

# CASE STUDY:

## “I Don’t Like Gardening”

### A Lesson in Adaptability and Vision

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#### Project Overview:

“I Don’t Like Gardening” was a short film where I served as director, but my contributions went far beyond the typical responsibilities of that role. From pre-production through post, I wore multiple hats to ensure the project’s completion, navigating significant challenges with resourcefulness and collaboration.

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#### Key Contributions Across Phases:

##### *Pre-Production*

- **Team Coordination:** Took over scheduling, team communications, and planning meetings to keep the project on track.
- **Casting:** Collaborated closely with the casting director, organizing auditions, writing outreach emails, and managing logistics for casting calls.
- **Creative Vision:** Developed initial lookbooks and storyboards, which became the foundation for the design team’s work.

##### *Set Dec & Production*

- Painted walls, sourced props and costumes, and coordinated with crew members to dress the set, ensuring every detail aligned with the vision.
- Personally organized a creative workaround to fill bookshelves by mobilizing the crew to check out library books, demonstrating ingenuity and teamwork.
- Fulfilled standard directorial duties on set, while also stepping in wherever needed to solve last-minute issues.

##### *Post-Production*

- **Editing:** Sat with the editor to refine the cut, providing consistent feedback to maintain the creative vision.
- **Sound Design:** Collaborated on dialogue editing, sound mixing, and foley creation. When the team faced technical challenges, I stayed to learn the software and personally executed foley recordings.
- **ADR Recording:** Independently handled additional recordings, renting equipment and capturing missing audio elements.

#### Key Challenges Faced:

##### *Expanded Responsibilities in Production Management*

The producer struggled to fulfill their responsibilities, requiring me to take on additional tasks typically outside my purview.

##### *Delays in Critical Deliverables*

Critical deliverables like storyboards, set dressing, and foley recordings faced delays or lacked expertise, leaving gaps that needed immediate attention.

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#### Key Takeaways:

##### *Importance of Clear Communication Across Roles*

This project reinforced the significance of maintaining transparent and ongoing communication with every department, especially when roles are fluid. Coordinating schedules, expectations, and resources in real-time became crucial to ensure that any gaps were addressed promptly.

##### *Adaptability in the Face of Pressure*

When managing multiple responsibilities, staying adaptable and calm under pressure was essential. The experience taught me how to pivot effectively, keep the morale high, and ensure that the team remained focused on the end goal.

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#### Outcome:

Despite the obstacles, “I Don’t Like Gardening” was completed on time and met the creative vision initially set for the project. My hands-on involvement across all stages ensured the production maintained its quality and emotional impact, and the project remains a testament to my adaptability, leadership, and ability to bring a vision to life under challenging circumstances.

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