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Strike The Baby And Kill The Blonde: An Insider's Guide To Film Slang

STRIKE THE BABY AND KILL THE BLONDE

Dave Knox

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Everything You Need to Know to Become a Film-Industry Insider

Have you ever wondered what the difference is between a gaffer and a grip? Or what makes the best boy so great? In Strike the Baby and Kill the Blonde,* Dave Knox, a top camera operator and longtime veteran of the film industry, gives you the inside story on the lingo and slang heard on the set. This is an A-to-Z guide to making a movie: the equipment, the crew, and the sometimes hilarious terminology—everything you need to know to sound like a seasoned pro.* Remove the small spotlight from the set and switch off the two-kilowatt quartz light.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

The film industry, especially being on the set, is near and dear to my heart. Being with the crew (the people who make the movie possible) was always one of my favorite things in life, which is what drew me to this cool book. The industry has a language all of its own. Due to saving time, especially during long shoots, the lingo actually saves time (and money) to get things done properly, without a long explanation. Thus this book is awesome to learn the lingo shortcuts when you’re on the set. Any actor, producer, writer, film student, new Inde production company should have this in their library, both for reference, and to know what the crew are actually talking about while on the set. It saves time, and if you’re in the industry, you really need to know what the terms mean. A good analogy would be a medical student in training to be a surgeon would need to know the lingo in an operating room. It’s that important. I loved reading this awesome and incredibly accurate book. It made me feel super nostalgic wanting to be on the set again. Being on the set is either in your blood or not. If you
love the industry, you'll definitely LOVE this book!(FYI) "Kill the Blonde" means to turn off the 2,000 watt spotlight. That's why I titled this review: "Light the Blonde on This Really Cool Book!" It's awesome! Barbara Rose, Ph.D. author of Stop Being the String Along, Know Yourself, and If God Hears Me, I Want an Answer!

I just love the title. It takes some guts to buy this in a bookstore as the checkout person might think you’re a bit wierd. I recommend that if you are sensitive to this sort of thing then buy the book on the Internet. The book is a clever, wonderful listing of terms in alphabetical order and each term is defined by the author in a style that is slightly flippant, which I find sometimes annoying, but also seems to bring some real life experience to the definitions that an academic would never impart. The book lacks pictures of the items being defined but that inclusion would increase the book size and cost. This book sells for a very reasonable cost. Who is this book for? Any film student or PA that wishes to break into the film industry should memorize almost all these terms. Above and below the line people, now in the industry, might find quite a few terms that they did not yet hear or understand. For some film professionals, some of the terms may be part of their passive vocabulary and now one can now discover how close or distant their prior understanding was to the book’s more "exact" meaning. This book should be a second text for some film classes. Instructors in those classes should require definitions be understood as part of the course in filmmaking. For the non-professional film buff that wants to dabble in understanding this field, this book should be within easy reach of the porcelain throne for brief reads. I think the level that this book is written is at high school level. I strongly recommend that high school or even middle school students consider this book to impress their peer group. For everyone else, the book is a treat.

I bought this as a Xmas gift for my daughter who works in the film industry. It was written in 2005 so I personally got a kick out of some of the slang that identifies the now "old fashioned" film. Today's industry uses digital so I don't know if my daughter will hear some of the terms unless she works in restoring old film reels. Overall, however, it is a good and very informative A-Z styled guide to making a movie and what one will hear on set. It is written by Dave Knox, a veteran of the film industry and a top camera operator.

I'm working on a couple of book series that are related to TV shows. So, I wanted authentic dialogue and production insights. This book -- plus Tony Bill's "Movie Speak" -- delivered everything I'd hoped, and more. (If you're buying just one book for this purpose, either is very good.) If you need to
know what people say when they’re working on movies or TV shows, this is an excellent book. Easy to use. Fun to read. Nicely explained for beginners, with some good details for those who’ve been around productions in the past.

Strike the Baby and Kill the Blonde: An Insider’s Guide to Film Slang

"Strike the Baby and Kill the Blonde" is a fun and useful dictionary for both filmmakers and movie fans. Its great for clarifying the often confusing, and perhaps intentionally alienating, jargon used by "old guard" grip/gaff/spark crews. While it certainly doesn’t have every term, and I was surprised by missing some more common slang, it has more than enough to merit including it in the collections of handy reference material for film students and professionals.

Exactly what I expected: a dictionary of terms. Since it’s in a digital format, it would be five stars if most of the terms had hyperlinks to images: screen direction, for example, could be explained more completely through images.

This is an informative and enjoyable read, and will be very useful to anyone in the film and television industry. It’s written in a lighthearted and entertaining style, and the author has a real knack for explaining how things work on a professional film set. This is a solid tool for newcomers to the industry, but experienced cast and crew professionals will also enjoy this book and learn something new from the author’s vast knowledge of film industry trivia. Highly recommended for all, as this author clearly knows his material and has a great sense of humor.

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