

Eye for Eye

L.J. Martin makes a movie.



Co-producer Larry J. Martin kept his budget low by using his own property and neighboring ranches near his home in Missoula as locations for *Eye for Eye*. Actors included l.-r.: John Savage (center, tan coat), Cody Root, Teague Goodvoice, Dennis Tuberty and Christian Ackerman.

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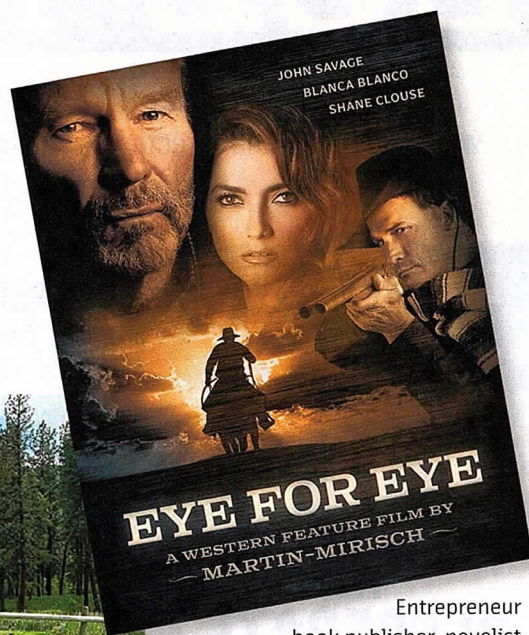
Western author L. J. Martin, with more than 40 novels to his credit, is not one to wait for things to happen: he makes them happen. Eager to help writers who, like himself, had too many books that were out of print and not generating income, he cocreated the online Wolfpack Publishing. The first writer he took on hadn't made money in 10 years, he said. "And in eight months I would be sending him \$10,000 a month. Thirty-five authors and 500 books later, I sold out to (partner) Mike Bray. It's one of Forbes 500's fastest growing companies."

His wife is Kat Martin, a constant *New York Times* bestselling author of romantic suspense novels. When they met, both were in the real estate business. He had just written his first book, "a 500-page historical. Couldn't sell it: lousy spelling and not the best grammar. She read it, and she corrected my English for me. After we were married, I started writing again in the evening,

and she looked over my shoulder and thought, 'Well, I can do better than that.' And she did."

It's not unusual for an author to write a screenplay from their book, hoping it will become a movie. But for the author to script, then finance, and then direct that movie? That's pretty much unheard of, but again, Martin makes things happen. He chose to adapt his novel *Eye for Eye* (Wolfpack), one of the nine in his Montana series, each of which has the word "revenge" on the cover. "I like revenge stories, and luckily the reading public likes revenge stories. I think we all have somebody we'd like to get even with."

He didn't find the process of adapting the story from one medium to another to be a grueling one. "To be truthful, I skimmed the book, threw it aside and wrote the screenplay." It's the story of a lawman who takes off his badge



Entrepreneur book publisher, novelist and screenwriter Larry J. Martin coproduced *Eye for Eye* entirely on location in Montana, much of it on his own property near Missoula.



Eye for Eye principals Blanca Blanco, L.J. Martin, John Savage and Shane Clouse took a break from filming on Martin's ranch near Missoula.

to track down and kill the men who raped and murdered his pregnant wife, and the man who put them up to it. Why did he choose *Eye for Eye*? "No \$2,000-a-day towns," he explains, referring to renting a Western town to film in. Shot entirely on location, "Almost all of it was [filmed] either in my house or on a friend's ranch, because she had beautiful horses. I wanted to show off beautiful Montana."

Remarkably, Martin got John Savage of *Deer Hunter* fame to play the man behind the