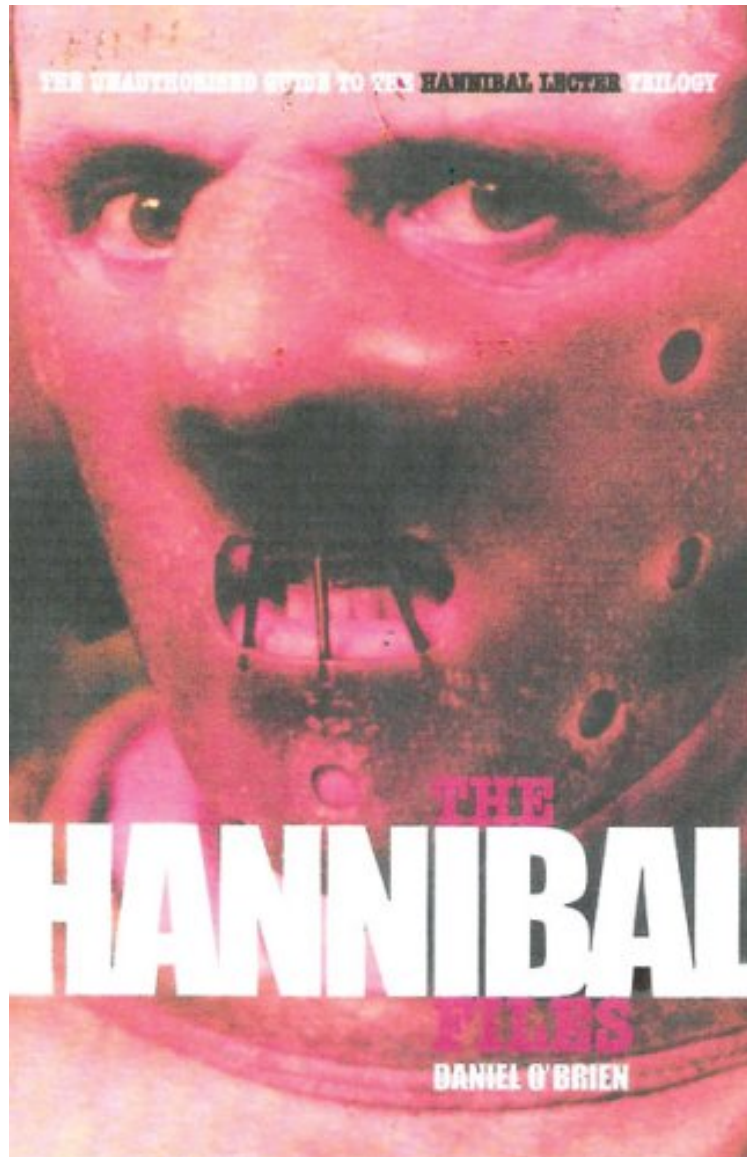


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The Hannibal Files: The Unauthorised Guide to the Hannibal Lecter Trilogy

Daniel O'Brien

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Daniel O'Brien : The Hannibal Files: The Unauthorised Guide to the Hannibal Lecter Trilogy before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hannibal Files: The Unauthorised Guide to the Hannibal Lecter Trilogy:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This Book Will Hold The Interest Of Most Lecter Fans By The

Infrequent ReaderThe book begins with a brief introduction, followed by Parts 1-5, each part going over one of the Lecter movies and its source novel, with the exception of Part 4 (Red Dragon), which does not go over the novel since it is covered in Part 1 (Manhunter). (The other three movies/novels are Hannibal, The Silence of the Lambs, and Hannibal Rising.)The basic structure of each part is as follows:A basic description of the source novel is given, including the story line. This is followed by information on its conversion to a screenplay, including background information on the screenwriter. Then follows acquiring of the movie rights; background on the studio and producers; formation of, and background on, the cast and crew; making of the movie including deviations from the novel; and finally, the relative success of the movie and criticism from the press. In the part on Manhunter, there is also a little information given on 'Black Sunday', Harris's 1975 novel which was also made into a movie.The first two parts, on Manhunter (based on the novel Red Dragon) and The Silence of the Lambs, are the longest chapters, at 59 and 67 pages of text respectively. The author seems more familiar with these two productions than the other three, bearing in mind that part 4 (Red Dragon) need only cover the movie. The Hannibal chapter (part 3) is only 43 pages in length, followed by 14 pages on Red Dragon and 19 pages on Hannibal Rising. There are three sections of pictures spread throughout the book, including photos of the major actors both on the set and off, plus a couple photos of Thomas Harris.Parts of the book which may be of particular interest include information on why Jodie Foster, Ted Tally, and Jonathan Demme all eventually declined to participate in the making of Hannibal; why some people consider Brian Cox's take on the Lecter character ('Lecktor' in Manhunter) to be superior to Anthony Hopkins' portrayal; and opinions on why both Manhunter and Hannibal Rising failed at the box office. There are a few places where it is evident that what is being said is speculation or 'hear-say', but O'Brien generally lets the reader know when this is the case.The thing I personally like best about this book is that it conveys a lot of what seems like 'inside information' on creation of the movies.

In an incisive account of the Hannibal Lecter novels and their subsequent movie adaptations, Lecter creator Thomas Harris career is examined in detail, and the development of the novels and screenplays is closely analyzed. The author sheds new light on the scripting, casting, and shooting of all four movies, and describes how the disappointing box-office returns on Manhunter gave way to the critical blockbuster The Silence of the Lambs. There are revealing insights into the production of Hannibal, and the story is brought fully up to date with coverage of Red Dragon and Hannibal Rising.

From the PublisherDr. Hannibal Lecter has been haunting readers and filmgoers for more than two decades. Now, in *The Hannibal Files*, Adrian Rigelsford unravels the fascinating story behind the Hannibal Lecter trilogies, offering incisive critical appraisals of Thomas Harris novels as well as shrewd insider assessments of their screen adaptations. He also reveals new information on the casting of the films, and how the disappointing box-office returns of Manhunter gave way to the critically acclaimed blockbuster *The Silence of the Lambs*. The story is brought right up to date with a look at the scripting and production of the recently released *Hannibal*, the third and final film. Complete with previously unpublished film stills and photos, *The Hannibal Files* is a must-read for fans of Thomas Harris chilling creation. About the AuthorDaniel O'Brien's previous books include *Cameron Diaz*, *Daniel Craig*, *The Frank Sinatra Film Guide*, and *Halle Berry*.