood does. I currently work as a preschool teacher where I teach my kids the same thing I've taught myself. You have to dream big to be big!

**MANTRA:** I once read about a man who received 695 rejection letters before his big break came! Thinking about how he kept on until he was discovered is inspiration to all to never give up because your ship will come in. After all there are different strokes for different folks, somebody's just waiting for yours.



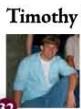


**Tiffany Pace**, Charleston, West Virginia  
 "The Rustlings: Bedezar's Curse" / Middle Elementary Fantasy

**STORY:** Chosen as protectors of a secret land, can five ordinary friends confront their darkest fears or will this be the end of the Rustlings?

**BIO:** Tiffany Pace, an elementary teacher and freelance writer, has published several articles in *Highlights for Children*, *Appleseeds*, and *Faces* and is a member of SCBWI. She lives in Charleston, West Virginia with her husband and two children.

**MANTRA:** Rejection is merely a speed bump and not a detour from my aspirations.  
[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=598144988](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=598144988)



**Timothy Plett**, Placentia, CA  
 "The Unsung Knight: The Tale of Sir Aldwin and the Peasant Maid" / Fantasy

**STORY:** The last apprentice of Merlin seeks to free the daughter of Morgan le Fay from a curse while Arthur hangs in the balance.

**BIO:** I'm a graduating senior at Biola University in La Mirada, CA, receiving my B.S. in Physical Science. I will be pursuing graduate studies in Physics at UCI as a Ph.D. candidate. I write because the story deserves to be told.

**MANTRA:** The important thing is that a story is written, not published.  
[www.facebook.com/timothy.plett](http://www.facebook.com/timothy.plett)



**Dawn Quigley**, Forest Lake, MN  
 "Apple in the Middle" / Young Adult

**STORY:** On her first visit to the Reservation, offbeat and slightly neurotic teen, Apple, attempts to make sense of her mixed heritage: white and American Indian.

**BIO:** Dawn Quigley, enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, has had her writing appear in numerous newspapers, magazine and online publications. Her current manuscript, *Apple in the Middle*, has been a finalist in the Minnesota Loft Literary Center's Mentor Award and its Minnesota Emerging Author Award.

**MANTRA:** Rejection could be seen as salt poured into a wound, but I prefer instead to grab that salt, rim my margarita glass with it, and make a toast saying, "To possibilities!"



**Rebecca Rakitin**, South Florida  
 "Merch Girls" / Young Adult  
**STORY:** Two teen girls sell merchandise on their

favorite band's first tour and quickly find themselves transported from their ordinary lives to an exhilarating few months on the road.

**BIO:** I honed my writing skills at Boston University's College of Communication and am currently a public relations professional where I write and edit a variety of press materials for my clients. I previously interned at major and indie record labels, and sold merchandise for local bands during college.

**MANTRA:** You can't take it personally. It's easier said than done, and the first few times I received a rejection letter I admit that I felt discouraged, but if you believe in your work, you have to believe that someone else will too.

@RebeccaPRChick



**Matthew Raup**, Philadelphia, PA  
 "Glyph Writers: the Wish Glyph" / YA

**STORY:** Four children inherit glyph writing from Native American ancestors and must learn to use the magic to save themselves from a power-hungry Elder glyph writer.

**BIO:** I'm a young reader, writer and Lego builder. I live in the south Philadelphia suburbs with my wife and too many cats. I consider myself a movie expert. I'm inspired by Neil Gaiman, David Eddings, Lemony Snicket, and Joss Whedon, among others.

**MANTRA:** Rejection is the most deflating thing in the universe for a writer, and it must be forgotten about as immediately as it stings.

[www.redbubble.com/people/matthewraup](http://www.redbubble.com/people/matthewraup)



**Jason Rohan**, London, England  
 "The Sword of Heaven" / YA Fantasy

**STORY:** Sent to Japan for summer vacation, Kenny Blackwood finds himself in the center of a hidden war waged by mythological creatures which could kill millions.

**BIO:** I have worked for Marvel Comics and have had articles published in *The Guardian* and *The Los Angeles Times* newspapers. I spent five years in Japan and this, my third novel, draws on that experience.

**MANTRA:** I take every rejection as a positive sign because it means I've got as far as pitching a finished manuscript, and that's a step that many people don't ever reach.



**Carol Roth**, Marseilles, IL  
 "Enter Cosmos" MG Fantasy  
**STORY:** 13-year-old Bo Tanner anticipates a summer of fun, when dimensional renegades rip through

the sky igniting a chain reaction of unstable magic.

**BIO:** C. L. Roth was born and raised in Kansas and presently resides in Illinois. She is a wife, mother, grandmother, and caregiver. She keeps busy writing stories and helping her youngest son, talented disabled-artist, Joshua Englehaupt, achieve his goals.

**MANTRA:** I'm thrilled to receive a rejection slip. It means I did my job. Anytime I can complete a project, edit and revise, create the query/synopsis, and get it sent where it belongs; getting that rejection slip back is validation for all my hard work. It's a badge of honor that I wear proudly.  
[www.cloth.com](http://www.cloth.com)



**Lance Schaubert**, Joplin, MO  
 "Storyweaver" / Historical Fantasy (1897 New York City)

**STORY:** Sing-Sing's infamous pickpocket William discovers a murder victim but can't remember what happened. But he didn't forget his past or misplace his memory. Someone stole it.

**BIO:** Lance writes fiction only when he's inspired every morning at 9 A.M. sharp. However, he pays the bills with freelance editing, copywriting and screenwriting.

**MANTRA:** We all need the reformation of rejection. Self-publishing makes it easy to forget that. I still respect [Literary House] and assume this was an atypical blunder.  
[@lanceschaubert](http://@lanceschaubert)



**Anastasya Shepherd**, Kirton, Suffolk, United Kingdom  
 "The Four Little Pigs" / Illustrated Fairy Tale

**STORY:** A cautionary tale about the consequences of little pigs being ill-prepared for real-world encounters with Big Bad Wolves. A shocking revelation about the fourth pig.

**BIO:** I was born in Moscow, Russia. I lived, studied and worked in Italy, United States and United Kingdom. I am a neuropsychologist by trade and a dilettante by nature. I have two kids, who are my target audience - they are pleasantly biased in my favour.

**MANTRA:** I don't deal with rejection as a writer. I deal with it as a 40-odd-year-old woman - by being used to it by now.  
[www.scarletline.com/ashepherd/Books.html](http://www.scarletline.com/ashepherd/Books.html)



**Susan Sonnenberg**, Murrieta, CA  
 "I'm Mad Today!" / CPB  
**STORY:** An angry kitten decides to look at his day upside down so nothing but gladness could instead be found.  
**BIO:** Susan Sonnenberg, much like the

characters in her stories, likes to tackle life upside down. Her stories twist life, humor, and a feel good moral like a hamburger. You never know what you're going to get in each bite.

**MANTRA:** Rejection, indeed, is like a bad seed. It grows wherever it lands. But let time go, the seed will grow and soon will be a flower in hand.

[www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=641605036](http://www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=641605036)



**Adam Stayberg**, Fort Worth, TX  
 "Ernest & Winston" / CPB  
**STORY:** When Ernest &

Winston hatch from their eggs and Winston's parents aren't there, they go on a wonderful adventure throughout Morris farm to find them.

**BIO:** I have been writing for a little over a year now. My two focuses are children's picture books and dramatic novels. I love writing poetry as well. I am a member of the DFW Writers Workshop in Euless, Texas.

**MANTRA:** Each rejection is just another push in the direction I need to go.

[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1345046994&sk=notes](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1345046994&sk=notes)



**Matthew Surprenant**, Beverly Hills, CA  
 "Missouri Tik" / Thriller  
**STORY:** Jasmine, a 13-year-old

girl, discovers her parents transport illegal narcotics. They're killed for skimming money, but Jasmine takes off with the \$2 million they stole.

**BIO:** I'm a 24-year-old from Minnesota with degrees in Business Management and English Literature, plus an MBA. I was recently hired as an Assistant to the Creative Executive at BDE Entertainment in Beverly Hills. To date, I've completed 7 manuscripts and 3 spec screenplays.

**MANTRA:** Nobody is obligated to care about or read my work. What I care is that the market gives all writers due consideration.

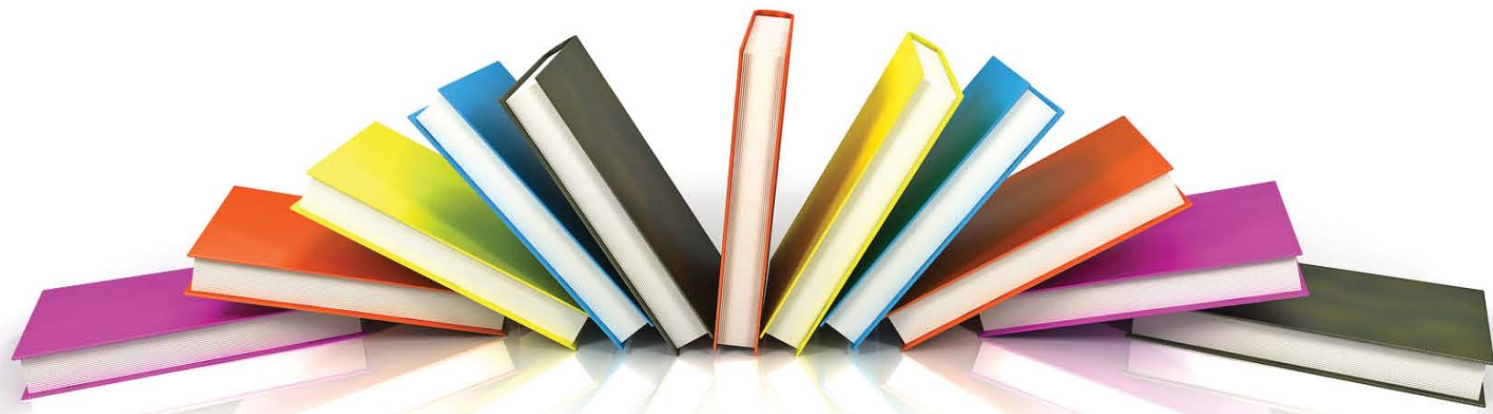
@MattScottAuthor



**Robert Sweeting**, Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi  
 "Kekaju, win back his home, the Hidden Swamp" / MG

**STORY:** A 13-year-old boy is thrust into parallel worlds of wicked reptiles, animals, ghouls, angels and zombies to help a nutria, Kekaju win back his home the Hidden Swamp.

**BIO:** Robert W. Sweeting was born and raised in Florida. He lived in New Orleans, Louisiana for several years. It is here that he





fell in love with the mysteries of the swamp land. He now resides on the Mississippi Gulf Coast where he writes and works. MANTRA: Rejection letters feel like a stab in your heart, but the worst kind of rejection is the second one. I had an agent keep my manuscript for a month and then she asked to keep it another month at which time I was rejected. So I know what being a 238 feels like. We got the first round and then here comes the second.

@RobertWSweeting



**Ken Temple, Riga, Latvia, Europe**  
"The Pensive Prince" (The Essence Of Happiness),  
"Grumpy Puppy" (A Tale of Puppy Love), "Jinx the Cat" (A Hero's Measure) / Fables-in-verse for Middle Grade

STORIES: One can be born into fame and wealth, but happiness is not a birthright. Cat Prince Chibi discovers why he is famous, yet unpopular; rich, though unhappy.  
BIO: Born behind the 'Iron Curtain' USSR and having lived in both Africa and Western Europe, I have observed and learned from a rich bouquet of unique cultures. Through my work, I intend to build up not merely the moral fiber of the children, but their 'grey matter' as well.

MANTRA: Frankly, I am glad when a body you are about to invest huge amounts of time and trust in shows its true colors early on - a stitch in time... I subscribe to the view that agencies are entitled to cherry-pick whom to represent, provided they are ethical about it. After all, I certainly am not seeking half-

hearted representation, ergo.  
[poozestan.tumblr.com](http://poozestan.tumblr.com)



**Andrew Toy, Louisville, KY**  
"The Man in the Box" / Commercial-Fantasy

STORY: The box was his drug. It lulled him, cared for him and fulfilled his deepest desires... for a cost too high to pay.  
BIO: Funds for book will go to adopting our first child. I have just started a blog that will begin to promote my book soon enough. As for the book itself, I am constantly revising. Always changing. Never satisfied until the story is perfect.  
MANTRA: Rejections are certain. Acceptance is possible. What matters is that my stories remain forever in the hearts of those who read them.

@atoy1208



**Ileana Vasquez**  
BIO: I am a filmmaker presently in post production with my directorial debut A New Yorker

@Paris starring Carlos Leal of Casino Royale and The Way by Emilio Estevez. I am also in development with three other feature projects - a drama/romance and a sequel in the fantasy-drama-adventure genres.

[www.facebook.com/NewYorker.Paris](http://www.facebook.com/NewYorker.Paris)



**Kwians Whitehead, Chicago, IL**  
"The Fallen: The Rise of Vashon" / Urban Fantasy

STORY: Vashon is a young man who is tasked with the removal of immortal-made drugs while trying to maintain a

relationship with the beautiful Oshanti.  
BIO: I have always had the creative gene. My father used to always tell me I had the power to make magnificence out of the mundane. That is why I wrote a book about vampires with true bite while simultaneously working on a comic book in honor of Travon Martin.  
MANTRA: With the thousands who want me to fail I work my hardest for the one that want me to succeed.

@thelastson1922



**Coral Williams, San Diego, CA**  
"If Pirates Took Over My School" / CPB

STORY: A little boy dreams about what his school would be like if pirates took over his school and the lessons they would teach instead.

BIO: Mom's the name and reading to my little one is the game. I graduated with a degree in Literature and Writing and have been writing children's stories ever since. I was the head blog writer for Smile Warehouse from May 2009 to October 2011.

MANTRA: Best friend always says, "There's no point not to try. The worst you can hear is no and it leaves exactly where you are."

@Coraleawilliams



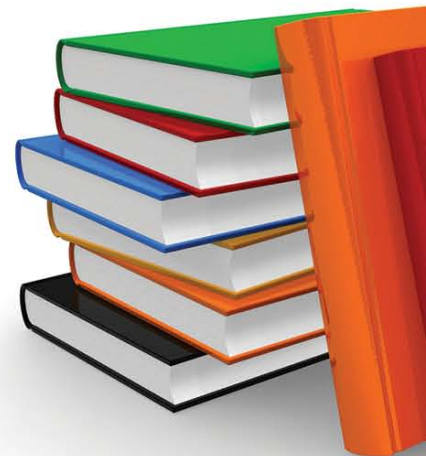
**Ned Wisnefske, Roanoke, VA**  
"The Ought" / Dr. Seuss-like picture story book for young adults

BIO: Ned Wisnefske is Professor of Religion and Philosophy at Roanoke College

in Salem, VA. He is the author of several academic books on ethics and religion, most recently, "God Hides." "The Ought" was originally published as an essay for college students studying ethics.

MANTRA: How many times can I be rejected by the same publisher on the same day for the same manuscript? 238.

Hollywood & Vine would be delighted to connect these authors with a literary agent, publisher or other opportunity. To contact any of the 49 writers profiled above, email [noble49@hollywoodvinemag.com](mailto:noble49@hollywoodvinemag.com). Network with The Noble 238 on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/#!/groups/214635415310230](http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/214635415310230).



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EVERY FILMMAKER PRODUCING A  
PROJECT WILL LIKELY FACE FINANCIAL  
ADVERTISITY SUCH AS

# ...FILM FINANCING BLUES

By DEVORAH CUTLER-RUBENSTEIN

**W**hether the budget of a project is 50 bucks or 50 million, the most often spoken word on a set is "No." It's a standard industry joke that people in this town are paid to say "No." Artists however must forge ahead using strategy, common sense and craft. Sometimes it's painful, even devastating, when we encounter that inevitable stop sign, blocking our creative path.

Whether you're a broke filmmaker or megabucks filmmaker, success comes to people who seem to smile and see the positive in the negative—somehow turning a "No" into a "Yes."

## Understanding How to Change the Game

One must know the game in order to change it. Planning for the "No" can be crucial. Part of an artist's job is defending the artistic turf; it's up to the artist to understand how the machinery works. Manager Marilyn R. Atlas and producer of "Real Women Have Curves" says, "You can try to engineer the perfect package or the right strategy to ensure a yes, but there are no guarantees."

However, if one puts in the time and does the homework, the chances for success vastly improve. Atlas recently met with an actor who wasn't right for her roster at that moment. But, she told him ways to prepare for representation. He did it and she ended up representing him. She suggests, "You need to know what might be a viable product for the sales climate."

## 9 Game Changing Tips

- 1 Find out what a buyer or financier already has in the pipeline, or learn the types of projects an investor previously invested in. Use judgment in whether to pitch a similar project.
- 2 Know the projects that are similar to yours in the marketplace. Investors, financiers and distributors are impressed when filmmakers are market savvy.
- 3 Buyers also appreciate it when the producer's past work is respectfully and sincerely acknowledged.
- 4 Talk to distributors and find out what piece of talent is hot now for that distributor.
- 5 Make sure to warm up the room. Even if an investor says "No," it can often be turned around if the filmmaker is someone people want to work with on a project.
- 6 Ask what it would take for the investor to say "Yes." Sometimes there is an "X" factor that no one can explain, so probe deeper.
- 7 Prepare arguments for whatever doubts imaginable.
- 8 Use 'we' in your pitch to subconsciously make investors feel a part of the team.
- 9 Take an improv class to learn how to become quick on the feet and funny in the room.



### A No is Not a No Forever: Timing Meets Persistence

A filmmaker once sold a project on the 200th submission to a company that had passed on it on the 12th submission. The package was better the 200th time around. Markets change. Needs change.

TV writer/producer Rich Halke, says "Recycle everything." He learned a great lesson from "I Love Lucy" writer Bob Schiller, who once told him to save everything he'd ever written, even if an exec passes on it. Halke recounts that Schiller said: "Always remember that network execs are simply temporary people making permanent decisions." Halke believes that "just because an exec passes on your project doesn't automatically mean it's dead. If you believe in something and an exec passes, don't throw it out—instead, just put it into a drawer and wait until that exec gets replaced, then take it out of the drawer and pitch it to the next person."

### When No is a Good Thing: Timing is Right but the People are Wrong

Halke has these words of warning on angel investors: "If an angel gets involved in your project and you find that all they want to do is dictate vs. support, it may be best to let that person and their money go on to other things. Beware of these negative people at all costs, and know how to spot the signs early. If you see drama in other parts of their life (they're narcissistic, or disrespectful to loved ones and coworkers), don't kid yourself, you are their next target... always remember that it is easier for you to replace their money than it is for you to replace your dreams."

### Understand the "No": Unearth Doubt & Concerns Then, Reboot!

Approach the situation with charm and intelligence. Use the strengths

one has as an artist, and let one's credits, contacts and/or mutual friends precede in the sales setting. Filmmakers can bring confidence into the room just knowing they are giving the other involved parties what they need.

### Stay Positive—Have the "Yes" in Your Heart

Passion sells so never give up! There is a now mythic story attributed to the legendary Samuel Goldwyn, Sr. who ran MGM. Apparently, on any project he was working on, he would invite the screenwriter on the project into his office. As soon as the screenwriter sat down he would grumble about how this is the worst piece of crap he has ever read. He would punctuate his sentiment by flinging the script into the trashcan. Those screenwriters that went over and fished out their scripts and argued passionately on behalf of their work were the writers he continued to work with. But the others who slinked away and did not fight for their scripts, he let them walk away, and stay away.

Whatever role you have in the Hollywood game, getting a movie made is like dating someone who loves to dance but doesn't want to date. No one wants to commit, so that positive commitment has to start with you. And, those of us that can dance our way through the gargoyles—laugh and find the fun in the moves—then we can expect to become the most sought after creative partners in our pond. 🌟

*Devorah Cutler-Rubenstein has over 30 years industry savvy—from studio exec to award-winning writer/director/producer and now founder of the premier script and novel submission and writer coaching service, The Script Broker®. She is an Adjunct Professor at USC, and has developed, sold and produced many hundreds of projects over the years.*

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# Inside the Agency

By JIM CIRILE



Move over, greybeards—the youngbloods are taking over. Join us now as we interview two future agents and find out what they do and most importantly, how they build their client lists.

**A**gents do not materialize overnight. Years of training and dedication are required before they are pronounced worthy. It is only then that they venture out into that dark, forbidding world of despair... Hollywood.

Alright, so how does one become an agent? Who chooses that path and why? Let's infiltrate one of Tinseltown's most prestigious agencies to chat with two up and comers who are actually seeking new writing talent. Meet Ron X. and Liz X. of the X-Factor Agency (not even vaguely close to their real names or the actual agency). So, let's get straight to the heart of the matter—list-building.

Assistants and junior agents have to assemble a client list so that when they are promoted, they're ready to go. Thus they are always scanning for fresh young talent. This may be one of the best ways to actually find representation—by hitching your wagon to someone who is not an agent yet. The flipside of that, however, is that in the meantime, they can't really work for you like an agent can. "I like to seek out young, undiscovered, untapped talent," says Liz. "I wanted to approach representing in that way rather than trying to chase the person that just directed the biggest film of last year. For me, it's really about looking for and developing new voices that no one has heard of and to tell different stories that aren't out there right now."

So even though they are not full-fledged agents yet, Ron and Liz are now representing writers... more or less on the down-low. "The feeling I get is that if we hit a gold mine, [the agency wants] to be a part of it," says Liz. "But otherwise it is something that we have to keep to ourselves a little bit so that nobody is questioning what we're doing with our time." And time is precious, because both have a full slate with their jobs as it is. Ron says he has to prepare all the materials for the many staff meetings, constantly update information in the system as well as service other agents' clients and monitor his assigned territory, which in this case means the mini-majors, smaller studios and

financing companies. "That is where a lot of my time is spent," he sighs. "But everybody knows that I have my own clients. I'm trying to get the senior agents on the team to back me up. Slowly but surely, they are unofficially letting me do more and sign my own writers."

So just where do they find their clients? "There are lots of things out there at your disposal as a beginning screenwriter," says Ron. "A lot of my clients right now (I found) through Virtual Pitch Fest and other pitchfests, as well as through USC and Scriptapalooza and you name it." He strongly advises attending these events. "Most of the time it's the young guys, the young agents or managers that go to these things. It's crucial." Ron says he is looking for "really good writing, high concept and a commercially viable idea. That is the most important thing because it's so tough out there right now. I don't mean you have to sell out completely, but try to find your own voice within the commercial. I've read so many scripts that are just these dark dramas that are very well-written, but you can't really do anything with them." Liz adds, "Keep writing. It may not be this script that's going to attract an agent, director or producer. But by just continuing to write and come up with new ideas, you're also better for us in representation. When we see somebody hungry that has drive, and we like this screenplay, and those five ideas you just said were really great, that's more appealing than when you only have one script and nothing else to show after that."

So, jettison the attitude that talking to an assistant isn't worth your time. Because in a blink of an eye, the youngbloods will be promoted. Get in with them early and if you're very lucky, you may well be invited along for the ride. 🍿



*Jim Cirile is a Los Angeles-based writer/producer. For ten years, Jim was a columnist for Creative Screenwriting and was a contributing writer for Script. He is the founder of top-rated screenwriting coverage/development service [www.coverageink.com](http://www.coverageink.com). His latest film "Liberator" starring Lou Ferrigno and Ed Asner hits the festival circuit this year.*





# THE FIRST QUARTER



**Cinema Nowadays: Adults are the Main Moviegoer**

By PAU BRUNET

**B**ox office news is the main link between the executives and all entertainment professionals in Hollywood. Like with the TV-ratings, the box office is the arena where the film business sets the rules of the market. There are also other key tools such as the Internet, but the box office still casts a big shadow over it all. This is the main reason why *Hollywood & Vine* has launched this new column, to present some of the rules or trends that the box office dictates.

The U.S. remains the biggest film market in the world, due in part to the income that theaters provide. More than two-thirds of the U.S. population, 221.2 million people, watched a movie in the theaters over 2011. It is also interesting to know that the average age of the frequent moviegoer has grown older this year. The biggest chunk of the population buying tickets is between ages 25 and 39 (a 26% growth in that age group compared to 2010) while the younger audience, 12-17 and 18-24, went down 6.5% and 11% respectively.

However, the younger audience is still buying 30% of the tickets even though they only represent 18% of the total population. While the 25- to 49-year-olds are buying 36% of the box office while representing 35% of the total population.

Over the first quarter in 2012, the U.S. box office shows numbers that rise 22%, compared to the same period last year, reaching a gross of \$2.37B. The mega-success "The Hunger Games" collected

\$155M in its opening weekend which reinforces the great results of this first quarter. But it is also important to point out a large amount of mid-budget movies like "The Vow," "Safe House," "21 Jump Street," "Journey 2" or "The Lorax," overachieved past the expectations. All of that said, the 2012 first quarter has been the third best in the history of the U.S. box office, behind 2010—when "Avatar" made the numbers rocket to \$2.6B gross, 10.5% above from this year's gross.

Moreover, 2012 is now cooking perhaps one of the most anticipated Summer seasons in a long time with the releases of movies like: "Snow White and the Huntsman," "The Dark Knight Rises," "The Avengers," "Madagascar 3" or "The Amazing Spider-Man."

All of these make good news for 2012 and the industry is expecting a great year for the U.S. and also for the international numbers due to all the key markets being in crescendo since last year. It is already forgotten that the year opened with the first big flop: Disney's "John Carter." Hollywood, keep the good news coming to dilute the flops. 🍿

*Pau Brunet is the Editor of Boxoffice.es, a successful film industry news and Spanish Box Office analysis website that is followed closely by industry professionals in Spain, United States and Spanish speaking territories such as Argentina and Mexico. Brunet is also Development Consultant via Boxoffice Consulting, from which he has analyzed over 40 films in the last four years. Brunet resides in L.A. where he continues his work as a box office specialist and advisor.*

## Check the Gate

By YVONNE MONTROYA

When shooting on film (versus digital), one of the most important jobs on set is checking the gate. This task is given to the 1st Assistant Cameraman. Before moving on to a new setup (or scene), the Assistant Director asks him/her to check the gate. The process involves removing the lens from the front of the camera and opening the aperture to see inside where the film is exposed. The 1st AC checks for debris like dust or hair. A hair in this case could actually be a small sliver of celluloid that has broken off from friction caused by the film passing through the gate. Nothing is moved on the production set until the gate is checked because if the 1st AC finds any kind of impurities the footage is no good and everything must be shot again. If the gate is fine, the crew moves to a new angle and begins shooting again. Checking the gate only applies when using film. Digital cameras do not have a gate so the process is not relevant when shooting digital. 🍿





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By **YVONNE MONTOYA**

"I am delighted to be joining Cinemagic once again to share my experience in film and television with students from Ireland and Los Angeles. Cinemagic offers a unique educational experience to students who might otherwise not receive the chance to learn about the entertainment industry," says Brosnan.


The festival, which is based in Belfast, Ireland, began in 1990. Since then, it has expanded to include events in Glasgow, Scotland; Nottingham, England; and Castres, France. Last year in the U.S. they hosted film events in New York, Boston, San Francisco and this is their third year in Los Angeles.

Cinemagic offers preview screenings, workshops for schools, interactive forums, a filmmaker competition, and classes in various aspects of television and filmmaking. One of the many benefits for young people who attend the festival is the cultural diversity it offers. They have the opportunity to work with others from different cultural backgrounds, and communicate with them through the medium of film. The workshops help young people develop filmmaking skills, interpersonal skills and contribute to their deeper understanding of cultural difference.

In addition, the festival provides workshops young people can attend hosted by representatives from production companies, script writing professionals and film experts who offer hands-on experience in scriptwriting, directing, acting, documentary film making and discussions on topics such as film funding, journalism and post-screening talks on various foreign language films.

Cinemagic as an organization is an award-winning charity that inspires and engages young people ages 4 to 25 through the magic of film, television and digital technologies to learn about the world around them and discuss important issues. The non-profit hosts school visits and workshops attended by top industry professionals who demonstrate a variety of techniques in a range of cinematic disciplines.

Every year Cinemagic recruits 25 young film consultants to play a significant role in the planning and promotion of the Belfast festival. The young consultants are given the opportunity to work with the Cinemagic team by helping advise on the choice of films for the festival. They watch and critique the films submitted from around the globe.

Cinemagic also works with celebrity filmmakers and a number of prominent film and television organizations and educational institutions in Los Angeles, such as The Jim Henson Company, Walt Disney Animation Studios, The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, HBO, 20th Century Fox, Remote Control Studios, Pepperdine University, New York Film Academy, Variety and Inner-City Arts. To find out more about Cinemagic, visit [www.cinemagic.org.uk](http://www.cinemagic.org.uk). 

*Yvonne Montoya graduated with honors from The Los Angeles Film School, majoring in producing. Her producing credits include film and new media projects. She produced the independent feature film, "Janked," which hit the film festival circuit this year. She is also an associate producer on "The BReaKiNG iNTo HoLLyWooD Show," which aired on the Transit TV Network with 1.15 million viewers.*

The Cinemagic International Film and Television Festival for Young People experienced a magical moment on its opening night—an appearance by James Bond himself, actor and producer Pierce Brosnan. It was his second year supporting the six-day event that was held at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel and Bungalows in Santa Monica, CA this past February.



Student filmmakers in awe of Brosnan



Brosnan openly shares his journey in a Q&A session.



Musical performance by teenagers from Northern Ireland



Cinemagic Chief Executive Joan Burney Keatings and Brosnan



# Meet ABC Casting Director Mark Teschner

By JILL JORDAN

A magnetic man with electric eyes and a warm smile, casting director Mark Teschner has the art of acting in his blood. Hailing from New York City, Teschner was born into a family that supported the arts, going to the ballet and the theatre, bringing him to his first Broadway play at the tender age of seven. Casting, for Teschner, was a natural calling after studying acting in college and pursuing the craft for three years following, for he understood the actor's language.

For the past 28 years, Mark Teschner excelled as a casting director. Rolling Stone magazine described him as “an actor's casting director” and TV Guide noted his “unparalleled track record for finding new talent.” For the past 22 years, Teschner has been the casting director for ABC's “General Hospital.” For his work on the daytime show he has received four Emmy Awards for Outstanding Achievement for a Casting Director of a Drama Series, as well as an additional five nominations.

Teschner is also a six-time recipient of the Artios Award for Outstanding Achievement in Daytime Drama Casting, given by the Casting Society of America (CSA), and has received 15 additional nominations. In addition to his work on “General Hospital,” he has cast feature films, including “Elephant White” starring Kevin Bacon and the recently released “And They're Off.” Teschner currently serves on the Board of Governors for the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences and is a former vice president of CSA.

## Q&A What do you like most about casting?

I love reading a script and bringing it to life. I love the creative process, the whole creative process. Coming up with ideas, auditioning the actors, seeing it to fruition and then literally watching it on television a few weeks later. That's what I love about daytime, it's so immediate. You cast somebody and they shoot and it's on the air. I love watching the screen and seeing I had a hand in that and people are enjoying it or they're moved by it or they're entertained by it. I'm very passionate about what I do, so I definitely have an emotional connection to the work. I'm not somebody that can just cast it and not pay attention or be disinterested. It matters to me. I take it very personally in the sense that I'm invested in the process.

## Q&A What are some key things you look for when auditioning an actor?

First and foremost talent. The bottom line is if you don't have the talent you won't be back. For the series regulars, it's the package. It's the talent, it's the charisma, it's the presence, it's the sex appeal, it's that indefinable combination. Is this somebody that the audience is going to want to watch for three or four years? Is this somebody that can take what's on the page and make it interesting? Is this somebody that will engage the audience? Is there something appealing about this person, regardless of the type of role they're playing? There's this misconception that good looks in this industry are enough—good looks will get you in the door, but they won't keep the door open.



Mark Teschner, Casting Director for ABC

## Q&A If an actor doesn't get the part, does it mean they weren't the best actor for the role or are there other factors?

There are many factors that go into the casting of a role. There are some fantastic actors that read for me that are just not right for the role. And for any number of reasons—they could be too old, too young, too edgy, not edgy enough, they might not have the right look, they might be dynamic people but not right for the role, but if I like an actor, it's my job to remember them. I tell actors, ‘don't go in to get the job, that's out of your control, the only

thing you can control is your work. Go in to do good work.’ And if you make it about the work, then when you leave the room, your legacy is your talent and your dignity.

## Q&A Can you tell if a good actor just didn't perform well in an audition, or if an actor bombs an audition do they come off as a bad actor?

When an actor walks in the room, I get an immediate visceral sense of their energy, their presence, whether they're even right for the role or not. But even if an actor walks in and I just have a sense that they're not what I'm looking for, I'll pay attention because there are hundreds of other roles I cast a year and maybe they're right for that one role that



is going to come up. When an actor starts reading [their sides], I can tell about 15 or 20 seconds in if the complexity is there, because it's just something that is in that actor at that given time when they're reading for a role.

The opposite of a good audition is an actor that comes in and has not made any choices, who is excusing their lack of commitment to the material. Either they worked late or got the material late, yeah that happens, but they have to be able to act on a moment's notice. I've had the experience of hiring two actors for series regulars where they had the material for 15 minutes. They came in to read for one role, we switched them to another, they had 15 minutes and they booked that role. So it can be done.

***“When an actor starts reading [their sides], I can tell about 15 or 20 seconds in if the complexity is there.”***

**Q&A** **How much does an actor's headshot matter in the initial process for getting selected for the audition?**

An actor's headshot, particularly with a young actor that might not have substantial credits is very important because that is what is going to engage a casting director if their resume is not engaging.

We get thousands of submissions. For a most recent role, I received 2,500 submissions—so that headshot really has to stop me and engage me. Now, I want to be very clear, a headshot is the essence of the actor,

it should be what that actor looks like at their best, as opposed to what they think they look like.

**Q&A** **Why do you think some actors break into Hollywood and others don't? Is it just a numbers game?**

No one has the answer to that. This is a town where there are people that are beautiful and talented and should be working all the time and they can't get a job. And it's a town where there are some people that work that don't seem overly talented or unique or special. There's no answer. There's just an overwhelming amount of actors in this town and there's just not enough jobs. And it's unfortunate there's a lot of talented people that don't work and it's not necessarily a reflection on their talent. That's a question that I don't think anybody can answer. We can try to answer, but that's one of the great mysteries of making it or not in Hollywood.

**Q&A** **Working actors deal with rejection on a daily basis in some capacity. What advice can you offer to help relieve their anxiety?**

It's hard not to take it personally when it is personal. But it may not be a reflection on that specific actor, they may not be right for the role. If you're here to just make it and be a star, the odds are so miniscule that you'll just be miserable and you'll just leave this town broken. But if you're here because you love acting and you have a connection to the craft of acting and that's why you're doing it, your skill and your talent will sustain you. 🌟

*Hailing from sunny southern California, **Jill Jordan** is an actress with a degree in Broadcast Journalism and a passion for dance. For her latest artistic endeavors, please visit her site at [www.Jill-Jordan.com](http://www.Jill-Jordan.com).*



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# RENOWNED VOICE OF NANCY CARTWRIGHT

EMMY AWARD-WINNING ACTRESS BEST KNOWN AS THE VOICE OF SPIKE-HEADED UNDERACHIEVER BART SIMPSON. SHE ALSO GIVES HER VOICE TO RALPH WIGGUM, NELSON MUNTZ, TODD FLANDERS AND VARIOUS CHARACTERS IN THE "THE SIMPSONS" HOMETOWN OF SPRINGFIELD.



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*By* **ANGELA M. HUTCHINSON**

*Photography By* **RAY KATCHETORIAN**

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# N

## Nancy Cartwright

Nancy Cartwright has performed at the microphone for over two decades. She has lent her voice to characters on various animated series, including "The Simpsons," "Richie Rich," "Animaniacs," "Pinky and the Brain," "The Final Work," "Timberwolf" and "Rugrats." She has played the voice of Rufus the Naked Mole Rat in "Kim Possible" and Todd Daring on Disney's "The Replacements."

While Cartwright is best known for her work as a voice-over artist, she is not camera shy. As an actress for film and television, she has portrayed memorable roles in numerous TV series, including "Fame," "Empty Nest," "Cheers" and "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" along with movies such as "The Twilight Zone," "Godzilla" and the lead role in the TV movie "Marian Rose White."

Cartwright received an Emmy Award and an Annie Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement in Voice-Over Performances as Bart Simpson. They are displayed alongside the multiple Emmys for "The Simpsons," "Animaniacs," "Pinky, Elmyra and the Brain." She also received a People's Choice Award and the DramaLogue Award for her one-woman play "In Search of Fellini." Her one-woman show which is based on her book, world-premiered in August 2004 at Edinburgh Fringe Festival. She is now developing it as a screenplay.

In addition to her voice and acting work, she has transitioned to producing as well, starting two companies, Cartwright Entertainment, Inc. and SportsBlast, LLC. Cartwright Entertainment produces a wide range of creative projects that support Cartwright's ever-expanding career interests. These include audio books, animation projects, documentary works, stage plays, lectures, presentations and innovative, high-quality content that

expands her career goals.

Cartwright's production company, SportsBlast, and its partner, Turner Sports Interactive which hosts Nascar.com, were recognized with the Silver Award by the Houston Film Festival for their original series "The Kellys." The series also received an Aurora Gold Award and Cartwright Entertainment received an Aurora Gold Award for her "Day in the Life" documentary. SportsBlast also created SportsScopes, a humorous mix of sports picks and astrology. The production company's most recent venture is "Smoke Your Tires," an iTunes app featuring International Speedway Corporation tracks and allowing the player to burn rubber and simulate victory spins.

Cartwright actively supports many non-profit organizations that help children, including Famous Fone Friends, Make-A-Wish Foundation, The Way to Happiness Foundation, PALS (Police Activities League Supporters) and Boys and Girls Clubs of America. She is Honorary Mayor of the North San Fernando Valley in Los Angeles and actively participates in her local community. She is the co-founder of Happy House, a non-profit organization dedicated to Building Better Families. She is also a member of Women in Film, ASIFA (Association Internationale du Film d'Animation), Women in Animation and The Chouinard Foundation.

*Hollywood & Vine* takes a behind-the-scenes look at Cartwright's unique life as it relates to the phenomenon of "The Simpsons." To learn even more about the journey of America's favorite voice, check out Cartwright's best selling autobiography, "My Life as a Ten-Year-Old-Boy" or visit [www.nancycartwright.com](http://www.nancycartwright.com).





Nancy Cartwright in a recording session

**Q&A How did you break into voice-over acting?**

I got my start at WING radio in Dayton, Ohio in 1976. I learned every aspect of radio production, but lived for the times that I played opposite one of the deejays, pretending that I was a lifeguard in the company pool. It was a little PR campaign that gave me confidence that I could create a character out of thin air and actually get paid for it.

**Q&A Tell us about your experience when you first landed the voice of Bart Simpson? Did you know how successful "The Simpsons" would be?**

At the very beginning when we were on "The Tracey Ullman Show," no one knew how successful the show would be. In fact, Fox wasn't even a network at the time. They were brand new and Tracey's show was only available in 70% of the market. My first experiences were quite memorable as I heard that the audience loved our little vignettes. Those 30-second bumpers brought so much laughter to the show. In fact, I showed up to one of the tapings and was introduced to the audience and they absolutely went bananas! It was right then that I knew that we had something here, but I didn't quite know what! The magnitude of the success is beyond comprehension! All I knew was we were doing what no one else dared to do: put animation on primetime, and that was very intriguing.

**Q&A What advice can you offer an actor who is looking to branch out into voice-over work?**

One thing you can do is take a tape recorder and record your favorite animated shows on television. Then play it back and mimic those voices. Keep doing that as best you can. Get used to playing around and if you don't sound like them, don't worry about it. The idea is to create a character that is believable. Once you can duplicate, you can then seek out a good class to take. This will become your playground for trying out new and different ideas/characters.

The duplication aspect is significant because you are going to have to take direction from the instructor and then, at some time, the director of the job you will eventually get. Also, put together a short demo of your work. This is so easy with today's modern technology. If you don't live in one of the major markets for voice-overs, no worries. There is plenty of non-union work to do in your own town. Look at what is out there. Learn from an expert. Read books. Watch shows. And most of all, practice, practice, practice.

**Q&A What kind of voice preparation goes into preparing your voice for a role after you've booked it/audition? Do you have any quirky vocal exercises you do?**

Interesting, but I don't really have any special routine or exercise I do to prepare me. I just do it! That said, I always have my ear open for new/different sounds, especially accents. I love slipping into a sound



that you might hear in Edinburgh, London or Sydney. And even more challenging, positioning those voices with someone from Atlanta, Boston or Dallas. I practically break my own brain by talking to myself!

**Q&A What aspect of voice-over work do you like most? And what is the most challenging aspect?**

I have always been very productive and the more things I can get done in one day, the happier I am. That said, I love the fact that voice-overs take so little time compared to most other aspects of entertainment. While my part only takes hours to do on "The Simpsons," it takes another 5-6 months to actually complete that episode. This kind of freedom is priceless because I can work my schedule to get involved in other projects, especially in my own community.

I am the founder of Happy House, a non-profit that provides the Good Choices program to help at-risk kids with a simple, fun way to make better choices in life. You can find out more about it by going to [www.goodchoicesprogram.org](http://www.goodchoicesprogram.org). In fact, I am having a fundraiser at my home on May 19. All of the info is on the charity's website at [www.happyhouse.org](http://www.happyhouse.org).

The most challenging aspect is how to NOT sound like Bart, Nelson, Ralph, Rod, Kearney, DataBase, etc. for other shows. Those voices are so prominent that they are exclusive to "The Simpsons," as you can imagine. But I love the challenge and continue to create more and more. Since "The Simpsons" I became Chuckie on "The Rugrats" and created the voice of Todd Daring on "The Replacements." Such fun and genuine satisfaction to know that we all have an endless 'supply' of creativity that is just waiting to be tapped.

*"Jobs will come and go,  
but your own creativity  
is limitless."*

**Q&A What are some upcoming projects you are working on?**

I am currently writing a screenplay called "In Search of Fellini" based on an adventure I took as a young woman. I wrote and performed it originally as a one-woman show. I have never felt such utter joy as I have in the writing of this movie. It feels so good to actually create something out of nothing—I have so much more respect for writers and what they go through in their creative process. And the best thing of all is that I can act out each of the parts! Ironically, I have outgrown my own part—I can't even play my own mother!

**Q&A How do you deal with rejection when you are not given a role?**

I say, "Oh well!" and move on to the next audition. The bottom line is that there are as many viewpoints as there are people, so rejections are to be expected. The secret is to always have your own creativity, your own projects... a play, a showcase, a staged reading, etc. in the works so that you aren't so dependent on that one audition. Jobs will come and go, but your own creativity is limitless.

**Q&A What's the coolest part of this business for you?**

The fact that I can be invited to speak at any given university and see posters of me all over the place and read an article

## NANCY'S FAVES

**Cartoon:** "The Simpsons," of course!

**Freeway:** 10 Freeway into Pasadena

**Beach:** Maui

**Industry book:** "Chuck Jones—The Life and Times of an Animated Cartoonist"

**Comedienne:** Lucille Ball

**TV show:** "Modern Family"

**Music artist:** Michael Buble

**Food dish:** Anything made by Yvonne, my housekeeper-turned-Chef!

**Coffee/tea drink:** Arnie P (Lemonade + Ice Tea)

**Gadget:** My iPhone, and my favorite app is "Smoke Your Tires"

that was in the school paper the day before announcing that I was going to be a guest artist at their student union and walk through the entire campus surrounded by thousands of students and not have a single person recognize me. I just think that is hilarious! The anonymity of being a voice-over artist is such a treasured aspect. I can only imagine what it would be like to be living in such a public eye that my own life wouldn't be my own...but to be on the most successful scripted show in the history of television and not have the constant invasion of privacy—it's an ideal scene.

**Q&A Finish this sentence: Breaking into Hollywood is all about...**

...being at the right place at the right time and being ready to produce what is needed and wanted right then and there. Amen. ★

*Angela Marie Hutchinson is Editor-in-Chief of Hollywood & Vine and the author of two published books. She is also a casting director and former talent agent. Currently, she is producing a feature film that begins production this fall. Hutchinson graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.S.E. degree in Industrial Operations Engineering and was selected to attend The Media Academy at Harvard University.*





## Right of Publicity

No Doubt It's Worth It!

By TIFANIE JODEH, ESQ.

The right of publicity prevents the unauthorized commercial use of an individual's name, likeness, or other recognizable aspects of



one's persona. It gives an individual the exclusive right to license the use of their identity for commercial gain. Protections have recently been expanded to a celebrity's "likeness" which can include voice or vocal style. If an individual has a commercial interest or value to his/her name and likeness, he/she is generally afforded protection. It is an area of intangible personal property that can be marketed and used, assigned or licensed and sometimes passed down to heirs.

In the U.S., the right of publicity is largely protected by state common or statutory law. Only about 19 of the states have statutes or laws recognizing a right of publicity. An exemplification of this principle can be found in the No Doubt vs. Activision Publishing case. The American rock band No Doubt brought an action against video game manufacturer, Activision Publishing, alleging that Activision used No Doubt's likeness in an unauthorized format in the video game "Band Hero."

According to the complaint, the Defendant created a game where players have the ability to make lifelike embodiments (an Avatar) of No Doubt singing, dancing and performing. The Plaintiff and Defendant specifically contracted for animated character representations of the band performing three No Doubt songs. The contract further stated that any other use would be subject to Plaintiff's approval. Instead, the Plaintiff alleged that Defendant created the game to cause members of No Doubt to perform vocally as solo artists without the other band members to over 60 unauthorized songs. The Plaintiff alleges that they only allowed the name and likeness as a collective group and not individually and, further, that the Avatar function of the games did not allow for the Defendant to manipulate the name and likeness of the band.

The court found that Plaintiff contracted with Activision so that they would only engage in certain contracted for activities. Plaintiff controlled the rights it was allowing Activision to incorporate into the videogame. Subsequently, Defendant engaged in certain additional activities that were not contractually permissible. Thus, No Doubt had a valid breach of contract cause of action and that they had a valid tort cause of action for violation of the Plaintiff's right of Publicity. No Doubt will likely be granted damages for commercial loss.

The best way to avoid a violation of the right of publicity is to obtain an individual's consent to use his/her name or likeness in a commercial product. 📧



*Tifanie Jodeh is partner at Entertainment Law Group, dedicated to corporate, business and entertainment affairs. She can be reached at [Tifanie@entertainmentlawgrp.com](mailto:Tifanie@entertainmentlawgrp.com).*

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## 12 Celebrity Moms' Tweets



Follow ME  
(@diarydiva)  
for tenacious tweets on  
@HVMagazine  
celebrities  
in the news!



**@JLo:** Up late playing cards with my Mommy!! #besttime #familia Happy Mothers Day to all the Mamas out there  
**@diarydiva:** @JLo That's nice u r so cool with your mom!



**@jadapsmith:** This Mother's Day...we put it all on the table.  
**@DiaryDiva:** @jadapsmith I know u have a lot to reveal... r u & Will still together? #imjustasking BTW, thanks 4 producing the film I acted in written by ur brother!



**@MrsSOsbourne:** The NJ tanning mom looks like a used brown leather suitcase.  
**@DiaryDiva:** @MrsSOsbourne Now that was funnnnnny!



**@Bethenny:** Having children turns your table manners into that of an animal. I used to have wonderful manners. Now I pick up food w/ my hands.  
**@diarydiva:** @Bethenny You might want to change that habit and fast! Lol



**@MariahCarey:** Singing at this altitude is almost like giving birth to twins, which I did last year on this day.. lol! Happy birthday, dembabies!!  
**@DiaryDiva:** @MariahCarey I bet your lungs were swollen after having #dembabies!



**@\_SalmaHayek:** \*falls asleep on the bed\*  
**@DiaryDiva:** @SalmaHayek \*kids will do that to you\*



**@Kandi:** I just spent the last 30min scrubbing dog diarrhea out of my daughter's pink shag carpet.... I'm disgusted & irritated rt now...  
**@DiaryDiva:** @Kandi Whew, I know you must love that dog because if that were me, that dog might be in the pound & Empire on its way!



**@MichelleObama:** Every mother works hard, and every woman deserves to be respected. —mo  
**@DiaryDiva:** @MichelleObama A great quote for every woman.



**@TOOGOODbyJenny:** Our #TOOGOODbyJenny textures, colors and icons were used to enhance early #learning and story telling for #baby. @jennymccarthy  
**@DiaryDiva:** @jennymccarthy Ok, so you're saying buy your high-priced bedding linens for your baby and he/she will learn faster? #noma'am...



**@justdemi:** Thanks everyone for your help in finding my new name!  
**@DiaryDiva:** @justdemi So should your kids get a new name too?



**@vwofficial:** Read HILARIOUS anecdotes between mom and daughter by @liesitellmyd #LiesITellMyDaughter  
**@DiaryDiva:** @vwofficial I knew my mom was lying to me sometimes!



**@KellyRipa:** Street musician in front of Starbucks is so great I don't care that I'm locked out of my apt building.  
**@diarydiva:** @KellyRipa Any excuse to get away from the kids screaming MOMMY!!!





**T**exarkana-native Mary Nicole Walker is a former Louisiana news reporter turned Hollywood starlet on the rise. Walker earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff where she founded the school's chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists, and served as president. She transitioned from her reporting career to acting full-time. While living in Hollywood, Walker worked on shows like "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and co-starred in "7th Commandment," a short film executive produced by Will and Jada Pinkett Smith.

Walker also has production experience and served as a director's assistant to Mark Helfrich, where she worked alongside actor Nicolas Cage. Walker loves all aspects of the film and TV industry. She is especially gifted at comedy but loves dramatic roles as well. In Walker's leisure time, she enjoys hanging out with her family in Texas and staying fit by running. While there are many talented actresses pursuing their craft, Walker is one of the few who has the natural charisma and ability to connect with audiences on stage and screen. Walker's comedic timing has brought her audiences to tears of laughter. Her witty spirit and bodacious thoughts are what make the Diary Diva column of *Hollywood & Vine* the most talked about section of the magazine, and often what *H&V* readers check out first.

**Q&A** What's your favorite part about being the Diary Diva columnist for *Hollywood & Vine*?  
I love keeping up with the stars. It's so funny to see their real personality come out when they tweet.

**Q&A** You have a lot of unique 'run-into' experiences with celebrities such as Tyler Perry, Will Smith and Nicolas Cage....Tell us some of the other celebrities you've met and what's the most memorable interaction you had with them?  
That would definitely have to be when I met Queen Latifah (well tried to meet). I was invited to her movie premiere for "Last Holiday," also starring the handsome LL Cool J. Like after all Hollywood premieres there's an after party/dinner meet and greet of the cast and producers. I found my way over to Queen's VIP area with the hopes of introducing myself and congratulating her on her success. I walked up to her right after she finished speaking to another fan and right when I reached my hand out to say hello she quickly turned around and told her body guard she did not want to talk to me nor shake my hand. She turned back around looked at me steady shaking her head no. Till this day I don't know what that was about! I was so disappointed in her attitude.

**Q&A** You pursued your acting career for 5 years before making the move to travel and do acting outside L.A. Tell us about some of your industry experiences in Louisiana's and Texas.

I decided to leave LA for personal reasons but that didn't stop my career. I continued to pursue work in Louisiana and got a job as director's assistant to Mark Helfrich while he was directing "Season of the Witch," starring Nicolas Cage. On that set I worked with some of Hollywood's greats like Oscar award-winning Dante Spinotti and actor Ron Pearlman. I've also co-starred in a local commercial and been featured in several films and TV shows. Louisiana film and TV market is number three in the country! The work for actors there is booming and has been for years. It's also more affordable and family-oriented.

In Texas, I worked as a production coordinator on the indie film "Open Gate" directed by Dan Jackson. My roots are from the South so it feels good to be home. Leaving L.A. allowed me to gain behind-the-scenes experience and meet A-list industry professionals.

**Q&A** Was it scary to not only film your upcoming horror movie "Of the Dead" in the woods, but also you and the crew and cast camped out there?!

Yes! OMG, that was an experience! It was like a new "Blair Witch Project" type movie. After I received the call I got the part it was revealed to me that we would be filming in the woods. As an actress you gotta put your fears behind you and do the job and that's exactly what I did. We actually slept in tents and built a fire and used an outhouse! NEWSFLASH: I was so afraid and cold when it got real late at night that I snuck away from camp and sleep in the van! Lol

**Q&A** What is the best book you've read on acting and what tips or techniques did you learn?  
"The Power of the Actor" by Ivana Chubbuck. It really teaches you how to let go and use your life experiences to help you get to that place in your mind in every scene.





**Do you plan to move back to L.A.? Or do you prefer working in smaller markets?**

Well, I recently signed with an agent in Texas but I do plan on moving back to LA. at some point. I still visit and keep in touch with my industry contacts there. I hope to some day buy a condo in Malibu!



**Since you've worked as an on-air news reporter in Louisiana for an ABC affiliate did that experience help you land any reporter roles?**

Yes, I was cast as an entertainment reporter in the movie "Fanaddict" because of my former work as an on-camera reporter. Any work you've done in your life will equip you to act better.



**Now, you take pride in your faith as a Christian. Tell us about the table reading where you refused to say God's name and vain. How did the director respond?**

I am a believer, and I love Christ. I've been on several auditions where the Lord's name was taken in vain in the script. At that particular table read, I refuse to say it without making an uproar and simply skipped over it. I've never had a problem from any director. There have been times when I didn't get the part but that's fine. I'd rather have my life in heaven. You truly have to stand for your beliefs and integrity in this business or else you will do anything. You will lose yourself even with

the money and fame. Thank God I learned from others who have paved the way for me that it isn't worth it.



**What is the ideal role you'd like to play and who would be your leading man and why?**

I have dreamed of playing Olympic Gold Medalist Florence Griffith Joyner also known as "Flo Jo." She is such an inspiration to me. She was a mother, a daughter, an actress, a famous track star. I am a former track runner and currently still run for a hobby. I am also the niece to track Coach Roy "Doc" Walker of my old high school. He even has a track meet named after him: The Doc Walker Relays. He was inducted into the Arkansas Track and Field Hall of Fame. I feel Flo Jo and I are so similar. She was known for her flashy style and long nails! She was a sprint runner and so was I. She also took pride in her appearance and loved her family. She died very young at the age of 38. It puzzles me how such an athletic healthy woman could die in her sleep while having a seizure. I would love to play her in a film. 📺

*Angela Marie Hutchinson is Editor-in-Chief of Hollywood & Vine and the author of two published books. She is also a casting director and former talent agent. Currently, she is producing a feature film that begins production this fall. Hutchinson graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.S.E. degree in Industrial Operations Engineering and was selected to attend The Media Academy at Harvard University.*



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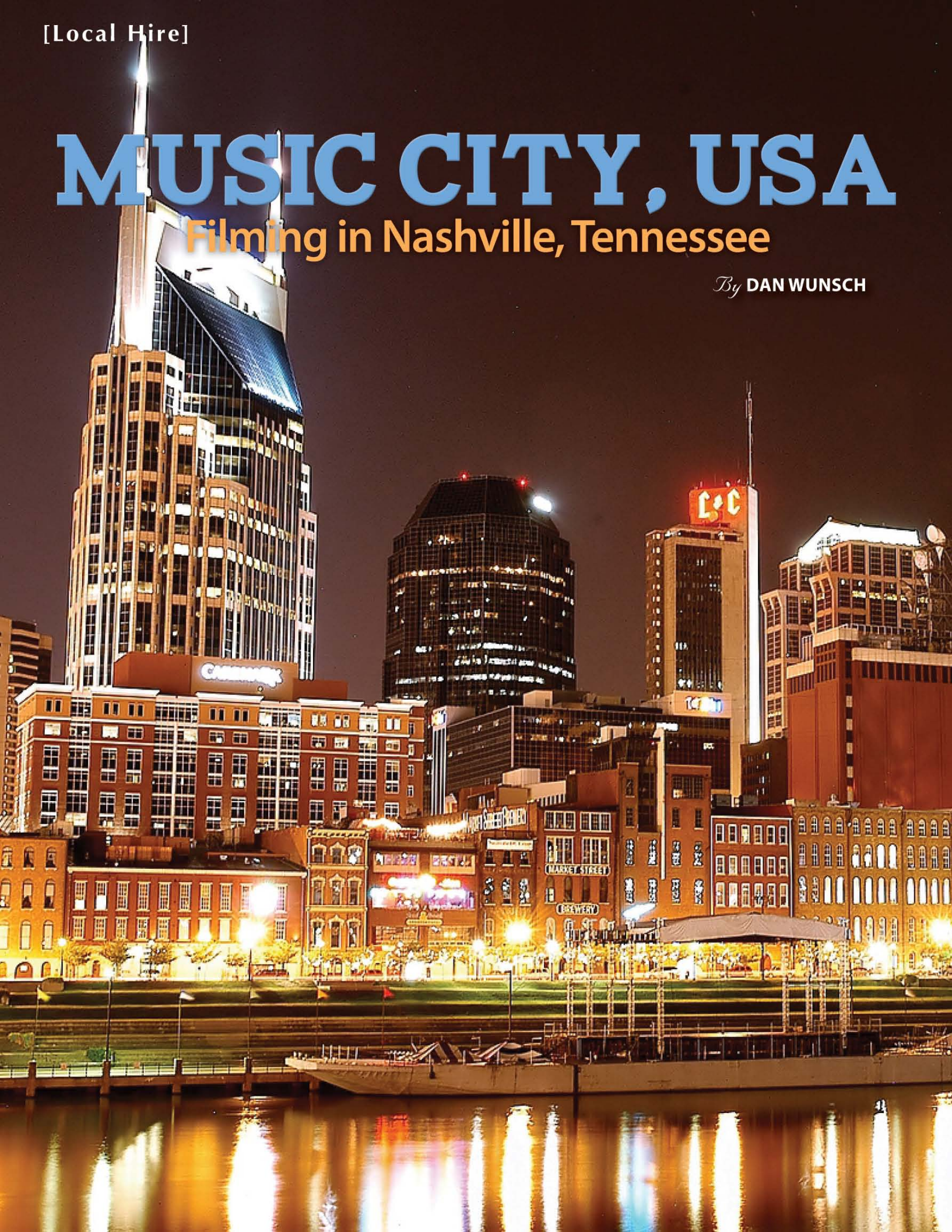


[Local Hire]

# MUSIC CITY, USA

Filming in Nashville, Tennessee

*By* DAN WUNSCH





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THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A STRONG CONNECTION BETWEEN LOS ANGELES AND THE CAPITAL OF TENNESSEE—NASHVILLE, ALSO KNOWN AS MUSIC CITY. MANY WEST COAST ARTISTS TRAVEL TO THIS SOUTHEASTERN STATE FOR RECORDING SESSIONS. ADDING TO THIS MIX, THE LAST DECADE HAS WITNESSED AN INTERESTING PHENOMENA; NASHVILLE IS BECOMING WORLD RENOWNED AS A FILM NETWORKING CENTER.

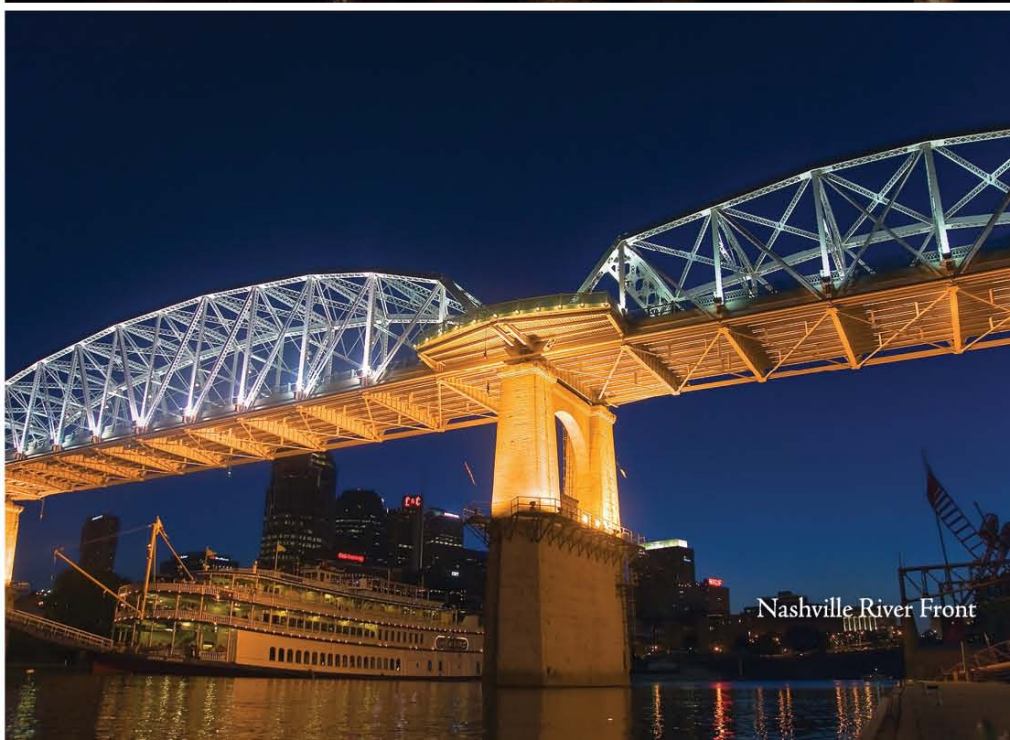
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Nashville Skyline



Bicentennial Park



Nashville River Front



**T**here is a phenomenon of filmmaking occurring in Nashville. It's happening not only because of the major motion pictures that have been filmed there such as "Attica," "Hannah Montana," "Green Mile" and "Nashville" just to name a few, but also as a result of three major events that occur each year in this metropolitan city: the Nashville Film Festival, Film-Com, and the Nashville Screenwriters Conference. Each has witnessed independent filmmakers and film industry flocking to Nashville from around the world, and the common thread that has made all three successful is the participation of Hollywood insiders, including actors, directors, film TV executives, screenwriters and composers.

2012 Film-Com took place from April 14th through April 20th in various locations in downtown Nashville. The conference has achieved success in a short period of time, being only in its 3rd year. The festival's objective is very focused: to provide a market place for filmmakers to pitch and sell their projects through sizzle reels, pilots and completed film clips to film and TV executives.

In addition to a Marketplace Expo night and the private pitch sessions, the conference includes seminars, workshops, panel discussions and nightly networking parties, providing unique opportunities for aspiring independent filmmakers to connect with industry professionals. Richard Glasser, head of music for the Weinstein Company, commenting on his composer two day workshop says, "I am thrilled to share my knowledge with others one-on-one and encourage others to attend."

The bread and butter event remains the private pitch sessions. Through these pitching opportunities, dozens of filmmakers, who have been pre-selected from hundreds of submissions from around the world, present their TV and motion picture projects in fifteen minute presentations for funding and/or distribution. The value of these pitch sessions? Elana Barry, head of television at Anonymous Content noted, "Great opportunity for film and TV folks from Los Angeles, New York and all over the country to get their message out."

Just as Film-Com ended, the 2012 Nashville Film Festival started. Founded in 1969, the eight day event is the longest running film festival in the South and took place from April 19th through April 25th at the Green Hills Cinema Complex in South Nashville. In addition to screenings of fictional and documentary feature films and shorts, the festival includes panel discussions, workshops and networking parties.

Again, Hollywood plays a major role in the success of this event. Ted Crokette, executive director of the film festival says, "Without Hollywood's participation, we could not get the major sponsors and advertisers to make this the premiere festival it has become."

One of the panel discussions with Tinseltown heavyweights included "The Evolution of Women Behind the Camera" featuring Nicole Kidman, Famke Janssen, Carrie Preston and Beth Grant. The ladies talked about how Hollywood has always been an 'old boy network' kind of a town, but recently women have become major players as directors and producers.

A sampling of the major feature length films screened this year with LA connections included "Bringing Up Bobby" directed by Famke Janssen ("Goldeneye" and "X-Men Trilogy"), "That's What She Said" directed by Carrie Preston ("True Blood" and "Doubt") and "The Perfect Fit" directed by Beth Grant ("No Country for Old Men" and "The Artist").

The caviar event of the three for screenwriters is hands down the Nashville Screenwriters Conference, in its 14th year, and will take place June 1st through June 3rd, 2012. Some of this country's top screenwriters, agents and film execs will attend this event to network

with each other and aspiring writers and share their knowledge through panel discussions and workshops.

Again, the Hollywood stamp is visible throughout the event. Attending this year from L.A. and repeat participants from previous years include: screenwriter Callie Khouri ("Thelma & Louise," "Something to Talk About" and "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood"), screenwriter Malcolm Spellman ("Our Family Wedding" and "Hot Wheels") music supervisor Julia Michels ("Sex and the City," "The Blind Side" and "The Devil Wears Prada") to mention just a few. Khouri has a special Nashville connection, having lived in Music City and been a waitress at Nashville's Exit-In rock club, where she met the country singer Pam Tillis. Callie shared at last year's conference how she and Pam use to ride around in her convertible, and that was the inspiration behind the convertible scene in "Thelma and Louise."

These "Big Three" events are putting Nashville on the map as Hollywood's home away from home. Many LAers commented they keep coming back because of the uniqueness of their experience in Music City with music from hit songwriters to the Nashville Symphony, southern style cuisine from grits to barbecue, and last but not least Nashville's southern hospitality exemplified by Mayor Karl Dean's welcoming speech at each event. It is no wonder that Nashville is starting to become known as "Tinseltown South." Websites to check out: [www.film-com.com](http://www.film-com.com), [www.nashvillefilmfestival.org](http://www.nashvillefilmfestival.org) and [www.nashscreen.com](http://www.nashscreen.com). 📺

*Dan Wunsch is a freelance photo/journalist and founded the Nashville Music Guide Magazine in 1995, serving as its editor until 2010. In 2011, his feature film screenplays caught the attention of Sherry Robb of the Robb Company, who serves as his literary agent. A graduate of the University of Colorado, he is also a member of the American Society of Composers and Publishers (ASCAP), the National Academy of Recording Arts And Sciences (NARAS) and the Country Music Association.*

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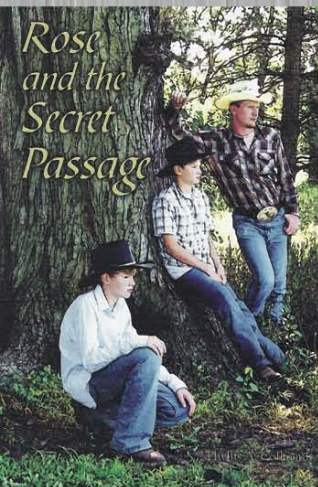




2012

# TALENT MARKETPLACE

COMING THIS SUMMER



85.

Bruce turns and we SEE Marcelia Thern at the opposite end of the room sitting in her wheelchair.

BRUCE  
You dare quote me the Bible and in the same breath ask for my blessing?!!

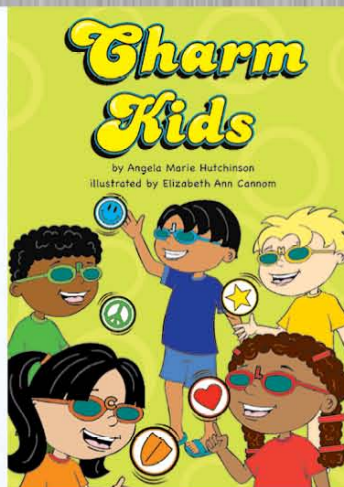
MARCELIA  
There are many things one must do. We do not always agree with. I have lived a long life. I am aware of a great deal, whether you or I believe in the promise of a greater glory in this world. Hearing the gift of choice is one I do not take for granted.

BRUCE  
Neither do I Madam.

MARCELIA  
Then you will understand when it is made apparent to me that this gift is threatened to be removed from my grasp that I will use every means possible to ensure its sanctity will never fall prey to jeopardy!

BRUCE  
Even if it means sacrificing someone you love Mr. Thern?

MARCELIA  
Especially them Mr. Herring. Those we love are often the ones who leave us at the most longportune moments for none of us are truly joined to one another, but we are bound to make mistakes because of our gift of choice and when this occurs we must be prepared to let them go.



INT. HITSUYANA KANGAR DECK

The alien leaps up to a catwalk above a row of berthed SCOUT REPS AND SHUTTLES, then leaps up to the overhead pipes.

Andy jumps up to the catwalk, FIRES at the alien. She misses - the alien takes off down the hanger, swinging from pipe to pipe.

Andy tucks the gun in her belt, leaps up to the pipes, swings after the alien. She pulls the gun mid-swing, FIRES a shot, greases the alien.

The alien HONGS, plummets toward the deck, grabs a large CRANE HOOD and swings down to the shuttle berths.

The alien goes over and under each successive shuttle, grabbing pipes, swinging through maintenance pits in the deck.

INT. HITSUYANA BRIDGE

Salerno watches the chase on his monitor.

INT. HITSUYANA KANGAR DECK

Andy closes on the alien, taking shots each time she has a free hand. Bullets ricochet off the ships, pipes and bulkheads.

The alien swings around a pipe back toward Andy, delivers a flying kick to her mid-section.

The alien lands on a catwalk. Andy drops to the deck, the wind knocked from her.

INT. HITSUYANA BRIDGE

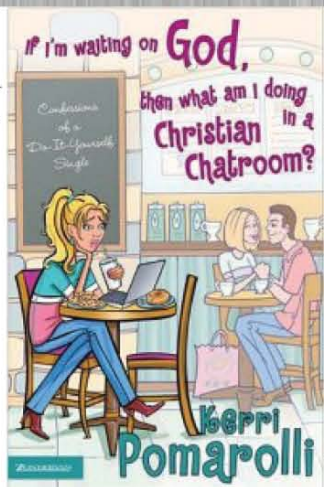
Salerno sees Andy hit the deck.

SALERNO  
Get a team in there! Take that thing out!

TACTICAL OFFICER  
Yes, sir!

INT. HITSUYANA KANGAR DECK

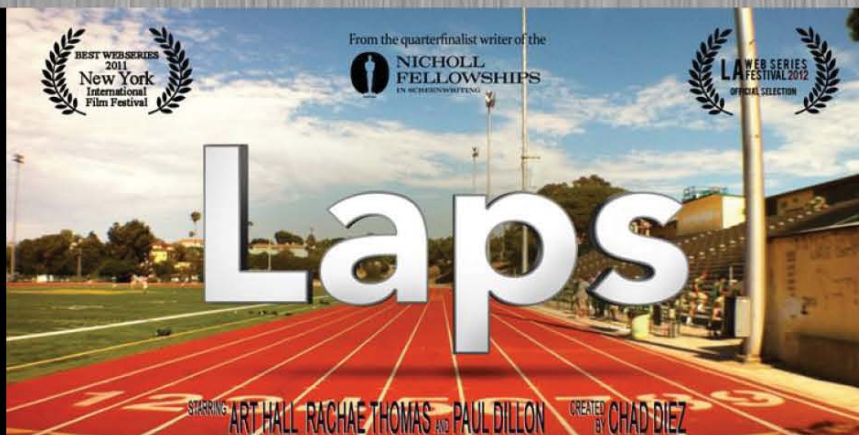
The air lock opens. FIVE SOLDIERS IN SWAT SUITS enter, fully armed.



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## BERNARD

**Bernard Lesane** was born in Baltimore. He has had a passion for acting since he was a young adult. Inspired by a favorite commercial, he said to himself, "I know I can do it." Bernard has had roles in commercials and films. He has also invested his time in a self-produced Orioles Birdland spot - with other commercials in pre-production. His film work includes a role in the Warner Brothers' Nicole Kidman movie entitled, "Invasion" filmed in Baltimore. Bernard played a hazardous materials worker. His scene involved a helicopter crash that resulted in a chemical spill. Other movie work includes a featured role in the Eketanuna film "Step Up," also filmed in Baltimore and starred Mario, Baltimore-born singer of "Let Me Love You." He also played an office worker in "Prayer of Life," a film independently produced and again filmed in Baltimore. In 2006, Bernard took The Real Work Acting Class with a well-known casting director. Since then, he has developed skills that include improvisation and audition techniques. Bernard prefers roles in drama and action productions. He is currently pursuing national film and commercial roles, and has two upcoming projects.



## BRITT

**Britt Prentice** is originally from Bethesda, Maryland and had his first performance at the age of 4. He's been off and running ever since, acting and singing through his formative years, even doing Shakespeare by the age of ten. He matriculated at the University of Miami where he majored in Jazz Voice & Drama. He even co-wrote a song for the Latin pop star Jon Secada while he was there. He is an accomplished, versatile actor appearing on TV, film, and stage. He has appeared in such films and TV shows as "Head of State," "Charmed," "Wizards of Waverly Place," "A Dirty Shame," "Passions," "America's Most Wanted" and "Flash Forward" along with videos and numerous TV commercials. On stage, Britt has performed on nationwide theatre tours for over 20 years and has entertained internationally as well. Britt is now moving into a new phase of his career, creating his own projects—writing screenplays, TV shows and directing as well. Another hidden talent is that Britt is an excellent singer. He released his own CD which received rave reviews including, VIBE Magazine who compared him to Luther Vandross. Britt has sung our National Anthem all over the USA, including for the Los Angeles Lakers, Dodgers, Chicago Cubs, Washington Redskins and Miami Heat. Britt has worked with the likes of John Travolta, Billy Dee Williams, Debbie Allen, Joaquin Phoenix, Patti LaBelle, Telma Hopkins, Dave Hollister, Johnny Gill, Larry King, Alyssa Milano, Chris Rock and even Super Bowl-winning quarterback Joe Theismann. [www.BrittPrentice.com](http://www.BrittPrentice.com)

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# JANE AUSTEN'S PRIDE

By Jackie Thornton

INT. HOUSE OF BLUES CLUB VIP ROOM - NIGHT

Lisa, electric guitar slung over her back, spots her family walking into the crowded VIP room. Lydia and Kat beeline to blinged out GUYS sipping champagne at a corner table.

Janay with Bingley at her side, waves Lisa over.

JANAY  
Sis, Carlton Bingley.

BINGLEY  
You need to meet my friend, the record executive--

Darcy appears right behind Lisa. She turns, their eyes lock.

BINGLEY (CONT'D)  
Will Darcy, vice president of Borgh Records. Will, you should sign--

LISA  
Our competition.

DARCY  
I beg your pardon?

LISA  
We're the Bennetts, of Bennett Records.

DARCY  
Hardly competition.

Lisa gives him a wry look.

DARCY (CONT'D)  
I mean, you're a speciality label in Atlanta and we're part of a worldwide media empire. We're hardly in the same league.

BINGLEY  
You have to excuse Darcy. He thinks New York is the only civilized city in the world.

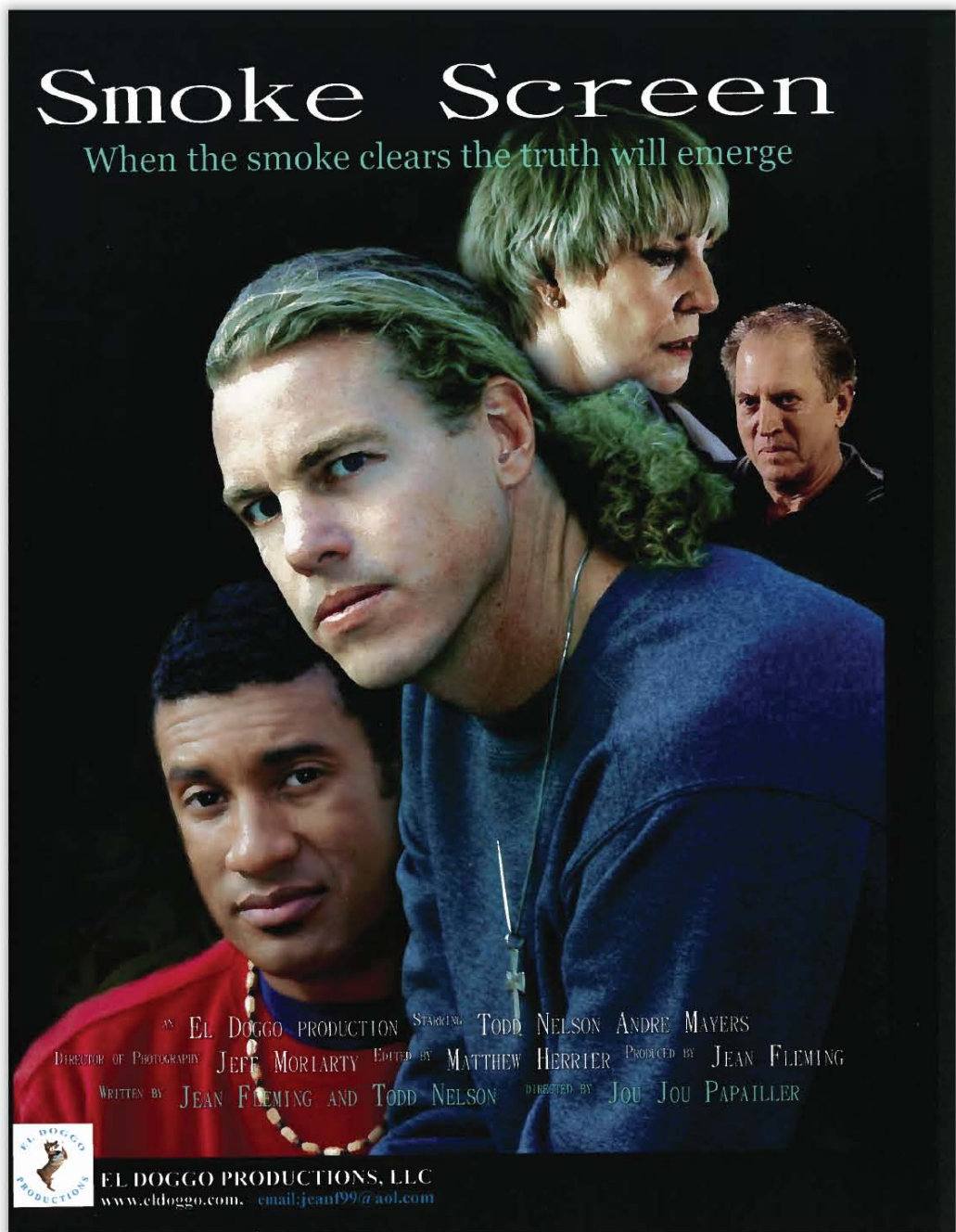
LISA  
Well, Mr. Darcy, you got us on a good night. We wore shoes and left our hogs at home.

**Genre:** Romantic Comedy

**Logline:** African American version of "Pride & Prejudice" set in modern day Atlanta. The Bennett family has fallen on hard times as their independent record label is being taken over by Borgh Records run by William Darcy, nephew to the media mogul Catherine Borgh.

**Jackie Thornton** recently received her MFA in screenwriting at the UCLA Film and Television Department. Her drama pilot, "My Sisters" won the UCLA Showcase as Best Television pilot. Jackie also received the Felicia Henderson Fellowship. Her work currently appears in the book, *Virgin Territory: Stories from the Road to Womanhood*. Her essays have been featured on KQED, the public radio station in San Francisco. She has also produced, written, directed and performed two one-woman shows in Berkeley and San Francisco.



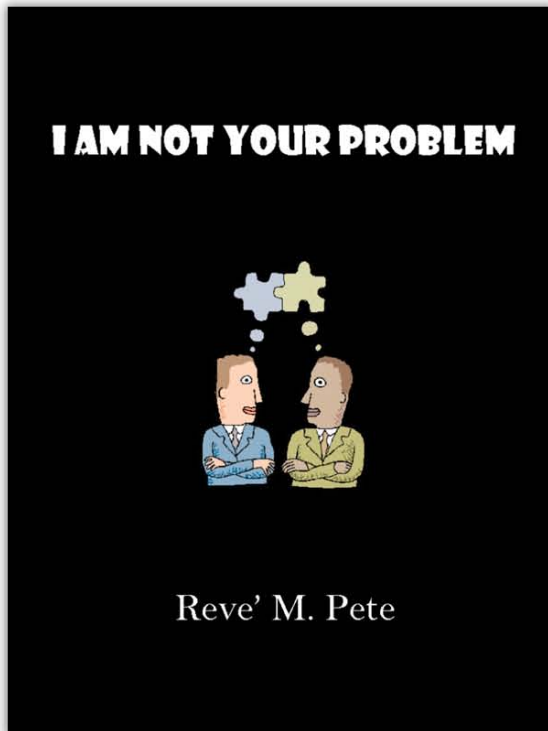


**Jean (Blake) Fleming** has written and produced a film, "Smoke Screen," which explores how the war on drugs can cause more harm than good. Jean grew up in Chicago where she began her professional modeling career after being chosen as one of the Most Beautiful Teenagers by the Chicago Tribune. She attended Lake Forest College while appearing in TV commercials and modeling. In 1957, she had her first movie role in the Hollywood movie, "The D.I." starring Jack Webb. Jean has appeared with Rock Hudson and Jean Simmons in the movie, "This Earth Is Mine", filmed at Universal Studios. Later she was named the honorary mayor of Universal City. After signing a non-exclusive contract with 20th Century Fox she guest starred on many TV shows and movies, including "Bewitched," "77 Sunset Strip," "Dobie Gillis," "Route 66" and many others. She co-starred in a TV series with Rick Jason in New York while starring in the daytime TV drama, "Search For Tomorrow." Over the years she has been featured in over 150 live and filmed commercials. She co-produced a feature movie in which her good friends, Penny Marshall and Rob Reiner, performed cameo roles. Jean has also written several plays and screenplays. One of her scripts, "Is Love Enough?" was voted in the top 10 of a contest sponsored by Steven Spielberg. Jean is married to David Fleming, a lawyer with Latham & Watkins LLP. The couple is active in civic, charitable and political organizations throughout southern California.

## POWER PLAYER USE

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**Reve' M. Pete** is the author of "I Am Not Your Problem." The story revolves around a fictitious John Whattel Matthews, who is Caucasian, and Willie Sylvester Malbrue, a free man of color. These two American men born in the days of slavery loved each other like brothers. Yet the struggles of post-Civil War life would test their brotherly love and provide a lesson to pass on to future generations. Inspired by references used in writing her seminary dissertation, "The Impact of Holiness Preaching as Taught by John Wesley and the Outpouring of the Holy Ghost on Racism", Reve' created this fictitious story that identifies the inner turmoil that can cause division among men, and explores how unconditional love and truth spoken in love can overcome it. [www.revempete.net/ianyp](http://www.revempete.net/ianyp)

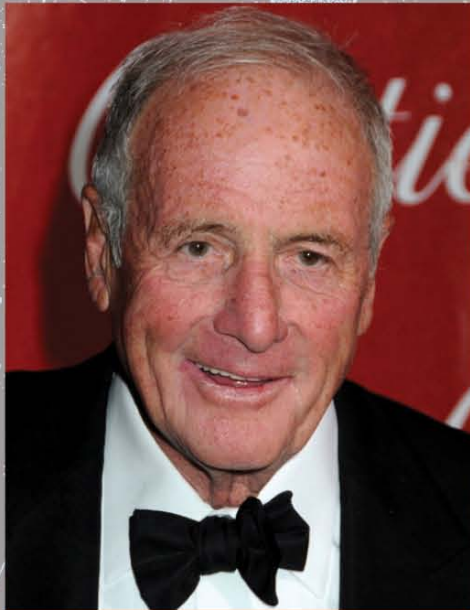


A story celebrating the beauty of all skin tones, "Sepia Girl," is a children's picture book written by BiH Founder, **Angela Marie Hutchinson**, who is also the Editor-in-Chief of Hollywood & Vine and the author of two other published books, "Charm Kids," and her comedic memoir, "BReaKiNG iNTo HoLLyWooD." Scheduled to release Summer 2012, "Sepia Girl" will be available for purchase via Amazon and other online book retailers. Inspired by the stories of her mother and close friends, Angela hopes that the book encourages young girls to embrace their individuality and appreciate the many shades of diversity. As a mother of two young children, Angela is passionate about developing positive media content. She is dedicated to creating stories with a moral resonance that not only entertain, but also empower. Angela graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.S.E. degree in Industrial & Operations Engineering and earned a Cross-Media Journalism Certificate from USC.



# 6931 Hollywood Boulevard

By **SHAKEILA M. BEARD**



**JERRY WEINTRAUB**  
**ACTOR/PRODUCER**  
**BORN ON SEPTEMBER 26, 1937**



Weintraub is known as one of the first independent producers to receive a star.



Weintraub produced a documentary of his life and authored a memoir.

What do Frank Sinatra, Neil Diamond, Elvis Presley, The Carpenters and Moody Blues all have in common? If you have not guessed by now, it's Jerry Weintraub! A Brooklyn, New York native, Weintraub received his start in the world of entertainment in the music industry. He worked as a talent agent for MCA Records. After leaving MCA, Weintraub formed his own management company, Management III, under which he became the manager to the previous mentioned stars amongst others. Weintraub also managed Jane Morgan, whom a few years later became his wife. Together, Weintraub and Morgan adopted four children.

In the 1970s Weintraub turned his focus to the film industry, specifically producing. His first movie as a producer was "Nashville," a black comedy musical directed by Robert Altman. Weintraub then went on to produce the 1977 comedy film "Oh God." He has had great success producing films. Weintraub also produced the 1984 film "The Karate Kid" as well as its 2010 remake starring Jackie Chan and Jaden Smith, the son of co-producers Will and Jada Smith. In addition, Weintraub produced the sequel of "The Karate Kid," "The Next Karate Kid" and "The Karate Kid" television series.

Before producing the remake of "The Karate Kid," Weintraub produced the 2001 remake of "Ocean's Eleven." Also, he produced the sequels to "Ocean's Eleven," "Ocean's 12" and "Ocean's 13," which included a star studded cast—George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Julia Roberts, Matt Damon, Andy Garcia, Don Cheadle and the late Bernie Mac. All the actors that appeared in "Ocean's 12" also reappeared in "Ocean's 13" with the exception of Roberts and Zeta-Jones.

Although Weintraub was best known as a producer, he was also an actor. Weintraub's acting debut was in the 1997 film "The Firm," starring Tom Cruise, Gene Hackman and Jeanne Tripplehorn. He played the role of Sonny. Weintraub also appeared in all the Ocean's movies.

In addition to film, Weintraub also produced a TV documentary entitled "His Way," which depicts his life and includes interviews with his family, friends and colleagues. That TV documentary is just one of the many in which Weintraub was involved in either as an actor or producer.

Weintraub's industry talent does not end at actor, talent manager or producer; he also served as CEO of the film studio United Artist. D.W. Griffith, Charles Chaplin, Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks founded United Artist. Today, United Artist is a fully owned subsidiary of MGM. Weintraub is active in his community and has served on several boards, including the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts. Amongst recently producing movies, Weintraub penned a memoir entitled, "When I Stop Talking, You'll Know I'm Dead: Useful Stories from a Persuasive Man."

Due to his great contribution within the film industry, The National Association of Theatre Owners named Weintraub Producer of the Year in 1986. A few years before being named the Producer of the Year, Weintraub earned his star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame. Weintraub's ceremony for his induction into the Walk of Fame was April 24, 1984. Since most of his early work was mostly independent, Weintraub is known as one of the first independent producers to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

At the age of 74, Weintraub is still impacting the entertainment industry. His expertise and knowledge is requested by many in the industry. Although Weintraub was awarded a star for his contribution to the entertainment industry as an independent filmmaker, he is an example of how things turn out when you get connected. Although music was not his plan A he used his experience as a connecting force to his true passions. *Hollywood & Vine* is proud to honor the living legacy of Jerry Weintraub. 📺

**Shakeila Beard** is a graduate from Purdue University. Specializing in integrated marketing communications, she has studied entertainment law and been involved with marketing, public relations and promotions work for recording artists.



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