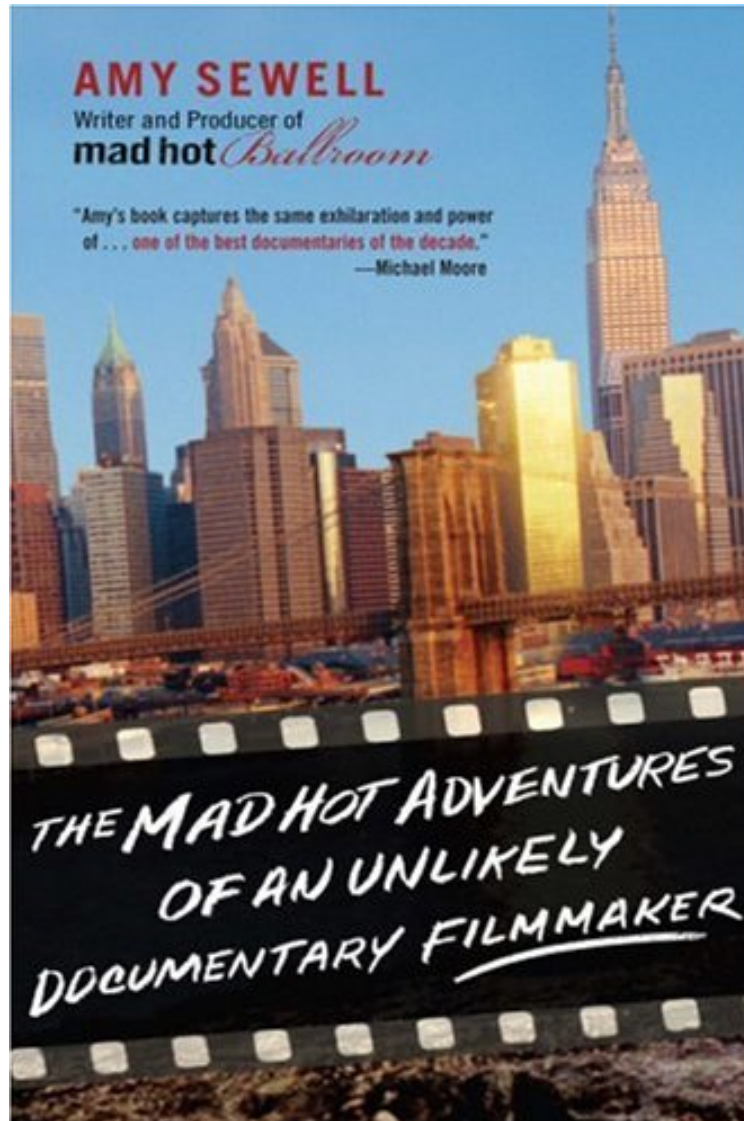


(Ebook free) The Mad Hot Adventures of an Unlikely Documentary Filmmaker

The Mad Hot Adventures of an Unlikely Documentary Filmmaker

Amy Sewell

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Amy Sewell : The Mad Hot Adventures of an Unlikely Documentary Filmmaker before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Mad Hot Adventures of an Unlikely Documentary Filmmaker:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good story, but a bit misleading.....By cooknTbone First off I really did enjoy the book. LOTS of really great info for anyone interested in filming a doc film. I had NO idea there was so much legal "stuff" to deal with! Wow.... a lot of that makes you NOT want to make a film! The writer is so passionate

about this project, and it really comes out in the book. It is written from a very female viewpoint.... you never forget that it's a woman telling the story... sometimes this is interesting, sometimes, not as much... I would have liked a lot more details in some places, but honestly, she set out to write about how an average person was able to make a "hit" movie... at least by DOC standards... and she does that really well. At the end of the day I think my only complaint is how she describes herself as an average mom.... As a writer with an MBA and obviously her finances allowed her to do this project without the need to hold down a job.... like most "average" persons these days... And maybe I'm not "average", but I do NOT have friends and family who would be able to loan... give or invest a quarter million bucks! To take nothing from the film, OR the book, both are done well, but to say it was done by an "average mom and wife" is a pretty darn big stretch... But if you have the dream of making a movie... this book is worth picking up. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good dose of inspiration

By Karin Norgard
This book combines the inspirational story of the making of "Mad Hot Ballroom" with starting tips for the beginning documentary filmmaker. For fans of the documentary and for aspiring documentary filmmakers, it provides interesting and amusing stories from behind the scenes of one of the top ten documentaries of all time. It is by no means a how-to guide for making a documentary; however, there are some good tips and starting points for research into the process. The book's strong point is the inspiration and the passion behind the project as well as the inside look that the author provides on the process. The author actually could have focused completely on the inspirational stories behind the documentary to make it appeal to a wider audience, with an appendix at the end of the book for tips and information of the documentary-making process (or, she could have written two different books). However, Sewell manages to make the double focus work well because of her passion and enthusiasm. Overall, this is a quick and enjoyable read, recommended for fans of the documentary and for beginning documentary filmmakers looking for some inspiration and tips to start them on their journey. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. excellent book for first time movie makers

By ELIZABETH
Having just taken a course in film production I bought this book because Amy Sewell's movie was highlighted as an example of a huge success for a first time filmmaker. One can see why. Reading this book gives an insight into how passionate and dedicated she was to make Mad Hot Ballroom. Amy Sewell's book is well written, informative and entertaining to read. I highly recommend it.

Want to make a documentary Meet Amy Sewell, a former stay-at-home mother of twins with no filmmaking experience, who fell in love with a story about ballroom dancing kids. She went on to make and sell one of the most successful documentaries of all time. Is that possible? How did she do it? In this engaging and insightful book, Sewell, the writer and producer of Mad Hot Ballroom, takes readers through the process. She describes her struggles and shares what she learned, from refining an idea, to raising money, to hiring a crew, to the festival circuit, distribution, and beyond. Informed by charming personal anecdotes and her infectious enthusiasm and energy, this book is an essential and inspiring guide to filmmaking from someone who burst on the scene, made her own rules, and survived to tell the tale. The Mad Hot Adventures of an Unlikely Documentary Filmmaker is a must-read for all aspiring filmmakers.

"Thank you, Amy, for this book and for one of the best documentaries of the decade." -- Michael Moore
"Very readable and especially fun for lovers of the movie." -- Carl Glassman, Tribeca Trib
"What an inspiration -- a book about how a regular person got a great idea for a project and made it happen -- complete with notes at the end of each chapter: how to make your own documentary film; how to come up with a concept; how to raise funds; how to get copyrights and clearances; how to film, edit and edit market it, even a checklist of equipment and costs, it's all here. Amy Sewell's The Mad Hot Adventures of an Unlikely Documentary Filmmaker is like a well-written cookbook . . . Sewell is straightforward, humble and surprised at her success, and she delights at the idea that anyone can do it." -- Los Angeles Times

About the Author
Amy Sewell is a freelance writer who worked in communications for 12 years before taking time off to raise a family. She is currently working on a television sitcom called Mommy Juice and her next documentary, which she hopes to release in 2008. Amy lives with her husband and twin daughters in New York City.