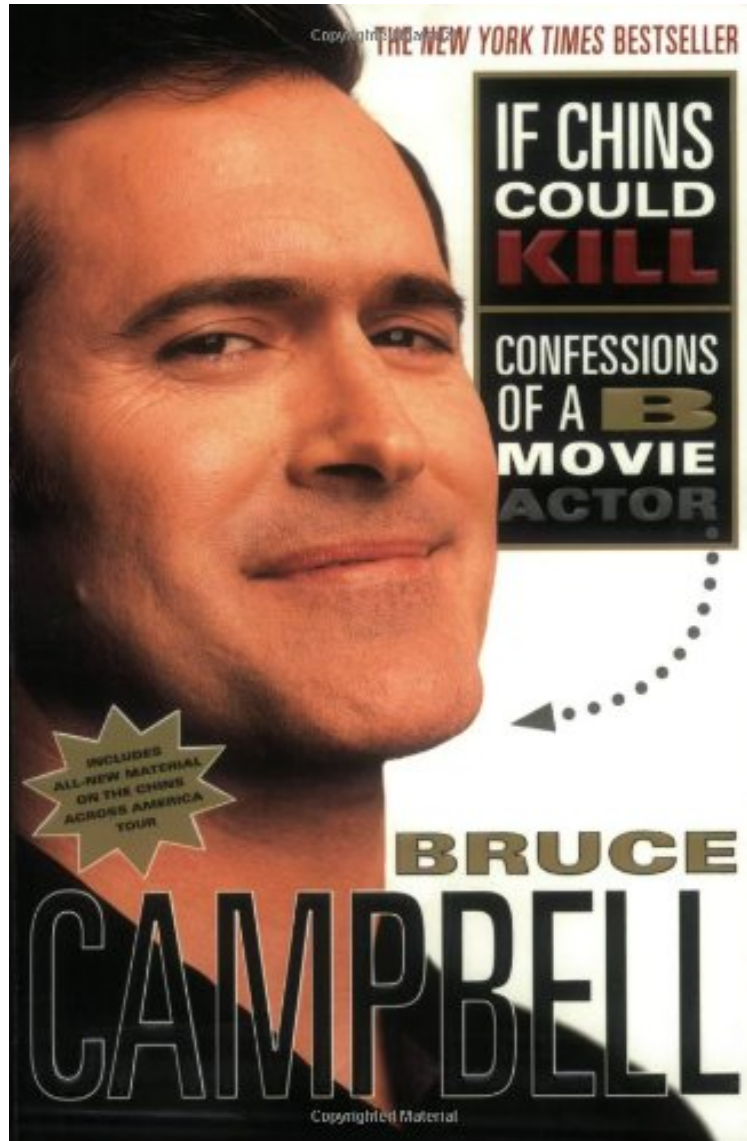


(Download pdf) If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor

If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor

Bruce Campbell

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Bruce Campbell : If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hail to the KingBy Phillip SchultzWhy should you care about his book? Whether you are a fan of Bruce Campbell or don't know who the heck he is, his book shows off a different side of Hollywood. Sure, most of his anecdotes take place outside of the glitzy town, but the sentiment remains. As one of the "working stiffs", he puts the effort that goes into the making of movies and TV shows front and center, without

downplaying the importance of the people behind the scenes. I've seen a bunch of stuff with Bruce Campbell in it. This book showed me just how prolific of an actor he is, and it only goes through the late 90s! While he focuses on how he got into acting and the first Evil Dead movie, there are stories about so many different projects. I like that it gives a range because it gives a good idea about how similar and different putting together a movie or a TV show (or small scale vs large scale movies) are. It helps to have seen Evil Dead to enjoy a large section of this book. If you haven't seen the film (or the sequels at least), there are references to the finished product that just don't make sense. Plus, it would be harder to appreciate all of the work that ended up going into the film without having an idea of how the whole thing turned out. Aside from that, it is a great view of how the regular people involved with these type of projects contribute. Campbell's knowledge of the various roles is readily seen and adds a lot to this insight. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not bad, it's like Burn Notice didn't exist. By Timothy TI wasn't an Evil Dead fan, although I have watched the recent one. I know Bruce more from pop culture and especially Burn Notice. The first few chapters were a tough read, describing a fairly typical childhood. Almost lost me there but then the book took off with plenty of smiles and laugh out loud moments so hang in there. That all said, Burn Notice was ignored until suddenly he was overseas with his Burn Notice star. Weird. Sure would have liked to read more about Burn Notice, so I suspect it wasn't that great of an experience? He discussed every other bit part he ever had making this more confusing. I found myself skipping some pages later on as well. While some say that the book is a good read for non-Evil Dead fans, I'm not so sure... I noticed quite a few places where words ran into each other and a handful of typos, especially a wrong word here and there. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A refreshing, conversational style. By Tammy J Rizzo I've always enjoyed watching Bruce Campbell's tv and film work, so when I learned he had a book out about working in Hollywood, I jumped at the chance to get it. And am I ever glad that I did! Full of personal anecdotes and insider stories, the book takes you behind the scenes of an interesting career in entertainment. A fascinating book!

Okay, so at least you're interested enough to pick up this book and look inside. I think you and I are going to get along just fine. Life is full of choices. Right now, yours is whether or not to buy the autobiography of a mid-grade, kind of hammy actor. Am I supposed to know this guy? you think to yourself. No, and that's exactly the point. Bookstores are chock full of household name actors and their high stakes shenanigans. I don't want to be a spoilsport, but we've all been down that road before. Case in point: look to your left - see that Judy Garland book? You don't need that, you know plenty about her already - great voice, crappy life. Now look to your right at the Charlton Heston book. You don't need to cough up hard-earned dough for that either. You know his story too - great voice, crappy toupee. The truth is that though you might not have a clue who I am, there are countless working stiffs like me out there, grinding away every day at the wheel of fortune. If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor is my first book, and I invite you to ride with me through the choppy waters of blue collar Hollywood. Okay, so buy the damned book already and read like the wind! Best, Bruce Campbell P.S. If the book sucks, at least there are gobs of pictures, and they're not crammed in the middle like all those other actor books.

From Publishers Weekly Though it offers few revelations about the details of Campbell's personal life, this entertaining and witty Hollywood memoir combines his life story with how-to guidance on making independent films and becoming a pop culture cult hero. Campbell began working in show business as a teenager, and in high school became friends with future director Sam Raimi, with whom he eventually co-produced the 1982 cult horror hit Evil Dead, in which Campbell starred. Despite his wry, modest sense of humor Campbell recognizes the peculiar place that Evil Dead holds in contemporary culture he sincerely conveys the enormous commitment and work that went into making and marketing the movie. By the time he describes the film's premiere, Campbell's sense of triumph is palpable: we share his excitement when the film makes back its money and by 2000 becomes number three on the all-time video charts after Lady and the Tramp and Titanic. When Campbell isn't starring in new films like Evil Dead II and Moontrap, he is desperately often hilariously looking for investors for his new projects. His subtitle aside, Campbell's career has gone mainstream: he has appeared in Homicide and Ellen, is a regular on Hercules and Xena, and has started directing as well. (June) Forecast: While a boon to film cultists and to Campbell's many fans, this book also has enough insights and smarts to appeal to readers with a serious interest in popular culture. A planned author tour and national print advertising will help it capitalize on Campbell's cult following. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal This engaging memoir offers much more than the standard, glamorous "and then I did..." show business autobiography. In an informal and entertaining style, Campbell describes his suburban childhood in 1950s Detroit, his introduction to acting at 13 via a summer stock production of The King and I, his involvement in theatrics and an 8mm movie production in high school, a semester-long foray into higher education, and his adult career as an actor. A large portion of the work is devoted to his friendship and working relationship with director Sam Raimi, who was a high school classmate and whose successful film Evil Dead brought them both to public attention. The book offers insights into the world of independent filmmaking and the life of a "B" actor, but most importantly it succeeds as an evocative memoir that allows the reader to know Campbell. Highly recommended

for large public and academic libraries with film collections. Bruce Henson, Georgia Tech Lib., Atlanta Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Campbell, famed and in some quarters beloved star of Sam Raimi's ridiculously scary/scarily ridiculous horror flicks (Evil Dead, Evil Dead II, Armies of Darkness) since their high-school days, has a rapier wit that he plies handily against the weird little world in which he toils. He notes, for example, how much thriller-comedies like Raimi's resemble such syndicated-TV sword-sandals-biceps-boobs-'n'-magic fests as Xena and Hercules, in both of which he just happens to have recurring roles. Exceptionally literate yet conversational, wide-ranging but never wandering, and copiously, gleefully illustrated, Campbell's self-life is, as he says, "not about an actor's 'meteoric' rise or 'tragic' fall" but is "dedicated to the players on the second string, the 'B' people," with whom he cheerfully identifies. Light reading it may be, but it contains much important lifestyle information, such as how to deal with a cracked block in a 1976 Opal Isuzu, and the merits of using a brush to paint a car with house paint. The true Hollywood and behind-the-scenes-with-Xena-and-Gaby stuff is just so much whipped cream on the sundae. Mike Tribby Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved