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# WRITE! SHOOT! EDIT!: The Complete Guide For Teen Filmmakers



## Synopsis

Today's digital technology allows teens to produce short films with enviable accessibility. But there is a darker side to today's technology, too: the expectation to live and share your life online, to become an instant success with your first creations. Imagine being free to experiment and play with the medium, with a mentor beside you helping you craft solid, professional work that never looks like a home movie. Industry pro Deborah Patz is that mentor. Much like writers pen journals they don't publish (aka "writing practice," as taught by Natalie Goldberg), *Write! Shoot! Edit!* mentors teens in "first film" making—crafting complete, scripted movies in a safe place free from public exhibition and scrutiny, experimenting with the medium, and discovering one's own visual storytelling voice. You want to direct and edit, but your friend wants to write? Not a problem. Don't read the book in order! Just follow the path. *Write! Shoot! Edit!* is written in three distinct and intertwining paths, so you can experience the book as you want to: as a writer, director / DOP, or editor. Start making scripted films today so that you can be the overnight success of tomorrow!

## Book Information

Paperback: 210 pages

Publisher: Michael Wiese Productions (June 15, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 161593264X

ISBN-13: 978-1615932641

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.4 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #896,916 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Teens > Art, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > TV & Radio #39 in Books > Teens > Art, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Film #482 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Video > Reference

## Customer Reviews

Deborah Patz has been a professional in the film industry since the mid-1980s, with a filmography that spans family and children's programming, science-fiction extravaganzas, and feature films of various budget sizes. She started making movies when she was 9 years old, pioneered a

filmmaking course at her high school (because it didn't have one), and even taught the teacher how to process film (so he would include it in the course). After receiving a BFA in Film Production from York University, and years of working on productions for Disney, Lucasfilm, Alliance / Atlantis, Nelvana, MCA / Universal, and the IMAX space team, Deb penned her first books: *Surviving Production and Film Production Management 101* (known as the "Swiss Army knife" of production management), both published worldwide by MWP. Based on her books, Deb has designed and instructed numerous courses, seminars, and workshops in Canada, the USA, and the UK, and has worked with young teens to help them make elaborate, scripted home movies. She is now an MFA candidate in Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia (with a specialty in Children's and YA), and continues to work in film finance and teach filmmaking workshops for teens.

This little book is a must for anyone with a camera, which in this day and age means anyone with a phone. Deborah Patz's three-headed creative process is all about making movies from start to finish. Especially her section on "Growing ideas into stories." How many times have we seen a great idea fleshed out into a less than admirable film? Even if it's less than a minute? She also talks equipping up, the shoot day structure, and postproduction including sound and finishing. Then there's how to handle the premiere. The sub-header for this book is, "A Complete Guide for Teen Filmmakers." Any teen wanting to make films/videos that have an impact and get widespread recognition should read and carry this book around with them. Well done, Deborah.

A perfect book for teens (or anyone for that matter) that is interested in filmmaking. The book covers a lot of ground but in small digestible chunks to guide new filmmakers through the three steps of making a movie of any length. Writing it, shooting it and editing it. I recommend this book to new filmmakers looking to get into movie making. It's aimed at teens but certainly people of any age who know nothing about the process will learn from this book. It's loaded with lots of useful information. If you or someone you know wants to know more about the process of shooting an indie film grab a copy. It's money well spent. It's probably not for you if you are a veteran filmmaker, unless you are teaching, then certainly use this book.

*Write! Shoot! Edit!* by Deborah S. Patz is a filmmaking guidebook for teen filmmakers. As a high school English teacher who tries to utilize creativity in the classroom, I'm excited about a book like this. I work with students who love to create, and one of the projects I will be assigning this

upcoming year is a short film. I'll be utilizing some of the ideas in this book. I love the way it focuses on the student's role in each level of creation, from writer to director to editor. Though the book is written for teen filmmakers, it covers all the basics in an understandable way that would benefit filmmakers of all age, especially if you want a clear guide on how to get from concept to an actual finished production.

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