



Call Me Lucky A Texan in Hollywood

By Mike Farris

University of Oklahoma Press. Hardcover. Condition: New. 272 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.8in. x 1.0in. Do you think you could teach Rock Hudson to talk like you do? The question came from famed Hollywood director George Stevens, and an affirmative answer propelled Bob Hinkle into a fifty-year career in Hollywood as a speech coach, actor, producer, director, and friend to the stars. Along the way, Hinkle helped Rock Hudson, Dennis Hopper, Carroll Baker, and Mercedes McCambridge talk like Texans for the 1956 epic film *Giant*. He also helped create the character Jett Rink with James Dean, who became a best friend, and he consoled Elizabeth Taylor personally when Dean was killed in a tragic car accident before the film was released. A few years later, Paul Newman asked Hinkle to do for him what he had done for James Dean. The result was Newman's powerful portrayal of a Texas no-good in the Academy Award-winning film *Hud* (1963). Hinkle could not and did not stop by the LBJ Ranch to exchange pleasantries with the president of the United States. He did likewise with Elvis Presley at Graceland. Good friends with Robert Wagner, Hinkle even taught Wagner's wife Natalie Wood how to throw a rope. He appeared in numerous...



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