

CIRCUS MIRAMAXUS - 'TWINS' DISHES ABOUT THE WEINSTEIN BROTHERS

BYLINE: NOELLE HANCOCK

THE TWINS OF TRIBECA

Rachel Pine

3 Stars

Miramax Books, \$23.95

THEY say you should keep your friends close and your enemies closer - and that's exactly what Bob and Harvey Weinstein did when the infamous movie moguls bought the publishing rights to this book.

The roman a clef by former Miramax assistant Rachel Pine follows 20-something film buff Karen Jacobs while she's hired as a publicist for Glorious Pictures, a boutique film studio founded by the bullying Waxman twins, Phil and Bob.

Clearly based on Miramax and its co-founders, the faux film titles sprinkled throughout the plot are easily deciphered, and actors' aliases are thinner than the Miramax starlets themselves (Gwyneth Paltrow, Natalie Portman, Prince, David Schwimmer and Robert De Niro all make barely disguised cameos).

The book is most successful when it functions as an extended Page Six blind item.

Gossip-lovers will lap up the presumably true celebrity anecdotes.

The overworked and under-appreciated among us will relate to the in-house office turf wars. Meanwhile, all will be fascinated by the Waxmans' ability to manipulate show business - and riveted by their horrifying antics. In one appetite-destroying scene, Phil Waxman proceeds to ash a cigarette and then clip his toenails into his own half-finished vat of vanilla ice cream.

The book lags a bit when Pine pays too much attention to detail, but the protagonist remains likable and doesn't succumb to whininess - it's easy for such a book to feel like a pity party to which you regret RSVP'ing. There's little in the way of character development, however. Nevertheless, readers get to be a fly on the wall in the house that Bob and Harvey built, and they won't be bored or disappointed by what they overhear.

<http://www.nypost.com/>