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Matthew Modine

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Matthew Modine : Full Metal Jacket Diary before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Full Metal Jacket Diary:

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Despite the infamous reputation of the enigmatic Stanley Kubrick, Matthew Modine couldnt refuse his offer. Faced with the prospects of a career-defining role and mentorship by a cinematic great, the 24-year-old Hollywood actor arrived in London armed with a large-format Roliflex camerainspired by Kubricks early career as a Look photographerand a notebook to record his own on-set reportage; preparation for his starring role as a Marine Corps journalist.But expectations eroded as a strange, creeping sickness pervaded the set, a horrific accident sidelined a principal, and an unexpected rivalry arose with a co-star. And as the months dragged on, take-by-take, Modine realized he was falling victim to a manipulative mind-game of the Grand Master himself.By the time his tour of duty

ended a year and a half later, Modine had shot hundreds of photos and written countless entries. Only now after two decades and the death of Kubrick can Modine look back on his images and words. The result is a coming-of-age drama set against the backdrop of a seminal Vietnam saga. A book like no other, Stanley Kubrick would have been the first in line to buy Full Metal Jacket Diary.

From Publishers Weekly: Modine, who starred as Private Joker in Stanley Kubrick's 1987 Vietnam War masterpiece, Full Metal Jacket, gets right to the core of his subject by beginning with the question, "What was Stanley like?" He supplies the answers throughout this diary on the movie's filming, which should provide new insights for Kubrick enthusiasts. Modine's writing isn't graceful, but his insider's view of events has enough acrid flavor and authenticity to compensate. He explains Kubrick's philosophy by quoting him, "There are no bad ideas only better ones," and convincingly highlights the fanatical perfectionism that caused Kubrick to go "dangerously overboard... way behind schedule." Modine mentions the horror of eating fruits and meats that were actually from the Vietnam War, kept in cans for 20 years. Other atmospherically effective details include the "incredibly uncomfortable, gummy and viscous" makeup blood, freezing in jungle fatigues and experiencing through Kubrick's emphasis on raw reality what the war was like. The book is filled with Modine's excellent photographs, which powerfully supplement the sometimes sketchy narrative. In the end, the work succeeds in expressing Modine's attitude: "I'm going to make you feel the horror of death." The stainless steel-covered book is each one laser-etched with a serial number and should become a collector's item for fans of the legendary director. (Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author: Matthew Modine has starred in over forty films, including Any Given Sunday, Pacific Heights, Married to the Mob, Vision Quest, and Birdy.