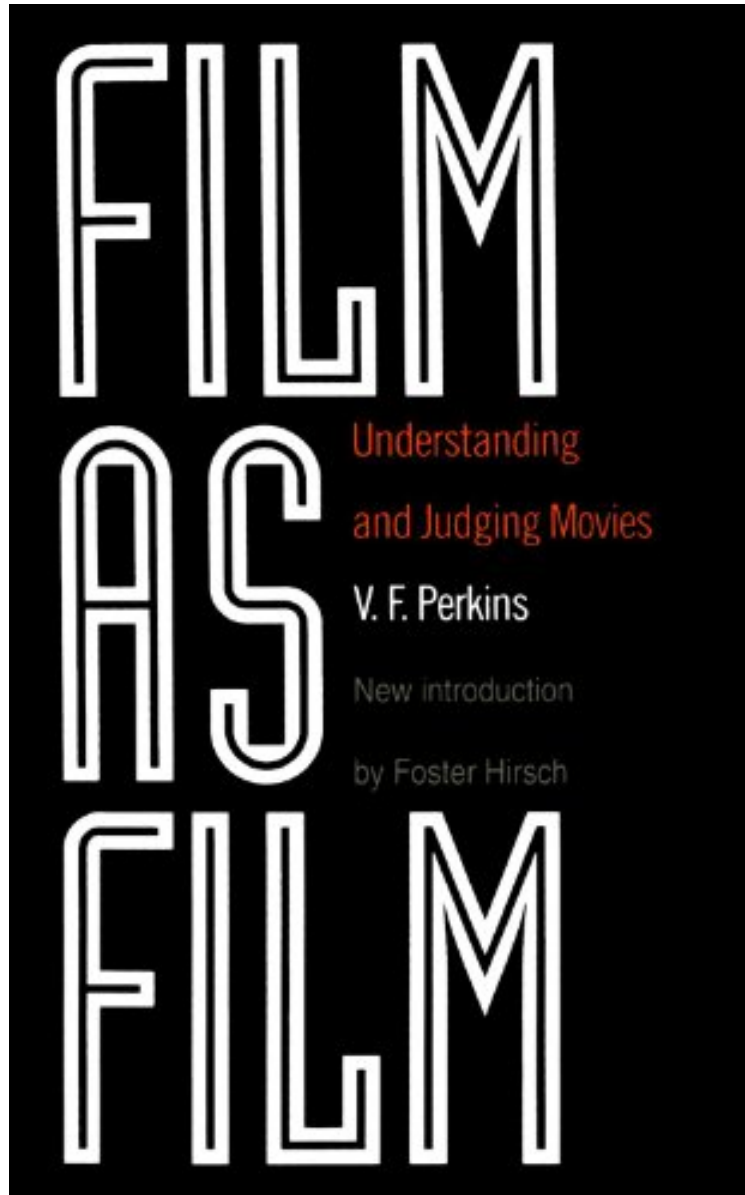


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Film As Film: Understanding And Judging Movies

V. F. Perkins

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V. F. Perkins : Film As Film: Understanding And Judging Movies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Film As Film: Understanding And Judging Movies:

21 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Huh?By S. HusseinI am scratching my head...at the previous reviewer, Perkins is one of the most brilliant and respected film critics alive. He is difficult...but so is most anything worth doing in life.Perkins doesn't introduce concepts with asthetically pleasing headings, and entertaining pictures, then explain what each one means, and why it's important...I am sure the "dummy's" guide books have done that already along with a 1000 others.Perkins is one of a few critics who have transformed films for me and many others. I am so surprised and sad that so few have reviewed this important work.10 of 28 people found the following review helpful. HUH?By A CustomerWhile I'm sure students of film and film theory will find this book a valuable resource, a novice to the genre should probably seek out another book. Mr. Perkins does not elucidate the topic of film theory, but instead takes a heavy handed approach to the subject and leaves those unfamiliar with the subject scratching her head.

Here at last is an introduction to film theory and its history without the jargon. Noted film scholar V. F. Perkins presents criteria for expanding our understanding and enjoyment of movies. He employs common sense words like balance, coherence, significance, and satisfaction to develop his insightful support of the subtle approach and of the unobtrusive director. Readers will learn why a scene from the humbler movie *Carmen Jones* is a deeper realization of filmmaking than the bravura lion sequence in the classic *Battleship Potemkin*. Along the way Perkins invites readers to re-experience with clarity, directness, and simplicity other famous scenes by directors like Hitchcock, Eisenstein, and Chaplin. Perkins examines the origins of movies and embraces their use of both realism and magic, their ability to record as well as to create. In the process he seeks to discover the synthesis between these opposing elements. With the delight of the fan and the perception of the critic, Perkins advances a film theory, based on the work of Bazin and other early film theorists, that is rich with suggestion for debate and further pursuit. Sit beside Perkins as he reacquaints you with cinema, heightens your awareness, deepens your pleasure, and increases your return every time you invest in a movie ticket.

From the Back CoverHere at last is an introduction to film theory and its history without the jargon. Noted film scholar V.F. Perkins presents criteria for expanding our understanding and enjoyment of movies. He employs common sense words like balance, coherence, significance, and satisfaction to develop his insightful support of the subtle approach and of the unobtrusive director.About the AuthorV. F. Perkins is a founder-member of the editorial board of *Movie*, a screenwriter, film critic and lecturer in film studies at the University of Warwick, where he headed the Joint School of Film and Literature for ten years from its inception in 1979.