



Behind the Bell

Dustin Diamond

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For the first-time, Diamond presents the inside story of the young cast from *Saved by the Bell* that the viewing public thought were so lucky . . . Learn the dark, behind-the-scenes story of the cast and crew's extreme lifestyle: sex, drugs, and wild parties Post-Bell, discover how Diamond used his natural comedic talents to overcome being typecast as a child actor and how he reinvented himself through stand-up comedy and reality TV. Working in Hollywood might represent an American Dream, but for many youngsters it is a true nightmare. Dustin Diamond is best known for his character Samuel Screech Powers in the late '80s and '90s on the long-running American TV teen sitcom *Saved by the Bell* (SBTB). Diamond's new book gives readers the disheartening story of an ex-child star. Dustin faced serious challenges moving his career beyond his comic role as the smart, funny, and endearing nerd of Bayside High School on the show that made him an audience favorite. Through his eyes, we uncover Hollywood's myths.

Behind the Bell Details

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From Reader Review Behind the Bell for online ebook

Grace says

I admit it. I was incredibly apprehensive about reading Dustin Diamond's exposé about what really went on behind the scenes of Saved By The Bell. I am a huge SBTB fan. I watch the show every morning while I'm getting ready for work. I own the DVDs and I even have a manilla envelope of posters, magazine interviews, and other random cast paraphernalia I saved from my the height of my love in middle school. When I found out that Screech penned a memoir that supposedly dished all the dirt, well, I was angry. I didn't want to read it for fear that it would taint my almost lifelong love for the show. I figured the book was Dustin Diamond's method of retaliation for 1) being on a show with kids two to three years older than him and when he's 12 and everyone else is 15 or 16 - that's a big age gap and it's hard to overcome or 2) he's broke again and if he learned one thing out on the comedy circuit, it was that people came to see Screech and find out more about the show, not to see his comedy act so he thought he'd just cash in.

My fears were unwarranted. The 'juiciest' cast details (i.e. Mario's rape cover up, Mark Paul taking steroids, and Tiffani Amber being a Queen Bee whore) were all used in the promotion of the book - Dustin's interviews with the press and him reading excerpts for internet videos. The rest of the book details his sexual exploits, drug use, and how naive he was that people took advantage of him. Diamond claims he's slept with over 2,000 women. Really? I know that people will jump into the sack to get ahead, but 2,000 women really slept with Dustin Diamond? Really? I'm afraid for the future of our society if that's how low some (well, a reported 2,000) women will go to get ahead. I don't care about the first time Dustin smoked weed or how he showed up to a press junket incredibly hungover. And I certainly didn't expect a chapter on how he trolled Disneyland for 'poon' or whatever lame, hasn't been used in over a decade slang term for a woman's vagina he chose to use.

Dustin Diamond used his roll on Saved by the Bell to sell books about himself. I think he feels slighted by the cast and executives of SBTB because he wasn't the 'Golden Child' even though he got more fan mail than any other cast member (over 7,000 letters per week!). According to our insightful and oh so knowledgeable narrator, SBTB fans were tired of the same old story lines and didn't want anymore story lines about Zack and Kelly, especially the College Years. Diamond even complained about how the Wedding in Las Vegas was all about Zack and Kelly. Hello?! Everyone wants to see Zack and Kelly live happily ever after. Get over yourself, Screech. It's not all about you!

So, in retaliation, he babbles on about a few random behind the scenes anecdotes, spends several chapters detailing how childhood fame turned him into a sleaselball (but he's thankful he never got an STD!), and then uses the rest of the book to name drop and bash other celebrities. Dustin, what the heck did Neil Patrick Harris and Ed Alonzo ever do to you, huh?

shaking my head If you feel so inclined to read this mindless drivel for yourself or you're just out to punish yourself, take note that this is a quick read. I read it in a few hours. I'm not sure why I kept reading. It was like a bad car accident. You can't put look and keep looking... At least I can say I read it and that it wasn't all it was promoted to be. It isn't an exposé, but a memoir of a spoiled child star who thinks he deserves more.

Don S. says

What a coincidence that I would pick this book up after reading Julie Dawn Cole's saccharin *I Want it Now!* about her days filming Willy Wonka. This book by former *Saved by the Bell* (SBTB) star, Dustin Diamond, is about as close to being a complete opposite to Cole's book as one could dream up!

From the very get go, Diamond, who played the geeky Screech on SSBT tells the story of a world in which every single person is a jerk - except, or course, Diamond himself.

SPOILERS!!

Let me sum up some points for Mr. Diamond:

Mark-Paul Gosselaar (Zack) was a mean, entitled, prima donna who might possibly have been engaged in an elicit relationship with the show's male creator.

Mario Lopez (Slater) was an narcissistic bully and womanizer who was accused of rape and had NBC payoff the complainant.

Tiffany Amber Thiessen (Kelly) was an opportunist skank who slept her way to whatever she managed to attain.

Lark Vorhies (Lisa) was an emotionally damaged introvert who Diamond alludes to have been abused by her fiance, Martin Lawrence.

Elizabeth Berkeley (Jessie) was a lousy actress and mental midget who's main activity while on the show was to sleep with whomever Thiessen was done with.

Dennis Haskins (Mr. Belding) was a car-salesman-like opportunist who really wanted to get a lady but who scared them away (literally.)

Those are the highlights. Diamond thrashes about 98% of the people he mentions in the book, including his parents who spent all his child actor dough.

On the flip side, reading this book will let you in on a secret: Dustin Diamond is a ladys man like no other! He literally talks about his conquests being north of the 2000 women mark. He tells intimate details of an affair he had with an NBC executive in her late 30's (he was about 15 at the time) who is, regrettably, dead now, having dies of breast cancer and unable to confirm or deny his accusations. He tells stories of using Disneyland and various SSBT public appearances as dating junkets. He basically puts himself forward as the one guy who had all the right answers, knew the way things really worked, and saw everyone for what they really were.

One facet of the story that is noticeably missing is Diamond's theory as to how, given his mental and personality prowess, he has managed to do prescious little else since leaving SSBT other than:

A "leaked" amateur adult film.

Celebrity Fit Club 2 (where he claims he was in cahoots with the producers to liven things up by acting like a villain.)

A celebrity fight with the lat Ron Palillo, *Welcome Back Kotter's* Arnold Horshack

Write a scathing tell all about his very limited perspective on Hollywood.

There are some tidbits of interesting info about the workings of the show and about child stardom in general. Overall, the book comes off like the rantings of an ego maniac who misses the fame.

Amanda says

Obviously, I considered not admitting on Goodreads that I read this book. But, one, I don't like to lie to Goodreads and, two, I actually feel the need to do some justice to this review. (Third, I had to ask for help to find this since it was my first time putting a book on hold at the NYPL (yes, I put it on hold) and the librarian laughed out loud at me so my literary pride was already sorely wounded. I just read Steinbeck, I swear!)

I read this book because I thought it would be funny to hear some behind the scenes SBTB gossip. There is lots of that, but it's hard to know if you can believe any of it. Instead this book made me really, crushingly sad. It's like we as America's pop culture consumers decided to conduct an experiment with a living human subject and it went really, really badly. Hmm, what happens when you take a goofy looking 12 year old and put him in a hit show for a national tv audience where his identity is based on being the constantly ridiculed butt of the joke and then surround him with hot 15 year olds who become the lusted after sex symbols for their generation? Then, let's make sure he is pigeonholed into this role that he will never escape before he hits high school.

What happens is that he it will stunt his development so he is caught in some prepubescent phase where he has no normal relationship to sex, women, friendship or family. He will be incredible crude, bitter, insecure and angry. And there won't be a good way out for him. I was simultaneously disgusted by and heartbroken for Dustin Diamond throughout this book. Aside from his obvious fury for his ex-costars, (He says he isn't sure what they are up to these days. Really? Wikipedia not working?) he has a few throwaway sentences that mention that his mom died of breast cancer when he was 19 and he no longer speaks to his father after he found out that he had blown all the money Diamond made while a minor.

The final layer of palpable tragedy to this book was the ridiculous lack of copy editing. There were constant weird line breaks, repeated paragraphs and EGREGIOUS grammar errors. Clearly, no one else even read the book before sending it off to the printer. They knew it would make its money from ex-fans, get totally panned by critics and quickly be forgotten. **THEY DON'T EVEN CARE ENOUGH ABOUT HIM TO EDIT HIS BOOK.** That's how happy America is to use and abuse Dustin Diamond. That's how little respect we have for him. He's just our national laughingstock. I hope he has a good therapist. I know I want one after this.

I don't recommend anyone read this book. Seriously, its pretty much weird adolescent references to his penis and boobs with some vague innuendo about other male celebrities gay affiars. (He claims not to have feelings about homosexuality one way or the other but that assertion made me laugh out loud next to his clear paranoia that anyone should think he was gay.) I do recommend that you read this great AV Club

review that says what I'm trying to say better. <http://www.avclub.com/articles/dustin...> (Or read this for a summary of the juicy parts - http://www.11points.com/TV/11_Most_Sc...). But mostly, I just recommend that we all send him an apology letter.

Patrick says

The only dirt to be found in 300 pages: 1. Zack did 'roids during "The College Years (or as Screech aptly puts it, 'Semester')." 2. Max from The Max had a gay affair with Neil "Doogie Howser M.D." Patrick Harris. Why would you only give literally one sentence to possibly interesting stories like playing chess with Will Smith or getting Christmas presents from Johnny Cash, and then devote entire chapters to trying to pick up chicks at Disneyland or smoking weed for the first time? At least he acknowledges how unintentionally funny the "I'm so excited! I'm so... scared!" scene where Jessie freaks out on caffeine pills was.

Also I forgot to mention he claims Kelly alternated banging Zack and Slater, but I think we all guessed that years ago.

Kelly Rice says

23 Word Review:

Holden Caulfield grows up and writes a book. Actually it's Screech and it's not much of a book. Best suited for MST3K fans.

Diamond's book is less of an exposé and more of a modern day Catcher in the Rye. Diamond fits into the role of a grown up Holden Caulfield quite well. He's angry, embittered and surrounded by a world full of posers, losers and dirty dirty fakes. He, of course, rises above it all, watching on with an air of self-righteous superiority as everyone else goes about their grubby little lives. That doesn't mean Diamond is above the same behavior that leads him to label Mario Lopez a 'man whore'. Lopez – along with every other cast member aside from Dennis Haskins (aka Mr. Belding) – is described only briefly and treated as a bit actor in the story of Dustin Diamond's reign of 'Saved By The Bell'.

Throughout the book, Diamond inadvertently paints himself as a sniveling, embittered, petty narcissist which, again, dovetails perfectly with the profile of a grown up version of Salinger's anti-hero Holden Caulfield. The stories Diamond shares are so obnoxiously over the top, they beggar belief. He brags about how many "chicks I've banged" on nearly every page. His exploits seem to have started right out of the gate, apparently thanks to his "monster wang" which he refers to no less than a dozen times throughout the book. He focuses so intently on what a ladies man he was that it borders on the towns of Absurdville and Desperation Row.

While Dustin doesn't seem too interested in giving up the details on his cast members, he was clearly a bit desperate to fill the 311 large font, widely kerned pages which make up the book. He includes the entire prime time line up circa 1992 and, towards the end, entire paragraphs are reprinted right one after each other. This might have been done by the publisher in a desperate attempt to stretch out the already thin material just

a little more but it just as easily could have been the result the editors just not noticing because, I gotta be honest, this isn't an easy book to finish.

When it comes to the crew who managed to get SBTB on the air every week, Diamond goes back and forth between what seems to be a genuine respect for their work and seeing them as little more than props. He recounts the details of camera placement and screen snaps for several pages but, when he gets to the color-key work done he sums it up by telling his readers “There’s probably some elaborate technical reason [behind the job of color-keying] But I have no idea what that undoubtedly excellent reason might be.” Clearly, he also couldn’t be bothered to look it up.

Diamond wants to be seen as a nice guy stuck in an awful world, forced into situations that left him jaded, potentially spoiled by youthful fame and fortune, but still a nice guy at heart. Sadly, he succeeds only at sounding like a whining, self-important prick. He tells a story about having been wronged by an extra. She insulted him in front of the rest of the cast and, to retaliate, he allegedly stole her purse and pissed in it while she was having lunch. Because, you know, every girl leaves her purse behind in a common area where anyone could take it when she leaves for lunch during the work day.

That **TOTALLY** happens.

One of his more ludicrous claims is that he carried on and off-and-on sexual affair with Linda Mancuso who was, at that time, VP of children’s programming at NBC. Like many of his tall tales, the story begins almost believably – with a building sexual tension that is almost-maybe-if-you’ve-had-a-few-to-drink-kinda-sorta believable. But then things take on the air of a late name Skinemax movie. In an unspecified year (Diamond is almost deliberately vague on his timelines) several members of the cast and crew, including Diamond and Mancuso, were flown to an appearance in New York. One evening, Diamond saunters down the hall to Linda’s room. Inside, her mother is asleep in an adjoining room and she and a friend are sitting on the couch drinking wine and watching soft core porn. I shit you not – that is seriously his story. The friend apparently offers a giggly excuse and leaves the room, leaving Dustin and Linda alone. After a brief make-out session, Dustin leaves and the affair kicks off in full steam some time later. He claims the affair carried on for years and until they simply (and discretely) “drifted apart.” Some time later, Linda was diagnosed with cancer and passed away in 2003. Diamond admits he didn’t attend her funeral and, for the reader, the entire story bears a striking resemblance to those boastful tales heard on the playground about a girlfriend (or boyfriend) a classmate has totally gone to third base with. But you wouldn’t know them ... they live in Canada. Or it happened at Summer Camp.

In its own way, Behind the Bell a tragic tale and readers are likely to finish the book feel a small amount of pity for Diamond. Then, however, they’ll turn the page to find he has included three appendices to the book

- A Saved by the Bell Drinking Game (created by someone else)
- To All the Chicks I Banged Before: An Open Letter
- A Fan’s Top Episodes

This final appendix will erase any shred of sympathy you may still be clinging on to desperately. Dustin’s admittedly “very unofficial” list includes 12 forgettable episodes meant to be a collection of “fan favorites”. Missing from his list is the single most memorable episode in the history of the series, “Jessie’s Song” which featured the infamous ‘I’m so excited’ clip. He could have picked any 11 other Screech-centric episodes for his list, but when you’re making a fan favorite list, it might be a good idea to actually include an episode the fans have proven they love even 20 years after Bayside High closed its doors for good.

After finishing Diamond's memoir of his time on SBTB, I have to wonder if he may be have provided the real life inspiration for Kenny Powers. The irony in this book is that being a part of a long running television show like SBTB is an impressive accomplishment. Diamond has every right to be proud of what he, his cast mates and the crew managed to accomplish over the 10 years the show was on the air. The way he tells his story, however, diminishes his accomplishments. In the end, Behind the Bell is little more than the incessant inner dialogue of a narcissist the world has forgotten.

Brianna (The Book Vixen) says

DNF at 56%

Why I Read this Book: I watched 'Saved by the Bell' growing up, so *Behind the Bell* definitely caught my attention.

What I Liked: The behind the scenes, day-to-day production stuff was interesting to read. This is the kind of stuff I was hoping to read about when I picked up this book, along with who was dating whom and such. I was under the impression that this was a 'tell all' book, but it was mostly Dustin complaining and whining about anyone and everyone he came into contact with during his run as Screech.

What I Didn't Like: Where do I begin? There were A LOT of eye rolling moments when I was reading this book. Half the stuff in this book (of what I read) was unbelievable. That's not to say it didn't happen, but I questioned a lot of what I read. I'm sure there is some truth in there, but there's also some exaggerations as well. I was left wondering how much of what I read was fact and how much was fabricated. Then, when I was 56% into the book, I decided to do a little digging online. I came across a snippet from Oprah's Where Are They Now where Dustin says that this book was ghost written; that he talked to a guy (the ghost writer) a few times. "*The book has some truth in it and a lot of the stories were just kind of throwaways.*" At that point, I didn't want to waste any more of my time reading this book. I was hoping for SBTB memories and stories about his cast mates, not fabricated tales you can't decipher from the actual truth. (Which is why I categorized this book as 'entertainment' as opposed to 'nonfiction'.)

Dustin gives himself too much credit, like when he credits himself to helping Mark-Paul Gosselaar with his lines, and thus landing the role of Zack. How he (Dustin) "received the most fan mail". Or when he does give praise to his fellow cast mates, he has to one up them: "*One thing everyone was pretty equal on was memorizing their lines...but I was usually the quickest.*"

Dustin also mentions his "humongous dong" a few times, and clearly he wants to make sure you don't forget that "not-so-little" tidbit of information. And there's his sexcapades at Disneyland. He brags not only about the size of his penis, but about how many people he's slept with and where: "*Is it bragging to say I've banged over two thousand chicks in my life? Maybe it is, but it's a fact.*" and "*I banged girls right on the set. Oh yeah, that's right – on the SBTB set.*" And he had the audacity to call Tiffani-Amber Thiessen a slut and Mario Lopez a man-whore? Ha!

One part that really shouldn't have been in the book (and I don't even know if this is even fact or fiction) was his relationship with the then NBC vice-president, which started (at least the kissing part) when he was a minor (she was 18 years his senior). I don't care if this is true or not, what really bothered me was that he was publicizing this after the woman died. So she has no way of telling her side or denying it or whatever.

He says "*I knew I couldn't tell anyone. Not a soul. Not until now.*" Why speak of this now, after she has passed on and can't respond to his accusations?

And lastly, there was one section, The Sniper, about Dustin and his cats that didn't belong in this book. It had nothing to do with SBTB.

Overall Impression: Dustin comes off as whiny, bitter, and jealous. He says in the book "*I'm not trying to paint a whole 'woe is me' portrait...*" but that's what this book essentially is – a pity party of one. If I were to compare Behind the Bell to celebrity gossip rags, I'd say it read like Star magazine – lots of claims from unreliable sources that are hit or miss and you don't know what to believe.

Review originally posted on The Book Vixen.

Laura says

This book is the worst. It doesn't even qualify as "so bad it's good." Dustin Diamond wants you to know that he got laid a lot at Disneyland, has a big dick (he manages to mention this a LOT) and that he's so super awesome and not petty at all. But he's not super awesome, and comes across as very, very petty. As for his dick size, it's not something I can personally verify. You are on your own there.

What this guy really needs is a kick in the balls and a halfway decent editor.

Nathan Rabin says

This is the life I have chosen for myself.

Mark Noonan says

I didn't think I was going to be able to finish this but I have to finish a book if I start reading it. I will first start off by saying that it was interesting to get some of the behind the scenes of SBTB. That being said...other than that I don't recommend this book.

Dustin Diamond has issues. His is so into himself it's ridiculous, and the fact he has to keep bringing up how big his package is, is just annoying. He actually put a letter in there apologizing to the women he took advantage of and even in that apology he's a pig!

There is also a lot of writing flaws such as repeating paragraphs, misspelling of words, and incorrect information. He also said that "Jackie Coogan" played Uncle Fester on "The Munsters"...Uncle Fester was on "The Addams Family" you Moron!!!!

It's really up to you to read this or not. I was a huge SBTB fan so I ignored the reviews and read it anyway. I hope someone from the cast writes a biography on SBTB that isn't a load of crap.

I did read an interview where he said there was a ghost writer responsible, but I'm not sure if I buy that. I think he said a lot of things he shouldn't have and realized it after it was too late.

Michelle says

I couldn't help myself. My guilty pleasure... trashy celeb bios! And it was my first one of the year! Someone sent it to me, so I decided to read it. I loved SBTB when I was younger. I heard this book was nothing but trash... but I read it anyway.

I found it to be hilarious! Dustin just complains, whines and brags through the whole book. He is a bitter, bitter man. I do believe that what he says has some truth in it. But he definitely paints himself in a more favorable light, which is somewhat unbelievable.

The references to his junk, I could have gone without. And I find it sad that so many girls slept with him just to better their career. How Screech could do that for you, i'm still clueless... but hey... to each their own.

He does a lot of ranting about people who really didn't need to be mentioned. But it was celeb bio trash... so of course I enjoyed it. lol

I didn't hate the book. I didn't love the book. I read it very quickly and couldn't put it down. I wanted to, but I just couldn't look away. Believe me... I tried. His bullshit sucked me in.

Jonathan says

Judge me, fuck you. It was funny, and I like Saved By The Bell.

Stacia (the 2010 club) says

Why I read this book : In case people don't know, there's going to be an unauthorized *Saved by the Bell* movie coming up this Monday on Lifetime (info here). Yes, I was one of those kids who watched the show faithfully, cheesy as it was. I figured now was a good time to see if I could dig up some dirt before watching a movie about digging up dirt.

1.5 stars. I have to award an extra half point for the speculated insight on Neil Patrick Harris (whether it was true or just a theory is another story). This may be the one and only time in my life where I wish I could Facebook tag someone (Ash, come out of hiding!). But unfortunately, there was too much missed potential.

There wasn't a ton of info dished about the cast. What we did find out lead me to believe that Dustin Diamond is carrying a bit of a hard on for wanting to see his former cast mates fall on their faces.

Other than that, nothing really happened. Diamond got laid a lot. Big deal? Most celebrities can get laid. I guess he must have felt the need to have to prove that he could, being that he was typecast as a loser for all of those years?

I will give DD some credit for being mildly funny at times. Some of his snarky observations were amusing, but a few good snippets do not make for an entire book of good recap either. Although, I have to admit that I

laughed hard when Dustin recalled how the cast members all had their "real-life" talents or interests worked into the show (Tiffany was a former pageant queen, Mario a wrestler, etc.) and this was how Mark was recapped :

"Mark-Paul, buddy, can you sing?"

"No."

"Can you dance?"

"No."

"Play sports? Instruments? Can you juggle?"

"No."

"Do you have any interests outside of showing up here and gelling your hair?"

"Um, I do have this cell phone that's the size of a loaf of bread. I like talking into that."

"And so you shall, my boy. And so you shall."

I remember that damn phone way too much.

The cast in a nutshell : Tiffani came off as easy, Lark came off as a silent weirdo, Mark Paul was not as much of a womanizer as I would have been expecting, Elizabeth was forever stuck in Tiffani's shadow, Mario was exactly how I figured, and Dustin was the biggest whore of them all.

Fin. I hope the movie is more scandalous!

Alex says

I didn't really want to read this, as I had heard it was terrible. And not terrible in the "so-bad-it's-good" variety, but just flat out awful. But, Saved By The Bell was a huge part of my life growing up, and I just couldn't resist.

To sum this book up as succinctly as possible: Dustin Diamond is a d!ck. Or excuse me, a "douchebag", which is his favorite word throughout this poorly edited book. (Seriously, the amount of times sentences did this

or entire paragraphs were repeated was ridiculous. Too broke to hire an editor?)

Dustin threw his entire cast under the bus in an effort to make himself look like the injured party. "Mark-Paul was a douche, Mario raped women, Tiffani Amber was a slut and a bitch". But then he goes on to say that he has slept with over 2,000 women (um yeah, I doubt that) and that he regularly patrolled Disneyland looking for a quick lay but somehow justifies this as not being the same thing that Mario or Tiffani did. He makes sure not to name any last names of girls he slept with, except for someone who worked on the show that was 20 years older than him. He makes sure to mention her last name over and over and I was thinking "How is he going to get away with this?" Oh and then he tells us - she died a few years ago. I guess that means it's okay to completely tarnish her name and reputation then. Disgusting.

And yes, I realize I could have just stopped reading. But it was like a train wreck I couldn't look away from. I kept wondering how he could get any worse, and then there would be a chapter about "banging chicks" on the set of Bayside.

All in all, Dustin just came out looking like a complete jerk. I'm not one to say if any of his allegations are true or not, but I find it telling that the rest of the cast is still friends today amidst all these stories about them screwing each other and doing drugs together. I think he's just bitter that he was treated as the weird, young friend and not invited into their "cool circle" and threw out whatever he could about them, lies or not.

I'm sure the cast weren't perfect angels, but some of these stories were just ridiculous. I also found it hilarious he continually commented on "Tiffani's fat ass." Really? What guy (or girl for that matter) in the 90s thought Kelly Kapowski was fat? These are the kinds of things he yells out about his co-stars to bring them down, and it's ridiculous statements like this that make the rest of his stories seem so contrived.

The only good things in this book are the mention of *Monster Squad* and *Frank Zappa*. But I don't think that awesome movie and that awesome musician should have their names soiled in such a crapfest as this book.

Okay I can't even believe I am still writing about this book. Ugh. I'm done.

Cory says

Being a big fan of *SBTB* and inside Hollywood gossip, I was excited to read this book. I finally received it for Christmas and finished it in a few days. It's a quick read and that's one of the few good things I can say about it. I'm not sure if I got a bad copy but my issue was full of typographical errors and repeated line printings. I'm not a grammarian but it also was poorly written for a published novel. There were few spicy tidbits that could largely be chalked up to heresy. I actually found it more interesting to read about the technical aspects of *SBTB* production than some of the salacious details, like how Screech used to troll Disneyland for girls. Overall, Dustin Diamond comes off as a bitter, sad individual desperate to hold onto whatever fading fame he has left regardless of the consequences or whom he hurts. Oh, and apparently he has a monster dong. He wanted to make that point very clear. It's probably a must read for super fans of *SBTB* but everyone else should probably pass.

Dolly says

As a former extra, (hopefully one that never got my purse violated)...I really enjoyed reading a lot of this. His account gave so many nuances of what it was like to be backstage. It was very interesting. I think if he'd taken a cue from *SBTB* producer Peter Engel and edited the book to be "fit for family," his story would have been much better received. The one star ratings dissuaded me from reading it for several years and I think I only paid 99 cents for it. I wound up thoroughly entertained and enjoyed a few laugh out loud moments. I CRINGED at all the hate. In light of the lifestyle he claims for himself...the name calling was almost absurd.

Dustin did a hard job for a lot of years. I don't believe a person can work on a successful TV show for this long without a great deal of discipline, professionalism and responsibility. A lot to take on at eleven years old, I'd say. If you read between the lines you will find an intelligent and soulful person in there. I'd have liked to give both a 1 and a 5 rating rather than this average looking 3.

From my own experience I can contribute a couple of "extra" things, if you are bored or have insomnia like I do right now. I do not doubt Dustin's account of the things he saw...though his interpretations I believe were off at times and particularly wrong in one case..

(view spoiler)
