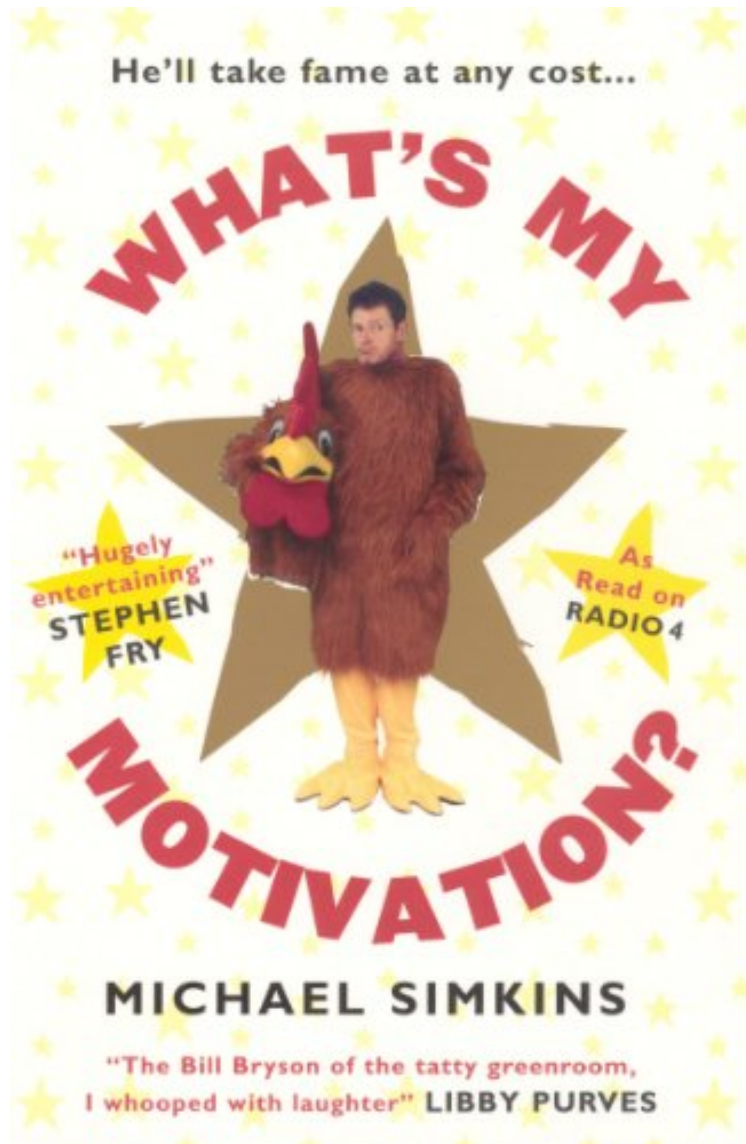


(Download pdf) What's My Motivation?

## What's My Motivation?

*Michael Simkins*

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**Michael Simkins : What's My Motivation?** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised What's My Motivation?:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Laugh aloudBy S. BoydOne of the funniest books about acting ever written. A real hoot from cover to cover. Anyone who is interested in the performing arts will love it and laugh aloud.

As a boy, Michael Simkins always wanted to be someone. While his friends were out getting laid and stoned, he was tucked up at home dreaming of his name in lights, of holding an audience rapt, of perhaps becoming a TV heart-throb,

or having someone, anyone, ask for his autograph in the supermarket. This is the true story of an obsessive pursuit of acting fame. It is a life marked by occasional hard-fought successes and routine helpings of ritual humiliation: scout hut Gilbert and Sullivan, dodgy rock operas, sewage farm theatre workshop, Christmas panto hell, straight-to-video film flops, leading roles in Crimewatch reconstructions and dressing up as a chicken to advertise TV dinners. It is a hilarious tale of turgid theatre, tights, trusses and tonsil tennis with Timothy Spall.

"Funny, engaging, perceptive and hugely entertaining" -- Stephen Fry "Screamingly funny - set to become a classic" -- Craig Brown \* Mail on Sunday \* "A real page-turner and a genuinely funny and honest book about the actor's life" -- Michael Billington \* Guardian \* "Michael writes about disaster, humiliation, rejection and ridicule - the hilarious truth" -- Nicholas Hytner "Casts an objective eye on the crazy world of the actor with an accuracy that is both chilling and charming" -- Mike Leigh  
About the Author  
Michael trained at RADA. His second job was Horrible Henry to Gary Oldman's cat in Dick Whittington at York. After seventy plays in rep he appeared in A View from the Bridge at the NT for which he was nominated for an award as Best Supporting Actor. He didn't win it. He has appeared in West End shows including Burn This, Henceforward, Company, and six months as Billy Flynn in Chicago opposite Denise Van Outen. He is currently encased nightly in lycra in Mamma Mia. He has appeared in a trillion TV programmes from Brookside to A Touch of Frost and recently as Hugh Reid in Foyle's War and Mr Gibbs in My Dad's the Prime Minister. Films include Disney's Heidi and Mike Leigh's Topsy Turvey. He has worked with everyone from Alan Ayckbourn to John Malkovich. He writes regularly for the Guardian and other papers.