

Try Not to Hold It Against Me

BY JULIAN SCHLOSSBERG

try not to hold it against me

A PRODUCER'S LIFE



julian schlossberg

FOREWORD BY ELAINE MAY

PRESS KIT

Try Not to Hold It Against Me

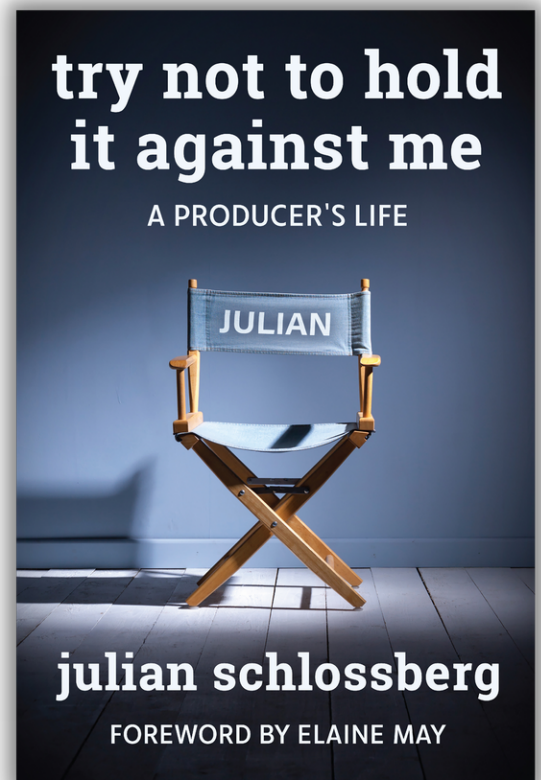
Have you ever wondered who makes the magic happen? Or what it's like to decide which movie, TV show, or Broadway play will reach the public? Step behind the curtain with veteran entertainment producer Julian Schlossberg and find out!

Julian Schlossberg grew up in New York City with an early love of entertainment. But, while he was an avid fan of radio and film as a child, he never imagined growing up to be a producer for, and friend of, celebrities.

During his six decades in show business, Schlossberg has held a variety of roles. After being the youngest head buyer of a national theater chain, and working at numerous television and film companies, he would start his own, Castle Hill Productions, one of the largest independent film-distribution companies in the world.

In his memoir, Schlossberg recounts the trials and triumphs of his professional life: negotiating with Al Pacino; partying with Barbra Streisand and Liza Minelli; and testifying in a lawsuit against The Beatles.

Try Not to Hold It Against Me gives readers not only an inside look into the lives of favorite celebrities, but also the rarely seen yet crucial work of a producer. It's a one-of-a-kind autobiography by one of entertainment's true insiders.



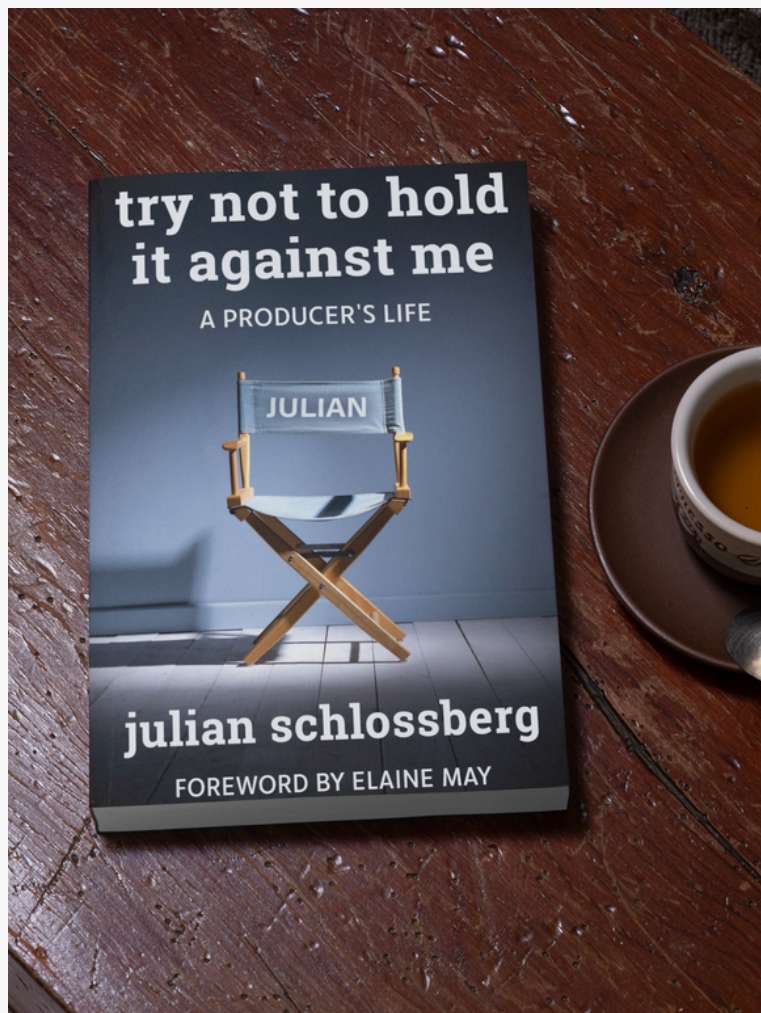
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Quick Facts

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Press Release

Producer's Memoir Reveals Hollywood Secrets

Join Julian Schlossberg, a true insider in show biz, in this tell-all of his career in entertainment.

NEW YORK, NY - **Try Not to Hold It Against Me**, a memoir from Julian Schlossberg that recounts the trials and triumphs of the entertainment industry, will be published by Beaufort Books in the Spring of 2023.

Illustrious producer Julian Schlossberg grew up in New York City with an early love of entertainment. While he was an avid fan of radio and film as a child, he never imagined growing up to be a producer for, and friend of, his favorite celebrities.

During his six decades in show business, Schlossberg has held a variety of roles. After being the youngest head buyer of a national theater chain, and working at numerous television and film companies, he would start his own, Castle Hill Productions, which became one of the largest independent film-distribution companies in the world.

In his memoir, Schlossberg shares stories of a lifetime: negotiating with Al Pacino; hosting the radio and television production *Movie Talk*; experiencing the paranormal with Shirley MacLaine; partying with Barbra Streisand and Liza Minelli; testifying in a lawsuit against The Beatles; and interviewing over 120 of the most influential figures for his series *Witnesses to the 20th Century*.

An engaging and humorous read for entertainment enthusiasts, *Try Not to Hold It Against Me* gives readers a behind-the-scenes pass into the lives of favorite celebrities, but the rarely seen but crucial work of a producer. It's a one-of-a-kind autobiography by one of entertainment's true insiders.

Julian Schlossberg has produced more than 60 works in film, theater, and television. This is his first book.

Beaufort Books is an independent publisher based in New York City. Beaufort publishes a mix of non-fiction and fiction titles, with about 15–20 new titles each year. Since 2007, we've published four New York Times bestsellers.

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For more information, to receive a review copy, or to arrange an interview with Julian Schlossberg, please contact Emma St. John at emma@beaufortbooks.com

Excerpt

I'm not from Hollywood. Or anywhere near it. I grew up in a lower- middle-class apartment on Aqueduct Avenue in the Bronx. I had no room of my own; I slept in a tiny area right off the kitchen with no doors, which was supposed to be a dining room. It led to a hallway that contained our small dining table, and that's where we ate.

As an only child, I was given a lot of attention. And being loved by my parents was one heck of a head start.

As a kid I played on the streets until all hours: hide-and-seek, Johnny on the Pony, ring-a-levio, potsy. At the schoolyard we played softball, handball, stickball. For entertainment, we had the radio, of course—and later, the advent of television.

But most importantly, there were eight movie theaters within walking distance, providing lots of entertainment. The movies, with so many choices, got a weekly visit at the very least. Closest to my home, just three blocks away, was the Kingsbridge Theater, where weekday prices were fourteen cents for kids and thirty cents for adults.

In the summer, we had no air conditioning—but the theaters did. Cooling off and being entertained: it was an unbeatable combination. And my friends and I spent hours there: two feature films, a newsreel, five or six cartoons, a short, and the coming attractions. I often took my lunch in a brown bag and spent the whole day at the movies.

I first met Julian Schlossberg when he was Vice President at Paramount Pictures and screwed my movie. Faint boos echoed from the lobby as the audience filed out. I left the room. The next morning, Julian Schlossberg appeared at my door. Recently he has written a book, and I've read it. He certainly knows what a lie is now. And there isn't one lie in his book.

Praise

■ Walter Anderson

FORMERLY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF,
PARADE MAGAZINE

"Now, what's most amazing about this book: **Try Not to Hold It Against Me** is a true story. Julian Schlossberg's show-business page-turner is a bold adventure, told as a crackling good tale. Inspires as well as excites. Highly recommend."

■ Twiggy

ACTOR & MODEL

"A brilliant tale of show business, **Try Not to Hold It Against Me** will have readers laughing out loud and giving a standing ovation."



Biography

JULIAN SCHLOSSBERG has produced more than 60 works in film, theater, and television. During his career, he has established himself as a producer's representative for such prominent figures as Elia Kazan, John Cassavetes, Elaine May, and George C. Scott.

Schlossberg was born in New York City and began his career in television at the ABC network. He then went to the Walter Reade Organization, ultimately becoming Vice President and Head Film Buyer at the company's theater division. While working as an executive, he began hosting Movie Talk, a nationally syndicated radio and television program where he interviewed hundreds of stars, including Jack Nicholson, Jane Fonda, and Bob Hope. He then worked as Vice President of Production at Paramount Pictures before leaving to found Castle Hill Productions, which became one of the world's largest independent film-distribution companies. He sold Castle Hill after 30 years.

Schlossberg is also the co-founder of Merlian News, an online magazine, and (with partner Danny Goldberg) Gold Castle Records. He is currently producing Witnesses to the 20th Century, a TV series examining the century's major events through the experiences of its most prominent people. He lives in upstate New York with his wife, Merryn.

Notable Projects

Witnesses to the 20th Century

Role: Creator, Producer

Description: A fourteen-hour series that examines the major historical events of the twentieth century from some of the prominent people who lived during it.

No Nukes

Role: Co-Director, Co-Producer

Description: Music and concert documentary and that contained selections from the September 1979 Madison Square Garden concerts by the Musicians United for Safe Energy collective

Othello

Role: Presenter

Description: Orson Welles' film adaptation of Shakespeare's "Othello"



www.julianschlossbergproducer.com/

Praise for *Try Not to Hold It Against Me*

“A LOVE LETTER TO SHOW BUSINESS! *Try Not to Hold It Against Me* is a must-read written by one of the best & funniest in the industry. Truly a fascinating memoir that will captivate & delight any reader!”

— **Susan Stroman**, five-time Tony Award-winning Director & Choreographer

“Julian Schlossberg has already proven that he's an A+ Broadway producer, but here he proves that he's a damn good storyteller. From his childhood in the Bronx to his future in film, Schlossberg shines with this gripping account of what it takes to make it big.”

— **Marlo Thomas**, four-time Emmy-Award Winning Actress, Writer, & Producer

“Julian Schlossberg’s memoir is as original and entertaining as is his amazing body of work. It is packed with unique glimpses of the dazzling array of stars he has worked with. This renowned producer has a jeweler's eye for the foibles and brilliance of artists and a jaundiced eye for the petty and tawdry. He knows show business, and I have to say: He’s one helluva writer.”

— **Danny Goldberg**, former President of Atlantic Records, Author of *Serving the Servant: Remembering Kurt Cobain*