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The Blade Runner Experience: The Legacy of a Science Fiction Classic

From Wallflower Press

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#410572 in Books 2006-02-21 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.20 x .68 x 6.421, 1.06 #File Name: 1904764304240 pages | File size: 49.Mb

From Wallflower Press : The Blade Runner Experience: The Legacy of a Science Fiction Classic before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Blade Runner Experience: The Legacy of a Science Fiction Classic:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. different views of Blade RunnerBy ArnoldBlade Runner the movie

has been endlessly analyzed by scholars, with good reason. However, has it become too much? What does this book add to the literature? It turns out, quite a bit. The editors made a deliberate effort to try to collect articles that engage with *Blade Runner* in a new way. In fact, most of the articles focus on *Blade Runner*'s relationship with other texts or communities outside of the film. Some focus on the film's depiction of Los Angeles compared to the real thing. Others focus on the fan community's engagement with the movie and other works related to *Blade Runner*. Oddly, the most interesting essay was the one that showed how K.W. Jeter's novels incorporated elements from the movies and Philip K. Dick's original novel. If the book has a drawback, I'd say it relies a bit too much on anecdotes and fannish enthusiasm for the films. I just don't know what to take away from an article essentially interviewing two uber-fans of the movie. Maybe a more scientific or systematic survey would have shown a greater range of fandom and been more interesting. Also, some of the essays might come across as academic navel-gazing (and I say this as an academic). The essay on post-modernism seems particularly erudite and seemed less about the film than about the debate about post-modernism (which again I'd imagine only interests a handful of people). I think the best way to approach the book is to read the introduction and then read the essays that sound most appealing. Fortunately, the book has enough to please most *Blade Runner* fans. The essays in class and female identity I thought worked particularly well. Overall, 4.25 stars.

Since its release in 1982, Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner*, based on Philip K. Dick's novel *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*, has remained a cult classic through its depiction of a futuristic Los Angeles; its complex, enigmatic plot; and its underlying questions about the nature of human identity. *The Blade Runner Experience: The Legacy of a Science Fiction Classic* examines the film in a broad context, examining its relationship to the original novel, the PC game, the series of sequels, and the many films influenced by its style and themes. It investigates *Blade Runner* online fandom and asks how the film's future city compares to the present-day Los Angeles, and it revisits the film to pose surprising new questions about its characters and their world.

About the Author Will Brooker is associate professor in communications at Richmond, the American International University in London. He is the author of *Batman Unmasked: Analyzing a Cultural Icon*; *Using the Force: Creativity, Community and 'Star Wars' Fans*; and *Alice's Adventures: Lewis Carroll in Pop*.