



Do the Right Thing: A Spike Lee Joint

Spike Lee , Lisa Jones

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The phenomenon of Spike Lee continues with this revealing and engaging look at his outstanding career, his creative process, and the screenplay for his dynamic movie Do The Right Thing. Spike Lee burst full formed into the screen world with his award-winning, commercially successful independent film She's Gotta Have It. In the few short years following this stellar debut he has established himself as a force to be reckoned with in the film industry and in American popular culture. This book reveals Spike Lee as a Hollywood iconoclast and gifted visionary and takes us though the dramatic sequence of events that brought the movie Do The Right Thing to fruition. It is a testimonial to his developing genius, written in the stingly funny and informed language of Spike Lee.

Do the Right Thing: A Spike Lee Joint Details

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Author : Spike Lee , Lisa Jones

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From Reader Review Do the Right Thing: A Spike Lee Joint for online ebook

Dankwa Brooks says

A really good “coffee table book”. Lots of great big glossy stills (photos) from the film. Besides the great photos one of the best parts of the book is the "Oral History by Jason Matloff" featuring pretty much everyone from the film, cast & crew, involved in the classic film.

Also included in the book a copy of the handwritten screenplay by Spike Lee. I didn't think it would be, but reading the script to a film I know all so well was strangely compelling.

If you are a fan of the classic film like I am this is a must have.

Note: This book is markedly different from the other Do The Right Thing book by Spike Lee. You can read my review of that book at <http://www.goodreads.com/review/show/...>

Anthony McGill says

SAVORING SPIKE'S 'JOINT'.

A special film deserves special attention.

This book contains Spike Lee's extensive journal which gives a fascinating account of the promotion of his earlier "School Daze" flick and the preparation for the making of "Do the Right Thing" plus production notes for the latter; altogether running some 100 pages of insight into the craft of filmmaking.

There are also 30 pages of black and white Bill Lee photos of on-location shooting with detailed comments by the various participants associated with the production. Lee's second draft script is reproduced and added at the end are some neat storyboard designs for the film - one of the most interesting and important American movies of the last 30 years.

Brandon says

Read half. Maybe next time I watch the movie, I will read the other half.

Adam says

Essential reading for anyone who loves movies. Only wish it was longer. Now I have to catch up with Lee's She's Gotta Have It and School Daze journals.

Jessie says

LOVVVVED reading about the process that SL & co. went through to get DtRT made. If you're a cinephile or if you're a Spike Lee fan you'll enjoy this book. If you're both then you'll love it! So glad to round out Black History Month with this book. Movies + culture + books = LIFE ??

Maria says

You CANNOT even imagine how happy I was when this book arrived at my doorstep! Do the Right Thing is such an amazing movie - and it only seems right that this coffee-table book be used to celebrate its accomplishments.

Right off the bat, this book is so entertaining because it features dialogue between all of the major actors/directors/producers of the film - and they don't always agree on what happened on the set! The back-and-forth between them make the book easy to read and hilarious. As soon as I started reading it, I didn't want to put it down. Imagine an E-True Hollywood Story, but in book form. It was also very interesting to remember that it was not so long ago that Brooklyn was not the place for some of the white actors to be. Race issues have come a long way since Do the Right Thing was made, and it's awesome to read about some of the things that happened while everyone was on set.

The next section of the book focused on pictures from the movie. Actually, they basically showed you the entire movie through the photography and it is GORGEOUS! Each photograph is great enough to frame and hang on your wall. They tell the story beautifully and I loved turning each page to see what picture would come next.

Finally - and this is my absolute favorite part of the book - there is actually a photocopy of Spike Lee's actual handwritten script. I mean, for me, as an aspiring writer/screenwriter, this is invaluable. I love looking at some of the things that were crossed out, placed in. I loved reading what was supposed to be versus what actually was. I think this was the most perfect way for this book to end.

Trust me, if you like films. If you like Spike Lee. If you like Do The Right Thing. This book is a MUST-BUY!

Maria @GoodChoiceReading.com

Emily Henriott says

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Michael Borshuk says

A volume that includes the shooting script and production notes for one of the most important American films of the past thirty years. It is striking how many of the concerns about racial antagonism in America that

inspired the film's narrative remain immediate now.

Darin says

First, this is a solid screenplay for a great movie. This script acted more like a blueprint with extra dialogue added on set. What makes this book so enjoyable is Spike Lee's journal. He explains how the ideas became the film and the production and casting meetings that went into its development. Since this ended up being his breakout movie, it is great to read the artist's thoughts as that project was developed.

Katies_Faves says

I had to read this for my Freshman Writing 101 class my first semester in college. It's been decades since I read it and yet I still think about this book (and the movie) quite often, not surprisingly though. I don't remember the actual writing of the book - only how it made me feel then and over the years. And because it's been decades since I read it and I still think about it I gave it 5 Stars.

It was my first introduction, I believe, of a book dealing with racism written by a black author. It tipped my world upside down and opened up a whole new realm I never knew existed (white privilege at its finest...). I was 18 yo, Living in Utah. My only interaction with a large group of Black people from the United States was from the summer before when I hung out with a group of students from Los Angeles, CA over in the Soviet Union on a student exchange program. They became my friends and I couldn't imagine why anyone would want to treat them less because of the color of their skin.

Cut to a year later and the grad student teaching my writing class assigned our class this book (she was also White, btw, but wanted to get us thinking differently right off the bat. We read a lot that quarter but this is the only book I still remember from that class). It started the process of opening my eyes to how Black people were/are treated here in America. It was very sobering. Very humbling. Very infuriating.

I remember feeling angry and hopeless that I couldn't change it which made me sad for everyone who actually had to live it. If I was feeling that imagine how people feel who have to live it?! It disgusted me and made me want to learn more, to do more. It was a great book to start my freshman year off and I'm grateful I got to read (and watch the movie).

Thank you Mr. Lee for writing this book and making this movie.

Dorkgod says

This book is a journal kept by Spike while writing "Do the right Thing." Very fascinating to get such an in depth look at one man's thought process from idea to screen.

Michael says

This large coffee-table type book consists of a 40 page oral history on the making of the film (with much of the cast and crew participating), a photo recap of the film, behind the scenes photos, and a reproduction Spike's handwritten script.

It's put together very well and the photos are beautiful, I just wish the oral history had been longer/more in-depth. Any behind the scenes film book now has to compete with Jan Stuart's "The Nashville Chronicles" for me, and this one just isn't quite as solid. It's well worth a look though, if you're a fan of the film and/or Spike Lee.

Dankwa Brooks says

‘Do the Right Thing’ is my FAVORITE “Spike Lee Joint”. Don’t know why it took me so long to get this book, but it did. Probably because I owned, and poured over all of the extras on the 2 Disc DVD. What more could I learn right? Turns out a lot more. Yes the DVD was very detailed, but much insight is to be gained in this book mostly curated from his journals while making DTRT.

For most of all of his early films, Spike Lee published an accompanying book. This was also mostly before DVDs with all of their commentaries and extras. Even back then it seems that Mr. Lee knew that other filmmakers like me were interested not only in his films, but the stories behind them as well.
