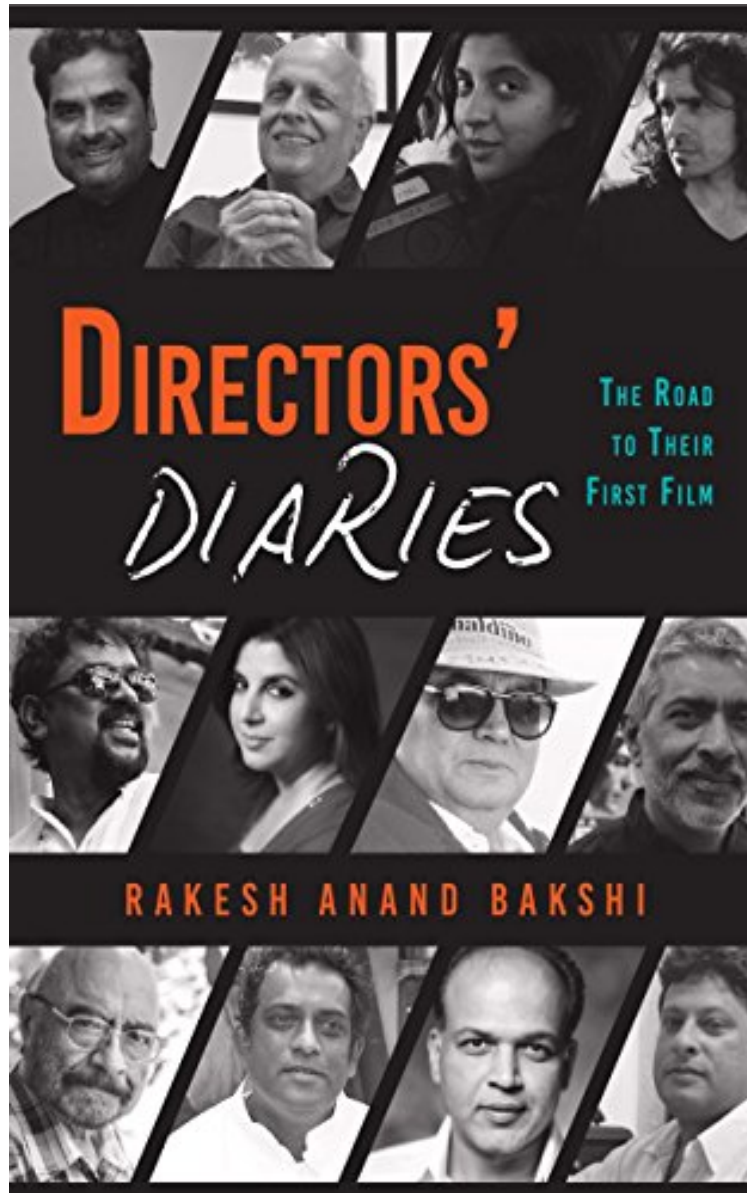


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## Directors' Diaries: The Road to Their First Film

*Rakesh Bakshi*

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**Rakesh Bakshi : Directors' Diaries: The Road to Their First Film** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Directors' Diaries: The Road to Their First Film:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must read book for movie lovers. By Manish Shah A very well written book with no sensation and gimmicks. Plain and simple honest conversation. It felt like I was conducting the interviews. The questions were just natural and kept the flow of the conversation. What I learned from the book was

that it is the learning from common, meager jobs that eventually results in a masterpiece of work and one should not be depressed with small works that come along their way because it is the small works that gives you big experience. Congrats Rakesh on your first book and I am sure that the journey of your first book will lead you to masterpieces. Eagerly waiting for the next book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. love stories, modeling By CustomerGod, World and Bollywood all ends with D....what a coincidence ?D stands for Director and also for Diaries.....what a coincidence?? :)The Director of our world "Godrdquo;, also did not make any diary to account for the events. Ved Vyas did it. So also the Directors of our entertainment world; have not detailed the struggle, the ups and downs they experienced in directing their first film. This is now done by Rakesh Bakshi, son of legendary Lyricist Shri Anand Bakshi. The Directors' Diaries is the first book of its kind. More so in the arena of Entertainment world, where gossips, fashion, love stories, modeling, Ads have all the hot words of dictionary....the film journalism has assumed heights in its own way daily. However, center table show piece magazines have no Self value. In such a scenario, Directors' Diaries, published by Harper Collins India, is certainly a trend setter. The Directors Diaries include the memoir of twelve Directors of our time, (Viz. Subhash Ghai, Ashutosh Gowariker, Tigra Manjhu Dhulia, Vishal Bharadwaj, Imtiaz Ali, Santosh Sivan, Prakash Jha, Anurag Basu, Farah Khan, Mahesh Bhatt, Govind Nihalani, and Zoya Akhtar .) We know more about their film. We know still more about their Heroes and Heroines, the dialogues, the scene they created but know only their names that too as a reference for taking a decision to see another movie directed by them. The creators of Jubilee films remain in dark room.....The Directors Diaries narrates a passionate past of these legendary directors in a conversational manner reflecting the presence of "The Directors' Diaries" with "your diary" which is an experience in itself...The book reveals the great, fantastical visions of directors, who struggled only to be victorious and achievers. Their anecdotes are unique, creative and motivational. The sense of mingled strangeness and recognition reverberates beautifully in the book. The Directors' Diaries have little spice of stardom. It is the book of personalities who make stars and Super Stars. It takes us on a journey of less traveled roads full of mist and thick forests with a missionary zeal. The technical details of making a film provide good orientation to those who have inquisitiveness. The Directors Diaries is an attempt to search for the Fire that burns inside to do something unusual eventually to lit the light on many dark caves. The book sings unsung songs of commitment, determination and clarity of purpose. It has stories of ordinary soldiers, who became Generals because they wanted to become. These stories have rare combination of virtuosity and humanity. The book has a great motivational energy for the readers irrespective of the fact whether they want a career in Films or not. The reason seems to be that Rakesh himself wanted to be a Director but somehow could not make it despite many favorable conditions. He, perhaps wanted to know what makes one to be on that Action seat. This made him, probably, ask searching questions. The tone and tenor of the stories have revealed this aspect brilliantly. The Diaries do provide us opportunity of comparison of struggles, strategies adopted by them. Surely this is yet another unique feature of the book. Every line of the book gives evidence of the hard work, planning, research and perfect coordination. Rakesh was destined to be a great writer of a great book. Being an humble writer, poetess, analyst and a RJ myself, I am experiencing situations which Zoya Akhtar, Farah Khan, Sivan and Rakeshji himself have faced. It has been a feast to eyes to read their inspiring treatise. I am sure those who read these Diaries would have a benefit of "Twelve Windows", which once they open, will get the fresh "Pran Vayu", the vital energy to march ahead to achieve their cherished goal. I am sure Directors Diaries would inspire many others to unfold their hidden treasure and give opportunity to such seekers, who have no one to look for and/or who become the victim of circumstances and get frustrated. Directors' Diaries might become their LightHouse to guide them towards the shore of Success. Shri Rakesh Bakshi deserves kudos for this very good work. I am inspired!! :) Priyamm -RJ @Radio Zindagi 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Asking a film director the right questions is key. The doors opened. :) By pictoWrit Until you've written a book, published it, (and hopefully a few have read it) you are not an author. You're not a film director until you have directed at least one film, it has been viewed by a spectrum of audiences and perhaps a few critics - if you're both, worthy and fortunate (indifference and silence are worse). Rakesh Anand Bakshi has shared through his Directors' Diaries, not just one story but he has brought to us the stories of 12 film directors from Indian Cinema. These men and women who walked the walk and talked the talk. Yes, that phrase may sound cliched, but every film has not just its fictional story, but together, it also takes forward the collective hopes and aspirations of its entire cast and crew. The film's director, through his/her focus point of view transports the audience into another realm - all with the synergistic efforts of this entire team. Now, if you wanted to be a film actor, editor, a cinematographer, a story/screenplay writer, or even another crew member working with film directors, this book is for you. If you just enjoy reading stories about real people, here are 12 who may inspire you. For some of the directors, their journeys were distinctly uncertain, for some it was a gradual progression towards a hazy goal. But for each of them, the ride towards their dream was long, never a straight line; it was strewn with unforeseen events, or serendipity shrouded at times in disappointments. They made films that are purely entertaining, or even deep and thought provoking. But who, or what inspired these 12 successful film directors to venture into cinema? I haven't finished reading all 12 stories, but even after reading seven, I felt compelled to post this review. I look forward to reading this author's next book, because through this all, his personal passion and understanding of the landscape are visible. Four stars for Directors' Diaries -- three for the author's sheer effort; +

fourth for the research, putting it all together, and giving it a coherent structure. The 5th star I will reserve, because isn't there always room for improvement? :-)

For many people, the word director/film-maker is mystifying, holding within its folds spaces inaccessible to most people. In this book, Rakesh Bakshi attempts to demystify the director's invisible and omnipotent presence in films. He documents the lives and experiences of some of the finest Hindi film-makers - Ashutosh Gowariker, Mahesh Bhatt, Prakash Jha, Shyam Benegal, Tigmanshu Dhulia, Vishal Bhardwaj, Zoya Akhtar, Santosh Sivan, Subhash Ghai, Farah Khan, Imtiaz Ali, Govind Nihalani. In fascinating interviews, these directors reveal the many and unexpected turns their lives have taken, how and why they came to direct their first films and what influenced the choices they made. About the AuthorFilm scriptwriter, director, actor, author, photographer, swimmer, walker and cyclist, Rakesh Anand Bakshi is the son of the legendary lyricist Anand Bakshi. He is the founder of Bicycle Angels, a non-profit social initiative that helps donate bicycles to the underprivileged as a means of livelihood. He loves reading biographies, self-help books and novels and watching different kinds of cinema and documentaries.

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