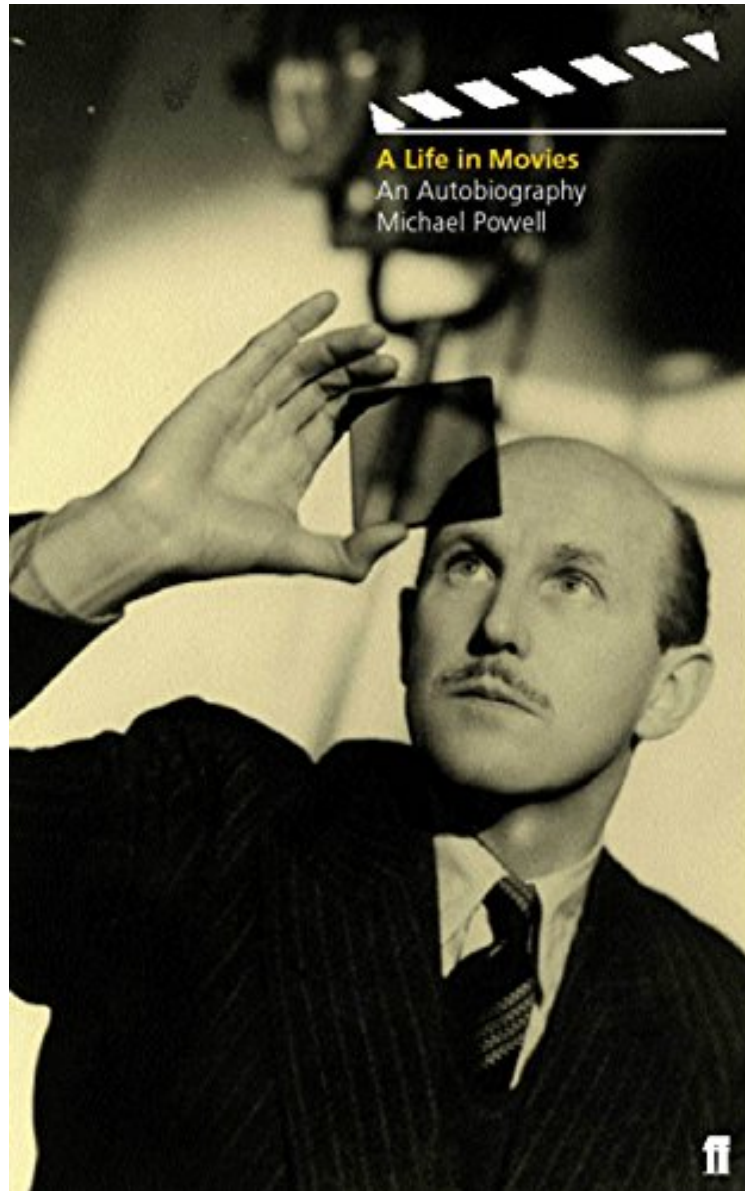


A Life in Movies

Michael Powell

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1642418 in Books 2000-10-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.50 x 1.84 x 5.25l, 1.93 #File Name: 0571204317736 pages | File size: 45.Mb

Michael Powell : A Life in Movies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Life in Movies:

13 of 16 people found the following review helpful. Well written autobiography of an esteemed British film director!By C. M MillsMeet Michael Powell! The great and iconoclastic film direcotr of such classics as "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp"; "The49th Parallel"; "The Canterbury Tales: "Black Narcissus": "Peeping Tom" and

countless others tells the story of his long, productive and adventurous life (1905-1990). Powell grew up in bucolic middle class farm life in Canterbury, Kent. His father divorced his mother moving to France following World War I. It was while staying with his father that Powell became involved in moviemaking as he joined the company led by director Rex Ingram on the French Riviera. Powell later became associated with Alfred Hitchcock, Arthur Rank, Michael Balcon and J. Arthur Rank. He made his first hit with his eccentric view of life in the Orkney islands in "The Edge of the World." Powell knew many of the great actors, directors and technicians who made the movies the folk tales of the 20th century. Powell's closest associate was the Hungarian writer Emeric Pressburger with whom he organized Archer Film Studios. One classic from this association was "The Red Shoes" which is arguably the finest ballet movie ever made! Among other things Powell was:

- a. A womanizer who wed several times and romanced the likes of actresses Deborah Kerr and Pamela Brown.
- b. A novelist and a director who actually read books! His writing style is anecdotal and very readable!
- c. Powell's love for film is manifest. Even though British film culture turned its back on him following his controversial "Peeping Tom" in 1960 he never gave up his love for film, storytelling and art. Powell is sadly little known on our side of the pond. He deserves to be better celebrated as one of the best film directors of the 20th century. With the TCM cable channel's recent festival of his best movies the hope is that Powell will become better known and his imperishable films enjoyed by a new generation of film fans. This was a fine book to spend several hours perusing in the company of a grand old man of British and world cinema.

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. An absolute must for any cinephile

By A Customer
A beautifully written account of a life dedicated to the making of films by a true Master of the medium. This book together with the other volume of his autobiography, Million Dollar Movie, gives the reader a wonderful insight into a very creative personality. Michael Powell recounts his life with charm, whimsy, wit and voluptuousness: a perfect picture of the man himself.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Nice read of much interest

By Michael A. Cropper
Good book, good subject, fairly well written in chatty style. Film is one of my interests and this man was at the forefront of the early UK and USA film direction with some great films.

Michael Powell lived intimately, and abundantly, with the movies - entering the business at the end of the silent era, growing up in the industry, becoming one of Britain's most respected and influential directors. This first volume of his autobiography captures the startling momentum of his mercurial early career: from apprenticeship with Hitchcock, to the fateful meeting with the man who became his principal collaborator Emeric Pressburger; to the glories of "A Matter of Life and Death", "Black Narcissus" and "The Red Shoes". Powell's writing has the same brilliant feel for time, place and story as his amazing films.