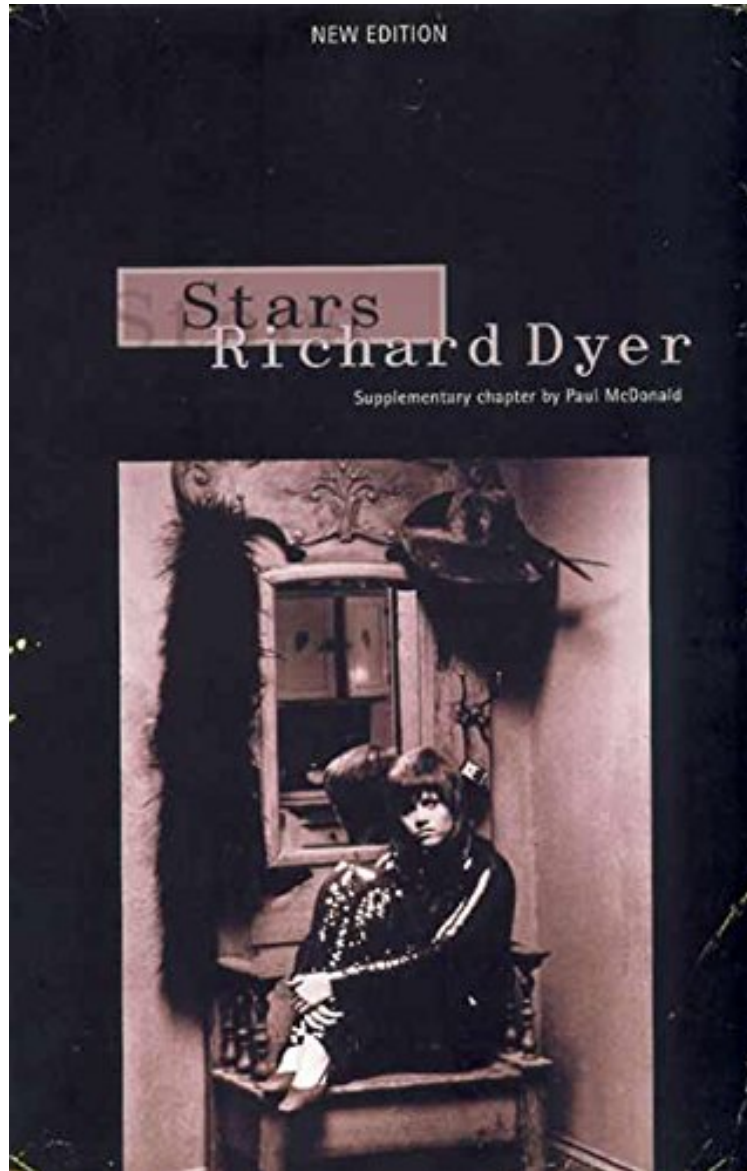


(Mobile book) Stars

## Stars

*Paul McDonald*

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#463602 in Books Richard Dyer 1998-04-26 2008-01-22Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.25 x .62 x 6.031, .86 #File Name: 0851706436256 pagesStars | File size: 66.Mb

**Paul McDonald : Stars** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stars:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy SuezBought for daughter. No complaint.0 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Too little Star analysis, Too much political comment.By Jack BertA great book in some ways. The problem is that it is openly full of marxist and liberal comment that interferes with trying to get the

Star concepts across. He sidesteps this issue/problem with a slick statement on page three. Page 3 says "...it follows that textual analysis is properly ideological (political) analysis." This statement seems to give him an excuse to bombard the rest of the book with Marxist and liberal political comments by various other writers that do not add to an understanding of the material, they only add his political diatribe. Ultimately so much time is spent on the politics that the main subject of the book is compromised as it wanders despite clear titles throughout the chapters. Given the fall of communism in Russia and China this communist/socialist ultra liberal bent should be an embarrassment as it constantly lightly picks on the American system. This goes on for 160 pages. If the book just did what he apparently wanted to do, jump into an anti-American analysis of film stars and openly show his disappointment with their traditional moral values and structure then it would have been more genuine. Judging from the many printings students are being subjected to this book. Thankfully I can skim it and miss the constant chiding against the USA, the dumping on religious philosophical beliefs called on page 30 "somewhat suspect eternal universals". I will also miss the idea that "the personal is always political" on page 28. This gives him an excuse to dump on anybody, thus saying that a person can have no personal beliefs, that all beliefs are plainly political. This is the old German propagandist's view that I have studied where they say to "politicize everything" so you can invade people's life with an argument and control them. No thanks I'm tuning out!.....9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Serious study of the subject in case, i.e. Hollywood stars

By A Customer

In his new edition of "Stars", Richard Dyer presents its readers with results of his thorough study about stars in/and Hollywood. It is a good read for anyone, who is seriously interested in a "star phenomenon" in particular, and "Hollywood phenomenon" in general. Step by step, Dyer focuses on topics such as "stars as a social phenomenon", "stars as images", and "stars as characters in films". He supports his findings with numerous examples of many different films and actors, such as Al Pacino, Malylin Monroe, Tipi Hedren, etc. He also mentions Jane Fonda in depth as an illustration of a specific image construction in Hollywood. One can only hope that in his upcoming edition, Dyer will expand his study to include examples of contemporary stars, since Hollywood dynamics keeps changing drastically every decade or two.

Through the intensive examination of films, magazines, advertising and critical texts, Dyer analyses the historical, ideological and aesthetic significance of stars, changing the way we understand screen icons. Paying particular attention to icons including Marlon Brando, Bette Davis, Marlene Dietrich, Marilyn Monroe and John Wayne.

From the Back Cover

On its original publication in 1980 this text was one of the first attempts to bring together all the various critical and theoretical approaches that have been made to the phenomenon of stardom, both inside and outside the cinema. Richard Dyer's commentary on these approaches and his own detailed work on stars such as Bette Davis and Jane Fonda aim to stimulate further work in this area of film studies. This revised edition features a new chapter by Paul McDonald which traces the developments in the study of "Stars" since the first appearance of Richard Dyer's text.

About the Author

RICHARD DYER  
PAUL MCDONALD