

### Easy Riders, Raging Bulls: How the Sex-Drugsand-Rock 'N' Roll Generation Saved Hollywood

Peter Biskind

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When the low-budget biker movie *Easy Rider* shocked Hollywood with its success in 1969, a new Hollywood era was born. This was an age when talented young filmmakers such as Scorsese, Coppola, and Spielberg, along with a new breed of actors, including De Niro, Pacino, and Nicholson, became the powerful figures who would make such modern classics as *The Godfather, Chinatown, Taxi Driver*, and *Jaws. Easy Riders, Raging Bulls* follows the wild ride that was Hollywood in the '70s -- an unabashed celebration of sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll (both onscreen and off) and a climate where innovation and experimentation reigned supreme. Based on hundreds of interviews with the directors themselves, producers, stars, agents, writers, studio executives, spouses, and ex-spouses, this is the full, candid story of Hollywood's last golden age.

MARTIN SCORSESE ON DRUGS: "I did a lot of drugs because I wanted to do a lot, I wanted to push all

**MARTIN SCORSESE ON DRUGS:** "I did a lot of drugs because I wanted to do a lot, I wanted to push all the way to the very very end, and see if I could die."

**DENNIS HOPPER ON** *EASY RIDER:* "The cocaine problem in the United States is really because of me. There was no cocaine before *Easy Rider* on the street. After *Easy Rider*, it was everywhere."

**GEORGE LUCAS ON** *STAR WARS:* "Popcorn pictures have always ruled. Why do people go see them? Why is the public so stupid? That's not my fault."



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