

### *Overnight* Documentary Film Analysis

The way Werner Herzog approached the challenges he faced throughout the production of his film, *Fitzcarraldo*, was immensely different than the way Troy Duffy approached the challenges he faced throughout the production of his film, *The Boondock Saints*. Herzog was also an experienced director while Duffy was an inexperienced director, so each had quite different views on how to make a film. Although Troy Duffy was inexperienced, most of the actors he worked with thought he was a great writer and director with a great vision. As a result, most would naturally tend to think that Duffy's film became a success. Instead, the exact opposite occurred: his film was blacklisted from Hollywood and nobody was willing to work with him anymore.

One thing that distinctly separated the production of each film was that Herzog, himself, made the filming of *Fitzcarraldo* quite difficult whereas Duffy was simply thrown an over-abundance of problems that he had to overcome. Either way, though, it doesn't necessarily matter who makes the problem occur. What matters is that the director knows how to overcome the problem he or she faces. Werner Herzog would face his problems with a positive attitude, a zero tolerance for failure, and his burning desire to do the best that he could possibly do. Troy Duffy, on the other hand, faced his problems with a negative attitude, rudeness, and the belief that he was better than everyone else in Hollywood because he was a nobody who had written an amazing screenplay.

Herzog was a man with a dream and nothing would stop him from fulfilling that dream. The only problem was that his dream was to film a movie in the middle of the Amazon Rainforest, which proved to be extremely difficult to do. No matter what challenges he faced, though, which were constantly being thrown his way, he would always find a way to overcome them and film the movie the way he had initially planned. Duffy, instead, was a man with a great idea who thought he was the best because of it. As a result, he became so overconfident in himself that when faced with real challenges of making *The Boondock Saints*, he would become angry and burn many bridges down between himself and the people

who could produce his movie and/or put his movie in theatres when the time came. Therefore, once his film was completed, no one would help him release it in theatres because he had treated everyone so poorly.

In conclusion, if a filmmaker has a clear goal, is prepared for inevitable difficulties that are bound to arise during production, and treats his or her co-workers with respect, of which all three qualities Werner Herzog had, he or she will have a fighting chance at making a good film. However, if a filmmaker doesn't have one or more of these three qualities, as was the case with Troy Duffy, he or she most likely will not have a very good chance of making a successful film, or any film at all. It also doesn't necessarily matter how experienced a filmmaker is. Even though a first-time filmmaker might not know all of the tricks and secrets behind making a successful film, not knowing all of the tricks and secrets brings a whole new perspective into the art of storytelling, truly giving the inexperienced filmmaker a chance at creating what he or she has imagined in his or her mind. Filmmaking is never exact, and it was never supposed to be. Every aspiring filmmaker has the potential to make a great film, no matter his or her experience, as long as he or she is willing to work hard and compromise to achieve his or her final goal.