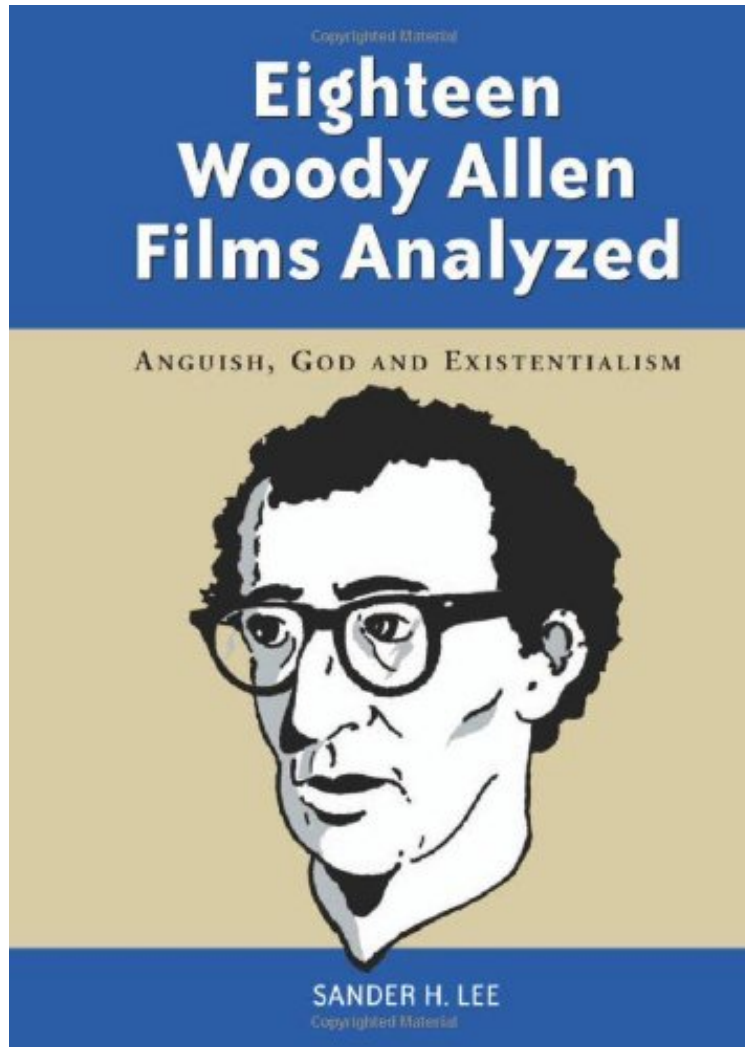


(Download) Eighteen Woody Allen Films Analyzed: Anguish, God and Existentialism

Eighteen Woody Allen Films Analyzed: Anguish, God and Existentialism

Sander H. Lee

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Sander H. Lee : Eighteen Woody Allen Films Analyzed: Anguish, God and Existentialism before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Eighteen Woody Allen Films Analyzed: Anguish, God and Existentialism:

8 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Analyze This.By Claude GailYou've got to be alive, awake, and alert to get everything Mr. Lee has to offer you from this book. He doesn't miss any of Woody's tricks (whether Woody himself put it in his film consciously or unknowingly), and he doesn't get involved in the private life of Mr. Allen either. Sander is strictly business.I read this book several times, as its contents surpass science and spacial

relations in terms of how much one can fit in a book so small. If you put a book in water and it floats (which, I believe, is what happens when one puts a book in water) then Mr. Sander Lee's book would sink like a proverbial stone. And if reading the book in the States it would go all the way to China. Anyway, I found it best to view a specific film (let's say *Stardust Memories*) and then follow the viewing with the chapter dedicated to said film (in this case, *Stardust Memories*). Because if you saw the films like, oh I don't know, a decade ago, it's just not going to work out for you. Cause Sander is a genius. And you probably aren't. Buy the book. Watch the movies (except *Hollywood Ending*, *Anything Else*, and *Curse of the Jade Scorpion* of course).

This new textbook is an abridgment of the author's earlier *Woody Allen's Angst: Philosophical Commentaries on His Serious Films* (McFarland, 1997; invaluableChoice.) Five main topics are explored: the desire of many of his characters to ground their lives in traditional ethical values despite their realization that such values may no longer be certain; the opposition between pessimism and optimism throughout his films; gender issues relating to romantic love, sexual desire, and the ongoing changes in our cultural expectations of both men and women; the idea that contemporary American society is rapidly descending into barbarism precisely because of societal failure to maintain a sense of individual moral responsibility; and a critique of psychoanalysis as a method for understanding human behavior.

"This is the most insightful, thorough and engaging analysis of Allen's films that we have. It's a model for thoughtful criticism." --Maurice Yacowar, author of *Loser Take All: The Comic Art of Woody Allen*"A profound and sensitive analysis of the existential themes in Allen's films. Sander Lee's work demonstrates how philosophic thought about human life can inform and elevate popular entertainment. Lee's study delights Woody Allen fans at the same time that it serves a model of serious scholarly treatment of film." --Mary P. Nichols, author of *Reconstructing Woody: Art, Love, and Life in Woody Allen's Films*About the AuthorSander H. Lee is a professor of philosophy at Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire.