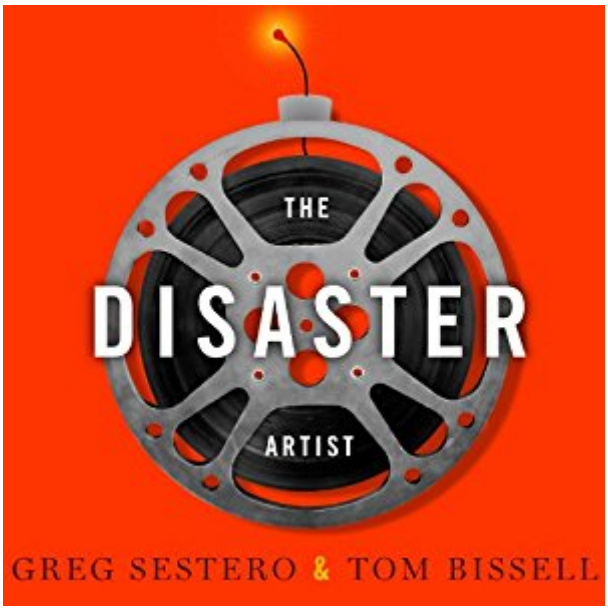
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The Disaster Artist: My Life Inside 'The Room', The Greatest Bad Movie Ever Made



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Synopsis

Nineteen-year-old Greg Sestero met Tommy Wiseau at an acting school in San Francisco. Wiseau's scenes were rivetingly wrong, yet Sestero, hypnotized by such uninhibited acting, thought, "I have to do a scene with this guy." That impulse changed both of their lives. Wiseau seemed never to have read the rule book on interpersonal relationships (or the instructions on a bottle of black hair dye), yet he generously offered to put the aspiring actor up in his LA apartment. Sestero's nascent acting career first sizzled, then fizzled, resulting in Wiseau's last-second offer to Sestero of co-starring with him in The Room, a movie Wiseau wrote and planned to finance, produce, and direct - in the parking lot of a Hollywood equipment-rental shop. Wiseau spent $6 million of his own money on his film, but despite the efforts of the disbelieving (and frequently fired) crew and embarrassed (and frequently fired) actors, the movie made no sense. Nevertheless, Wiseau rented a Hollywood billboard featuring his alarming headshot and staged a red carpet premiere. The Room made $1,800 at the box office and closed after two weeks. One reviewer said that watching The Room was like "getting stabbed in the head". The Disaster Artist is Greg Sestero's laugh-out-loud funny account of how Tommy Wiseau defied every law of artistry, business, and friendship to make "the Citizen Kane of bad movies" (Entertainment Weekly), which is now an international phenomenon, with Wiseau himself beloved as an oddball celebrity. Written with award-winning journalist Tom Bissell, The Disaster Artist is an inspiring tour de force, an open-hearted portrait of an enigmatic man who will improbably capture your heart.

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Customer Reviews

Greg Sestero has done something fantastic. He’s managed to perfectly pinpoint all of Tommy Wiseau’s eccentricities and show us exactly why we should care about him. Our dear Sestosterone is not only talented at growing beards and playing football, he’s also a great and engaging writer. As a longtime fan of The Room, I really enjoyed the way Greg switched between talking about his early years with Tommy and the actual drama happening on the set of The Room. Each anecdote is better than the last.I think as fans we sometimes forget that these characters we see onscreen (and yell insults to on countless midnight screenings) are portrayed by actual human beings, separate from their characters. I loved reading about how Juliette Daniels ended up playing Lisa and Dan Janjigian’s preparation for the Oscar-worthy role of Chris-R. The Disaster Artist has brought an entirely new dimension to The Room. The book’s biggest feat was helping the reader understand Tommy Wiseau, as much as anyone can understand Tommy Wiseau. Some of the details that Greg shares with us break my heart. I now view Tommy in the same way one would view a vampire puppy-- with an equal mixture of "aw" and "eek".I can be sure that the next midnight screening I attend, I’ll be giggling to myself over how long it took to shoot the famous, "I did naaht heet her" line. Or over the real reason why Peter was blinking so much. Or whether the enigmatic Chloe knows what obscenities audiences yell when they see her name appear onscreen. Without this book I would never have known that I’ve memorized The Room better than Tommy Wiseau. It was a fantastic read and I’m so excited to see what Greg Sestero does next!

Many of us have gawked in amusement at the wonder of nature that is Tommy Wiseau. We have enjoyed his magnum opus, The Room. Yet, we have many questions about him and his work that Google searches can’t answer. This book satiates our curiosity -- to a point -- but many questions remain unanswered, and I don’t think it’s on account of the author’s negligence, but simply because Tommy tries really hard to stay unfathomable. In this respect, our knowledge about Tommy increases, but not our bewilderment -- which is a good thing for me.For instance, we only get approximations of where Tommy is from and when he immigrated to the US (stopping first in France), but we never learn his birth name or much about his family and upbringing. We’re given an explanation of how Tommy amassed the fortune it took to produce The Room, but it lacks details so we can’t prevent the thought that there was something else to it, i.e. illicit activities; Sestero assures us though that no criminal organization would be stupid enough to enroll Tommy in its ranks. In sum, Sestero can only guarantee the truthfulness of what he witnessed firsthand, and we have reason to believe Tommy’s often full of it.The best part of the book for me was finding answers to

questions I really wasn't asking about him, e.g. how is it to have Tommy as a roommate? What took him to write a movie script in the first place? What does his current name mean, and why did he choose it? Why is he so manipulative? All of this information is packed in a well-written story that flows in chapters that alternate between two timelines, the story of Tommy and Greg's acquaintance and friendship, and the production of The Room, with a nice cinematic arch too, building up to a conflict and climax. I loved reading this book, and found myself alternating between judging and relating Tommy, but my fondness for this unique "human bean" has grown a thousand times.

I haven't read many books due to having a severely bad attention span, but this book had no problem at keeping me sucked in. I lost count of how many times I laughed out loud and had to stop reading for a second to gather myself. Not only is it hilarious, but it's inspirational and sad. Reading about Greg's struggle at his dream to become an actor hit me hard. Becoming an actor is somewhat like being an artist or musician. The friendship between Greg and Tommy is like no other. Two opposite ends of the spectrum guys on a rollercoaster of a relationship. There were times when it was hilarious and times when it was down right sad and depressing. Being a huge fan of The Room and getting this detailed look into the making was so fascinating. I love this book. If you love The Room BUY IT NOW. If you've never heard of The Room I'm sure it would still be a great read, but I highly recommend seeing it.

I was going through a reading "slump" while in college, where I had lost all interest in reading. Both my boyfriend and I bought this book on the same day, funnily enough because we both wanted me to read something that might be enjoyable. The writing is visual and insightful to the relationship between Tommy and Greg. I was a little bummed out at first when I found out that the book wasn't totally written by Greg and that a professional writer helped make the book more enjoyable (wouldn't quite say a "ghost writer" as I'm pretty sure he's openly given credit in the book), but I can't wait to read this book again.

Truly hilarious book. I had so much fun while reading this gem. Being a huge B-movie (aka bad movie) fan I am fascinated by the 2001 cult classic The Room. This book, written By Greg, the writer/directors reluctant right hand man tells the unbelievable story of how the movie came to be. So many moments in the room that are weird and/or puzzling are explained and have funny reasons behind them. I am glad I own this book and can pick it up anytime I need a laugh

If you've seen The Room, this is a must-read to learn about all the zaniness that went into making it.If you haven't seen TR -- maybe the worst movie ever made -- this is still worth your while. It's actually a moving read as the tale of two dreamers struggling in Hollywood and finding success in the unlikeliest place. Just as I believe The Room actually resonates with people -- it's a story about love, loss, and betrayal, and people can relate even if it's done poorly -- so too does this book carry real emotional weight while also being hilarious.

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