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From Brand: British Film Institute : Women in Film Noir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women in Film Noir:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A classic of the genre: this was the first ...By Susan M. WhiteA classic of the genre: this was the first major work on the role of women in film noir. It's full of essays that are still current and highly readable.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An essential for film noir buffsBy Lynne Shapiroas some of the essays expand thinking about women in noir beyond the "femme fatale" box in which the early

noir writers put women. Also the writing is not too academic. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By AR. Sposito
Great resource

The first edition of "Women in Film Noir" (1978) assembled a group of scholars and critics committed to understanding the cinema in terms of gender, sexuality, politics, psychoanalysis and semiotics. This edition is expanded to include further essays which reflect the renewed interest in Film Noir. Exploring "neo-noir", postmodernism and other contemporary trends, new essays offer readings of, among others, "Bound" and "Basic Instinct", broadening the scope of the book to include questions of race and homosexuality.

From Library Journal
Film noir flourished in the years during and immediately following World War II, but the genre has never disappeared, as shown by the recent popularity of films like Basic Instinct, Bound, and LA Confidential. These academic essays, compiled by Kaplan (English, SUNY), ponder the "absent family" in noir, the role of woman as destroyer and redeemer, the common theme of female duplicity, and the role of women in the narrative structure. Other films considered here are Blue Gardenia, Gilda, Double Indemnity, modern noir films like Klute, and the horror classic The Haunting, which one critic sees as a representation of the "disruptive force of lesbian desire." Though few studies of women in this popular genre exist, the book's academic format and language will discourage most general readers. Recommended for academic libraries.
A
Stephen Rees, Levittown Regional Lib., PA
Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. "A major text of feminist criticism."--"Film Quarterly"
From the Back Cover
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