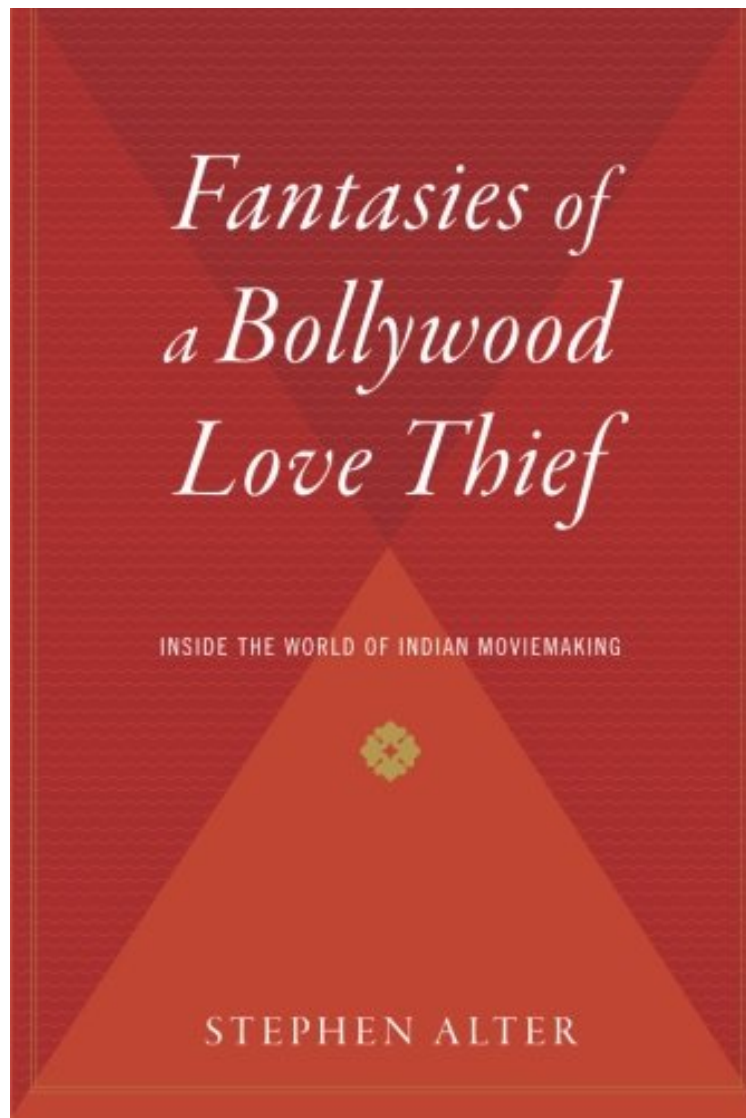


(Mobile ebook) *Fantasies of a Bollywood Love Thief: Inside the World of Indian Moviemaking*

Fantasies of a Bollywood Love Thief: Inside the World of Indian Moviemaking

Stephen Alter

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Stephen Alter : Fantasies of a Bollywood Love Thief: Inside the World of Indian Moviemaking before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Fantasies of a Bollywood Love Thief: Inside the World of Indian Moviemaking*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. more than my expectations By Pleasure This is a book for a true bollywood fan, which luckily I am. First the title is a bit strange. When I saw the cover I thought it was some kind of

story/novel. But I was mistaken. It's a book about the Bollywood industry, the Bollywood filmmaking, the important characters from the industry, and some nice background information. I have watched a lot of Hindi movies and also *Omkara*, which is where the book mostly is about. So it's better than any behind-the-scenes documentary on a DVD. I highly recommend this if you want to know more about the Bollywood film-making process. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Understanding the process By Fredde Lieberman This book is like a documentary on how a Bollywood film is created from idea to opening night. It follows the Director Madhur Bhandarkar as he envisions and succeeds in making the film *Omkara* taken from Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. After reading the book I watched the film and now totally admire Bhandarkar's mastery of cinema. The book inspired me to watch all his films. The book also gives a deep insight into the Bollywood elite and their culture to their celluloid magic. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Very good book and insight on the culture of movie producing in Bollywood By prya I really enjoyed this book. It takes you through the production process of the Bollywood film *Omkara* which is a masala film. A masala film is what moviegoers in India call a melodrama film. In real life Masala is a specific mix of spices used for cooking. You can buy the (garam) masala in the store or you can buy the different spices and make it yourself. These spices infuse the body temperature literally. So the author compares the film *Omkara* to Bollywood Industry masala film. If you are into Hindi films and Indian contemporary culture you will enjoy this book. If you are into video production and cinematography you will also enjoy this as well.

Bollywood movies are glorious, colorful spectacles of romance, action, drama, song, and dance. The biggest film industry in the world, Bollywood puts out some nine hundred movies a year, which are watched by passionate fans around the globe. Stephen Alter, a writer who grew up in India and has inside access to Bollywood acts as translator and tour guide in this firsthand look into the world of Bombay films. Following the making of a Bollywood version of *Othello*, he explores the enormous popularity of Hindi movies and reveals the actors, directors, musicians, and feats of artifice that make them so compelling and unique. From the blessing ceremony performed each time a movie starts shooting to the secrets behind the song- and-dance extravaganzas, *Fantasies of a Bollywood Love-Thief* is a beguiling introduction to the rituals and culture of a moviemaking industry so similar to and yet utterly different from our own.

From Publishers Weekly Indian cinema goes by the shorthand Bollywood, which refers to Hindi-language films produced in Mumbai (formerly Bombay). The style of filmmaking is distinct: elaborate plots, lots of song and dance and colorful costumes. It's got its own celebrities, and a fan base bigger than the combined population of Europe and America. Producing more than 900 movies a year, Bollywood is an exotic mystery to Westerners. Alter (Elephas Maximus) lives and works in India; he's a natural guide into this complex world. He explains that Bollywood films are made by entrepreneurs rather than studios, with hit songs propelling the films, and along the way discusses the plots, the stars and the creators. Because romance is a key plot device, the love thief, a character who steals another's heart, boasts enduring appeal. Much of the book is devoted to the making of *Omkara*, an updated, uniquely Indian take on Shakespeare's *Othello*. Alter clearly loves the medium and sprinkles in a history of this fascinating industry, but by covering the production of just one film however evocative he doesn't fully capture the industry. (Aug.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. PRAISE FOR ELEPHAS MAXIMUS "Magical and fascinating." THE BOSTON GLOBE "Deftly blend[s] Indian history and culture with current debates about animal conservation . . . Joyous." THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE