



## Pulp Fiction: The Complete Story of Quentin Tarantino's Masterpiece

By Jason Bailey

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**Pulp Fiction: The Complete Story of Quentin Tarantino's Masterpiece** By Jason Bailey

When *Pulp Fiction* was released in theaters in 1994, it was immediately hailed as a masterpiece. The *New York Times* called it a “triumphant, cleverly disorienting journey,” and thirty-one-year-old Quentin Tarantino, with just three feature films to his name, became a sensation: the next great American director.

Nearly twenty years later, those who proclaimed *Pulp Fiction* an instant classic have been proven irrefutably right. In *Pulp Fiction: The Complete Story of Quentin Tarantino's Masterpiece*, film expert Jason Bailey explores why *Pulp Fiction* is such a brilliant and influential film. He discusses how the movie was revolutionary in its use of dialogue (“You can get a steak here, daddy-o,” “Correct-amundo”), time structure, and cinematography—and how it completely transformed the industry and artistry of independent cinema. He examines Tarantino's influences, illuminates the film's pop culture references, and describes its phenomenal legacy. Unforgettable characters like Jules Winnfield (Samuel L. Jackson), Vincent Vega (John Travolta), Butch Coolidge (Bruce Willis), and Mia Wallace (Uma Thurman) are scrutinized from all-new angles, and memorable scenes—Christopher Walken's gold watch monologue, Vince's explanation of French cuisine—are analyzed and celebrated.

Much like the contents of Marcellus Wallace's briefcase, *Pulp Fiction* is mysterious and spectacular. This book explains why. Illustrated throughout with original art inspired by the film, with sidebars and special features on everything from casting close calls to deleted scenes, this is the most comprehensive, in-depth book on *Pulp Fiction* ever published.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Who would've thought a book could outdo any DVD or interactive video assemblage on a film or filmmaker? Bailey (film editor, Flavorwire) not only culls the complete story of Quentin Tarantino's most influential work (arguably his masterpiece) but does so with visual panache and verbal wit and style using Tarantino techniques such as nonlinear structure, cutaways, and enlightening reveals. The book provides an immersive treasure trove of illusory and original photos, posters, maps, and infographics, thereby making local and linear the film's nonchronological order. There are album covers, product labels, pulp film posters, and book jackets, not to mention guest essays (on music, pulp novels, the F-word, and blaxploitation). Even those who are not fans of Tarantino must acknowledge that cinema has never been the same since *Pulp Fiction*, with its eccentric characters, deadpan violence, *Rashomon*-like revisitations of scene and perspective, metamovie commentary, and small-talk dialog—and Bailey eruditely reveals why. In the same manner as Q.T., he makes us more cinematically aware and intelligent viewers in the process. **VERDICT** Recommended for students, cinephiles, geeks, fans, and marketing reps/graphic designers (for the great designs and effective visual narrative devices used)." - *Library Journal*

"Illustrated with Pulp Fiction-inspired artwork, the tome also includes behind-the-scenes photos and movie stills as well as features on the origin story, the casting process, deleted scenes, and the film's impact on critics and audiences alike." - *Entertainment Weekly*

#### From the Back Cover

In this first-ever complete history of the movie dubbed "nothing less than the reinvention of mainstream American cinema" by *Entertainment Weekly*, discover everything about Quentin Tarantino's brilliant 1994 film—from its origins to its sensational release (screaming women! fainting men!) to its phenomenal effect on how movies are both made and seen. We'll get down to brass tacks, describing what Marsellus Wallace looks like (and what might be in his briefcase), why hamburgers—preferably Big Kahuna burgers—are the cornerstone of any nutritious breakfast, and much more. The book is illustrated throughout with glorious *Pulp*-inspired artwork, images of movies and cultural touchstones that influenced Tarantino, and a stunning selection of movie stills and behind-the-scenes photos from the film's production—including thanks to the generous cooperation and support of Quentin Tarantino and Miramax Films.

#### About the Author

**Jason Bailey** (New York, NY) is the film editor at Flavorwire and a film expert who has written for the *Atlantic*, *Slate*, *Salon*, the *Village Voice*, and many other publications. He saw *Pulp Fiction* six times during its initial theatrical release.

[www.flavorwire.com](http://www.flavorwire.com)

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