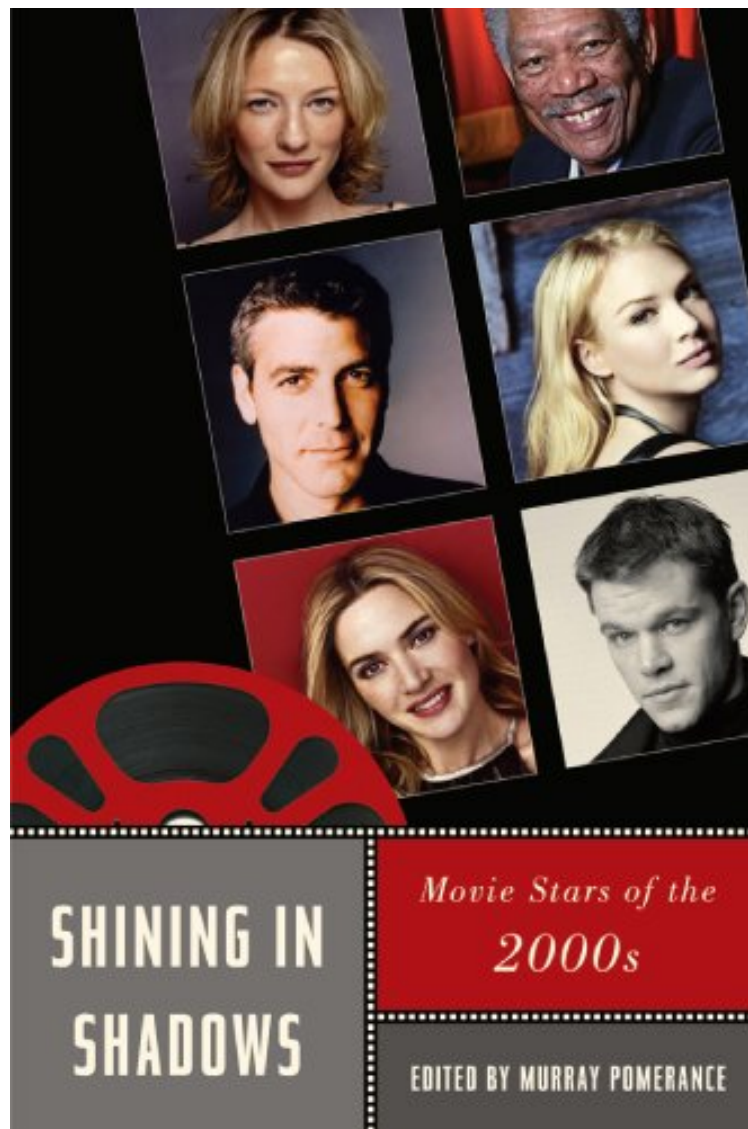


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## Shining in Shadows: Movie Stars of the 2000s (Star Decades: American Culture/American Cinema)

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**From Rutgers University Press : Shining in Shadows: Movie Stars of the 2000s (Star Decades: American Culture/American Cinema)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shining in Shadows: Movie Stars of the 2000s (Star Decades: American Culture/American Cinema):

In the 2000s, new technologies transformed the experiences of movie-going and movie-making, giving us the first generation of stars to be just as famous on the computer screen as on the silver screen. *Shining in Shadows* examines a wide range of Hollywood icons from a turbulent decade for the film industry and for America itself. Perhaps reflecting our own cultural fragmentation and uncertainty, Hollywood's star personas sent mixed messages about Americans' identities and ideals. Disheveled men-children like Will Ferrell and Jack Black shared the multiplex with debonair old-Hollywood standbys like George Clooney and Morgan Freeman. Iconic roles for women ranged from Renee Zellweger's dithering romantics to Tina Fey's neurotic professionals to Hilary Swank's vulnerable boyish characters. And in this age of reality TV and TMZ, stars like Jennifer Aniston and Brangelina became more famous for their real-life romantic dramas at the same time that former tabloid fixtures like Johnny Depp and Robert Downey Jr. reinvented themselves as dependable leading men. With a multigenerational, international cast of stars, this collection presents a fascinating composite portrait of Hollywood stardom today.

About the Author MURRAY POMERANCE is professor of sociology at Ryerson University in Toronto. His many books include *The Horse Who Drank the Sky*, *An Eye for Hitchcock*, and *Johnny Depp Starts Here*, all from Rutgers University Press.