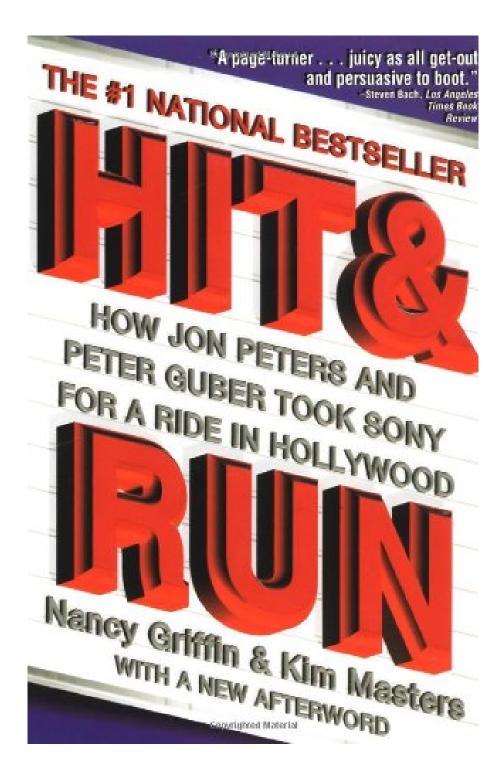


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If there is a more archetypical tale of Hollywood in the '80s than the buccaneers' adventures of Jon Peters, Barbra Streisand's former hairdresser, and his business partner Peter Guber, it hasn't been written yet. This thorough, stylish book recounts the rise of Peters and Guber, who together earned fortunes by schmoozing their way to the top, seducing gullible investors, and shoving aside the filmmakers who actually turned out successful films like "Rain Man" and "Batman." The Japanese executives at Sony, in this delightful insider account, were just the most recent and most hoodwinked in a long line of Peters' and Gubers' dupes.

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Hit and Run tells the improbable and often hilarious story of how two Hollywood film packagers went on a campaign to reinvent themselves as studio executives -- at Sony's expense. Veteran reporters Nancy Griffin and Kim Masters chronicle the rise of Jon Peters, a former hairdresser, seventh-grade dropout, and juvenile delinquent, and his soulless soul mate, Peter Guber -- and all the sex, drugs, and fistfights along the way. It is the story of the ultimate Hollywood con job and the standard by which every subsequent business blunder has been measured. Hit and Run delivers rock-solid business reporting liberally laced with inside gossip and outrageous scandal -- plus a new afterword bringing us up to date on the latest fallout from the Guber-Peters legacy.

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23 of 25 people found the following review helpful.

The funniest non-fiction book you will ever read

By 718 Session

I read this book three years ago and I'm still laughing.

Griffin & Masters have created THE required reading book on everything that is wrong with Hollywood. They were able to tell the inside stories of multi-million dollar deals and make them understandable. Jon Peters, a barely literate hairdresser who happened to be friends with Barbara Streisand, and his business partner Peter Guber schmoozed their way through the 80s and were picked by Sony to run their newly acquired Columbia/Tri-Star pictures. Billions of dollars in losses later (Last Action Hero, I'll Do Anything) they got kicked out.

It is really an incredible story. If it was fiction, you'd think it completly impossible to believe, but it is all true.

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

A compelling tale of a great Hollywood tragedy

By A Customer

The authors have done an amazing job of compiling an incredible amount of information and assimilating it in a well-thought out and informative manner. The story of how Jon Peters and Peter Guber were able to so completely screw Sony is unbelievable. Yet, Kim Masters and Nancy Griffin boil all the subplots down into a manageable and compelling story that is completely accessible. It isn't often that a non-fiction book reads like a novel. An absolute must-read for anyone interested in the film industry.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

As frightening as The Exorcist.

By William E. Hunter

This is one of those must-read Hollywood exposes, along the lines of "The Battle for Brazil" and "Indecent Exposure". It recounts the truly amazing story of how two small-timers in the business, Peter Gruber and Jon Peters, somehow rose to the top of the industry and headed Columbia Pictures for Sony...taking them on an incredible ride of excess and mismanagement. The real villan here though is Sony's seemingly endless series of bonehead moves during their purchase of Columbia, overpaying billions and putting their trust in two of

the greatest flim-flam artists in Hollywood. Not only do they grossly overpay during the purchase, but they continue to pay and pay and pay...it really does boggle the mind. It's a ringing examination of the dangers of multi-culture dealings, and an entertaining, and truly frightening, trip through the Hollywood movie machine.

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