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Diva: Defiance and Passion in Early Italian Cinema (Paperback)

By Angela Dalle Vacche

University of Texas Press, United States, 2008. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Winner, A Choice Outstanding Academic Book As scientific discoveries and technological advances radically modernized Europe around the turn of the twentieth century, artists of all types began questioning what it means to be human in an increasingly mechanistic world. Animated by a luminous goddess at its center, the diva film provided a forum for denouncing social evils and exploring new models of behavior among the sexes. These melodramas of courtship, seduction, marriage, betrayal, abandonment, child custody, and public reputation, to mention only a few themes, offered women a vision of-if not always a realistic hope for- emancipation and self-discovery. In *Diva*, Angela Dalle Vacche offers the first authoritative study of this important film genre of the cinema that preceded the Great War of 1914-1918. She analyzes some seventy films, as well as the work of actresses such as Francesca Bertini, Lyda Borelli, and Pina Menichelli, to establish what the diva film contributed to the modernist development of the new woman. Contrasting the Italian diva with the Hollywood vamp Theda Bara and the famous Danish star Asta Nielsen, Dalle Vacche shows...



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Reviews

This type of publication is almost everything and helped me looking forward and much more. I am quite late in start reading this one, but better then never. You wont really feel monotony at whenever you want of your own time (that's what catalogs are for relating to if you ask me).

-- **Prof. Buddy Leuschke**

This is the very best publication we have read through right up until now. It is one of the most incredible book we have read through. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.

-- **Miss Celia Volkman**