

Sometimes, like most people, I think about doing things in my life over. My latest Corday into this line of thinking has to do with wanting to do film school over. I spent 3 years at film school trying to be something that I wasn't.

Now, I buy into the philosophy that everything happens for a reason. I truly believe that. Had I not gone down the path I went, I wouldn't have met Jessica Bendinger which means I wouldn't have met Marvin which means I wouldn't even be in the position to even share this thought with you.

But let's take that out of the equation right now talk about how I would have done things differently.

(Author's warning: this could go all over the place, but I promise you I have a point.)

In film school I was trying desperately to be the next Woody Allen. Just a lot of walking and talking.

Why?

First and foremost, I respect the man and his movies a great deal. I've never made that a secret.

But the reality of it was simple: walking and talking is cheap and as many of you know, film school ain't cheap.

We didn't have money to do anything crazy and I always worked with what I had and even though Woody was an influence in those early years, his movies weren't what excited me. They did on an intellectual level, but I've always been the "popcorn, tent pole Hollywood type."

I wanted to make huge, big budget movies, but the "budget" factor kept me grounded. I couldn't do that, so why try?

And then I look at the world today and I wish I could go to film school now. Technology has taken such a huge leap in the past few years that it's a little easier to make something interesting AND cheap.

Kevin Smith has long been on record that it was seeing Richard Linklater's Slacker that gave him the power to make Clerks, a movie that was made for \$27,000 on 16 mm black and white film in 1993.

Nine years later, in 2002, I started making movies. I was in undergrad and we shot most everything on HI 8 video tape. A year later we graduated into mini DV. In theory,

mini DV should have been our 16 mm. Again, Smith has long been on record that if mini DV had been available in 1993, he would have shot Clerks on that.

But did I make my Clerks?

I did not.

Obviously.

So then it comes to grad school. We basically spend the first half shooting on 16 mm and the second half on mini DV.

We shot everything on my Canon XL2 which was THE camera to have back then. Sony had just started coming out with usable HD cameras but we couldn't edit the footage because none of the editing programs had caught up yet.

So HD was off the table.

Now the XL2 wasn't horrible. Soderberg had used it on a couple of flicks and there were a small number of indy films being shot with it, but in order to get THAT kind of look...that film look...you had to spend thousands of dollars on lenses and all of these bells and whistles.

We didn't have that so it still looked like mini DV at the end of the day.

As soon as I left film school, editing programs caught up and HD took off.

Big long story top get to my point. I would love to redo film school now with all of the technology we have. The iPhone 4s shoots in 1080p. Full fucking HD. And everyone has one! So we could easily so a 5 camera shoot just using iPhones.

And the quality of the footage is off the charts because you don't need all of the lenses and the bells and whistles. It's all there, right in the camera now.

And even better we can take the footage and manipulate it faster and easier. I can shoot video on my phone, throw it over to the iPad, edit it, then throw it up online in a matter of minutes.

The HOURS we spent in school digitizing fucking mini DV tapes. Seriously, I've lost so much of my life in the post production wing of film school.

And with this technology I wonder...if I were in film school now, would I have still gone the "walking talking route?" or would I have put technology to the test and embraced my action roots.

Obviously it's a moot question. I took the path that I took. And the reality is, I don't have to go back to film school. I can just do it.

Part of the reason I went to film school in the first place was because I didn't have access to equipment. No tools to do the job. But now, hell...the tool is my phone.

So bad ass.

Okay, couple of things. I still owe a couple of you marked up pages. Don't fret, they're coming.

As many of you probably know, pitchfest season is starting up again here in Hollywood which means many of you can come have me yell at you in person!

Kidding.

Sorta.

I'll be at the Inktip Summit this weekend, come find me and say hello. Please, if you're going and read my shit, don't act like a fucktard.

Dress well.

Do your research.

Come in.

Sit down.

Introduce yourself.

Be prepared.

Pitch your script.

Thank them.

and leave.

Please? Pretty please? Just do that, K?

For those of you that are pitching this weekend. Good luck.

Till next week...