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# #SOBLESSED: The Annoying Actor Friend's Guide To Working In Show Business

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Krysta Rodriguez. #soylatteblessed  
Andrew Keenan-Bolger.WERK.#SIP  
and Brian Dennehy. @Actor\_Friend



## Synopsis

In the cutthroat world of theater, actors need all the help they can get to have a #legup on the competition. This essential "how-to" guide explains it all - from choosing the right college to making your Broadway debut - while teaching you how to behave on social media along the way! This book will aid you in your quest to find what it means to be #SOBLESSED. #SOBLESSED: the Annoying Actor Friend's Guide to Working in Show Business is an irreverent analysis of what life is like for both aspiring and employed actors and actresses in today's world. The complete list of narrators includes Alan Cumming, Lesli Margherita, Megan Hilty, Julia Murney, Will Swenson, Keala Settle, Tituss Burgess, Krysta Rodriguez, Andrew Keenan-Bolger, and Brian Dennehy. All of the publisher's proceeds from the sale of this audiobook benefit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

OMG, this is the #bestbookever! I'm not even in show business (much less Broadway) and I ate it up like it was a pudding cup. I'm obsessed with finding out the real identity of @Actor\_Friend. I can't seem to find anything online, and believe me I've looked. If you understand Sondheim in-jokes and care about what people think of you on Twitter -- this is the book for you!

A fast read, with plenty of laughs on every page. While I'm involved in theatre, a lot of it is relatively new to me, so it was nice to get the frustrated actor's view of it. Now if I could just figure out if one of my friends is Annoying Actor Friend!

Even as a college student who has no intentions of going into the performing side of show business, #soblessed is great for any avid theater fan. I read the entire book in a five hour work shift and had to stifle my laughter the entire time.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading excerpts of this groundbreaking literature aloud backstage to the other Les Miserables ensemble members. Thanks universe for having this book released during tech week! #soblessed to be working.

I tried to like this book, I really did. Read the whole thing through, and unfortunately, I think I'm part of the minority of people that did not like this book. But to try and be positive I'll start with good things about the book: The author gives some useful information about the theatre industry and living in New York. His opinions on musical theatre in college/auditioning are really interesting and for me, that was my favorite section of the book (which makes sense since I'm a young adult who's looking to audition for schools soon). The author definitely has a unique voice when writing and makes the book interesting to read. Bad things about the book: All the humor and the hashtag stuff is not my cup of tea. I think it's just my personal taste. I think most people would really like this book for its humor, but I felt the author's funny tone and comments (in my opinion) take away from the useful info he's giving. This book was a lot of style/voice over content. I didn't learn a lot of new things from this book :( I wish I liked this book, I really wish but unfortunately, I would not recommend this book to anyone.

Forget all the fluffy "Follow your dreams and be a star" rhetoric of the show business of the past. This book isn't for Peggy Sawyer, because Peggy Sawyer isn't real (except if you're Sutton Foster). #SOBLESSED, its audiobook, and the NYC concerts produced let you know loud and clear that if you want to werq (do we still spell it with a q or is that so 2012?), you need to put in so much analysis and actual work. If you live in New York City, you'll know what Annoying Actor Friend is talking about when they joke about getting to auditions on time from Astoria. If you're applying for BFA programs, the education section is way more helpful than all the Orange County musical theatre gossip I was subject to as a teen (which was, like, five minutes ago, duh). No matter what your walk of life is, the crowning achievements of this book are the labor of love that is explaining how to get on unemployment as an actor and the publicly released excerpt explaining the fall of the touring production contract. If you're a dad who misses a lot of your kid's recitals, buy this book for

your kid and maybe snag a copy for yourself so you can catch a glimpse into your kick-ball-changing child's future. Also, if you're a fan of laughing out loud in public, this book is a fantastic subway/waiting to hear if they're seeing non-eq read.

As a non-theater professional, I've been following AF on Twitter since the Smash blogs. Beneath the snark are lessons that go beyond the life of working actors. The points about social media douchery are lessons anyone in any profession should take to heart--especially since employers often look at their employee's and potential employee's social media accounts to find out the kind of person they are. Tips about networking and researching others in the same profession can be helpful in getting ahead. As a frequent theater-goer, the behind-the-scenes peek at the hard lives of working actors, and how they have been misrepresented by their union over the last decade or so is eye-opening. I'd suggest this is a must-read for any theater student. Definitely for actors. If only to see how closely AF represents their struggle (unless they went to Michigan). Theater fans should also read this for the humor, but they can also take away a deeper appreciation for the lives of the people they see onstage.

This book is a must read for families with kids who aspire to be on stage. While he does have lots of funny, snarky comments about fellow actors, the real value of the book is his unvarnished opinion about the struggles to make it as an actor in New York. It is frightening! He very correctly sums up the college audition process, nailing the part about over-involved parents. His tone is funny throughout, so it is no snooze fest. The final chapter of his previous twitter posts about annoying actors are hysterical, and you will laugh at his writing. If you are looking for a way to scare the pants off your starstruck kids, this is your book! Before you pay for headshots and book your kid on a grand tour for college auditions, you may want to read this first and save yourself a lot of money!

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