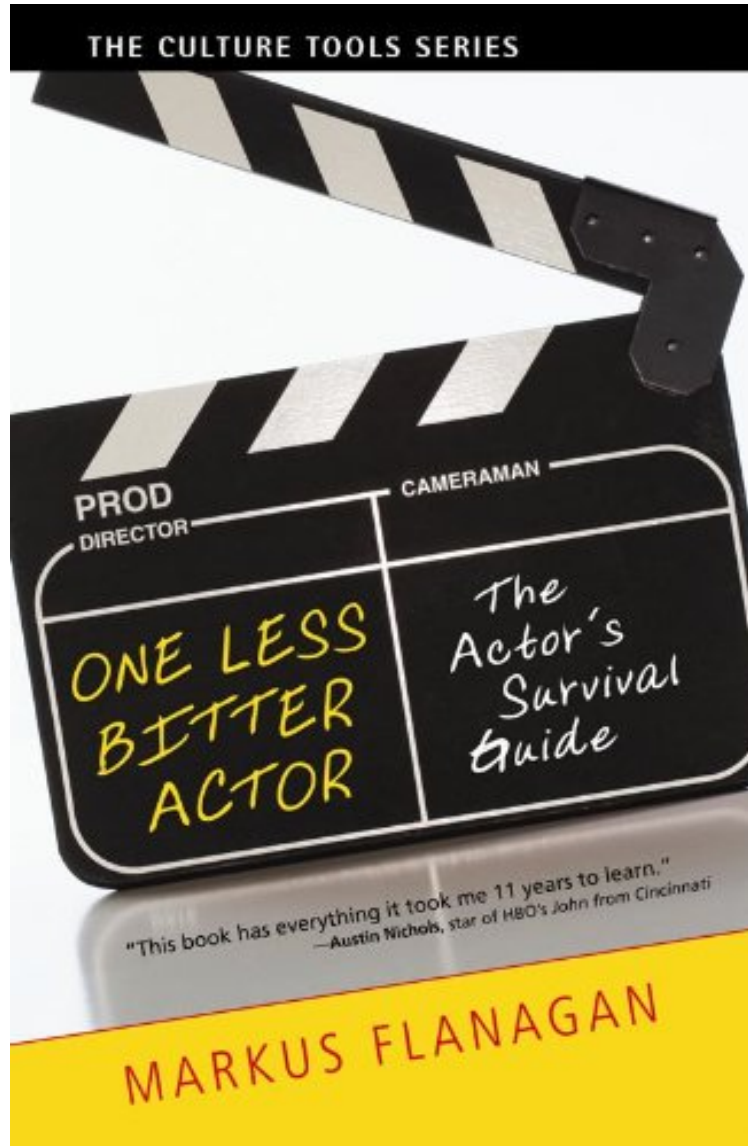


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One Less Bitter Actor

Markus Flanagan

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Markus Flanagan : One Less Bitter Actor before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised One Less Bitter Actor:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read for someone who is thinking of becoming aBy TylerReally helped break down the process of becoming a real actor/actress. The differences between New York and Los Angeles, what's expected in the industry, auditions etc. Good read for someone who is thinking of becoming a star1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Actors, tend your career garden!By Mister Mark"Acting is a collector for those without a career plan." This is one of the sharpest observations in this no-nonsense guide to

navigating the "madness" of the business. It is also a wake up call for those of us who enter this industry prepared to work but under-prepared for the workplace: the dynamics and casting decisions that are mystifying but rule our day-to-day perspective as creative people. If we let them. With a tone of urgency (yet the cool voice of a pragmatist) the author urges actors to look beyond the guesswork of booking to keep perspective and focus when egos jostle or "entitlement syndrome" gets the best of us. "Do the work," he says, and he sounds like he's been there. The author's experience makes for a survival guide that offers both seat-of-the-pants advice for the audition ("hold the room hostage") and encouragement to look beyond the call to the nuts-and-bolts of career building: "Perform a career activity each day." This valuable yet overlooked key to success is crucial for the 99% of us who spend our time thinking about why we're not making it, when we could be doing something to increase our odds. Behind every star there is a hard-won battle for success, and from the stories in the book these battles are not always glamorous. But a well-tended career - like a garden - is likely to yield delicious fruit, though weeding may not be fun. I liked this book because it was a voice of encouragement from one actor to another to weed, prune, and water our careers - and our creative impulses. The simple advice is to "do the work." We act because we want to, he reminds us, but too often drudgery, insecurity, and uncertainty get in our way. But we're in a career for which no high-school counselor or acting program could prepare us, and indeed we do need a survival guide. The book is a helpful reminder to keep the work in the foreground, focus on long-term success, and let everyone else worry about the stuff that we can't control. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Lessons even for the non-actor By Kindle Customer Markus Flanagan has a healthy attitude about his (sometimes) unhealthy chosen occupation. Keeping a calm, cool head in the overheated world of acting is not easy and Markus clearly knows from whence he writes. But actors aren't the only ones who can learn valuable lessons from this cleverly-written book. Staying grounded, remembering your own intrinsic value and not letting others' judgements affect your own self-esteem...classic lessons that anyone can appreciate, no? The writer/actor's sparkling wit and personality come out in the pages, you feel like you might just be engaged in a conversation with him as he dispenses advice from the perspective of a real working actor. I recommend this absolutely for anyone interested in a career as a performer on the stage, in Hollywood or elsewhere.

Nothing is more frustrating than talent unrealized, and every actor struggles with bitterness when they aren't working to their full potential. One Less Bitter Actor offers sage, pragmatic, anxiety-calming advice on how to succeed in acting from one who has. Markus Flanagan offers encouraging, highly useful pointers on such vital matters as: How do you combat getting typed? Understanding the people you are auditioning for. Bad habits to avoid in the audition waiting room. The two deadliest questions you may be asked before starting your reading. What are they looking for in the call back? Dealing positively with rejection. Finding the spirit to go on. Markus Flanagan has never needed to hold a day job throughout his 20-year acting career. Right out of acting school he starred in Biloxi Blues alongside Matthew Broderick. His first TV pilot audition landed him a series with George Clooney. So far he's starred in 3 prime-time series.

"I wish I had this book when I was swimming upstream at the beginning of my career. The advice about on-set behavior is especially useful. This book will help anyone who reads it." —Carol Burnett, actress "Save yourself five years of learning the hard way and read this book." —If I could make it required reading for everyone who dreams to be, was, or is a member of Screen Actors Guild. —Melissa Gilbert, Screen Actors Guild President 2000-2004 "Filled with practical nuts-and-bolts information, this is a terrific book for any man or woman brave enough to take the plunge into show business. It's also a terrific book for anyone who wants to know what it truly means to be an actor. Markus Flanagan puts it all down with clarity, empathy and humor." —Buzz Bissinger, Pulitzer Prize winner, author of Friday Night Lights, and former co-producer, NYPD Blue "With One less Bitter Actor, Markus Flanagan continues his legacy of generosity to his fellow actors. His book demystifies the rigors of making it in Hollywood and delivers tried and true advice for dealing with the obstacles actors face in the auditioning process and on the set. Essential reading for every actor on their way up." —Doug Savant, actor, Desperate Housewives "Simply a wonderful book! For learning to deal with rejection, this book is a must read." —Jerry Hall, actress "One Less Bitter Actor puts down in writing every good habit every actor should have. I have seen bitterness sour the best of them. It might also be titled One Much Better Actor because if you take this book to heart you're sure to put your best work out." —Denise Chamian, casting director for Saving Private Ryan, Pirates of the Caribbean 2 3, and Big Fish "About the Author Markus Flanagan has never needed to hold a day job throughout his 20-year acting career. Right out of acting school he starred in Biloxi Blues alongside Matthew Broderick. His first TV pilot audition landed him a series with George Clooney. So far he's starred in 3 prime-time series, made 50 guest TV show appearances, and acted in 10 feature films, 5 stage plays and 5 movies of the week. He lives and teaches acting in Los Angeles.