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Rick Altman

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Rick Altman : Film/Genre before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Film/Genre:

14 of 19 people found the following review helpful. groundbreakingBy A CustomerThis is a groundbreaking study, sure to change thinking about the notion of genre, within film studies and beyond. The book is also written with a wonderful sense of humor, even though this is a serious study. Don't pick this up if you just have a light interest in genre films, but if you want to think long and hard about the very category of genre itself. I'd say the book was worth

owing for the massive bibliography alone.7 of 17 people found the following review helpful. GREAT BOOK!!!By Muehlheim MartinToo be as short as possible: Anybody who is even slightly interested in the field of genre theory should read this book.6 of 33 people found the following review helpful. Dry and pompousBy A CustomerOne man's opinions blown up to textbook proportions is what this book is centered on. Altman assumes an ignorant reader in his spotty descriptions of genre and its development and subsequently deluges the reader with bizarre references and highly conservative opinions presented as well-understood fact. Genre history is touched upon but never developed, and chapter divisions are somewhat random. What Altman chooses to develop is never fully realized and his reasoning is less than understood.

This book revises our notions of film genre and connects the roles played by industry critics and audiences in making and re-making genre. Altman reveals the conflicting stakes for which the genre game has been played and recognises that the term genre has different meanings for different groups.

From the Back CoverThis text seeks to revise notions of film genre. It connects the roles played by industry critics and audiences in making and re-making genre. In a critique of major voices in the history of genre theory from Aristotle to Wittgenstein, Altman reveals the conflicting stakes for which the genre game has been played. Recognizing that the very term 'genre' has different meaning for different groups, he bases his genre theory on the uneasy competitive yet complimentary relationship among genre users and discusses a range of films from *The Great Train Robbery* to *Star Wars*, and from *The Jazz Singer* to *The Player*.About the AuthorRick Altman is author of *Film/Genre*.