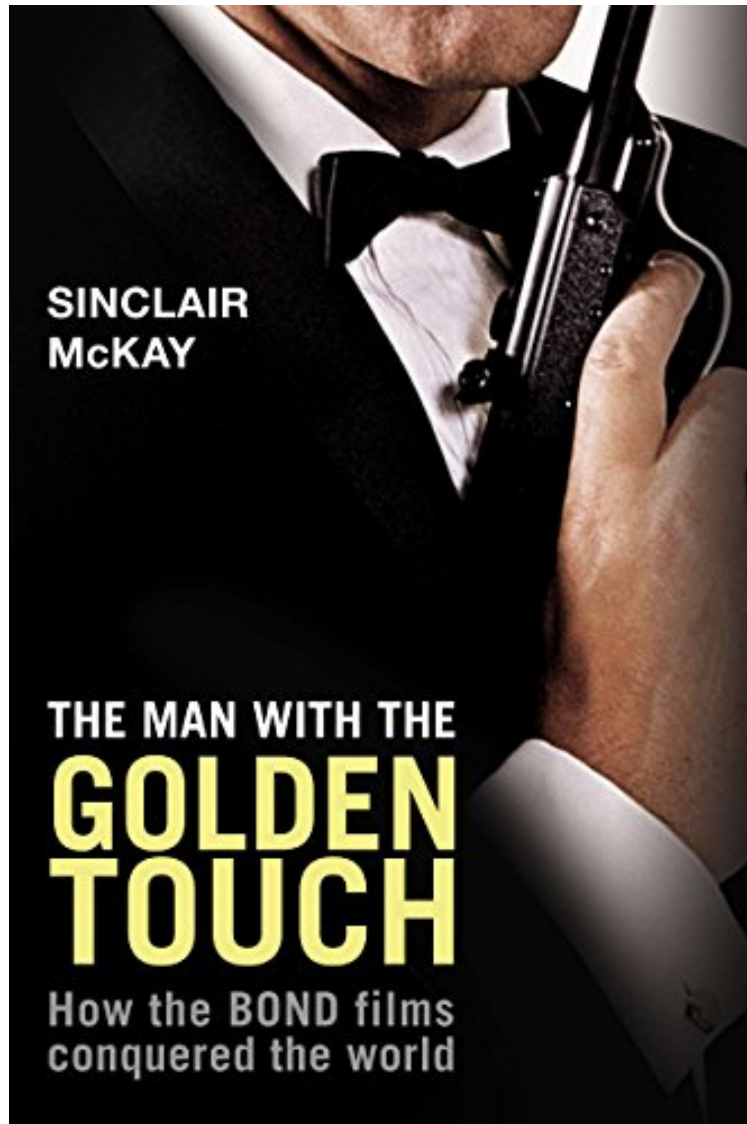


(Download free ebook) The Man with the Golden Touch: How The Bond Films Conquered the World

The Man with the Golden Touch: How The Bond Films Conquered the World

Sinclair McKay

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Sinclair McKay : The Man with the Golden Touch: How The Bond Films Conquered the World before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Man with the Golden Touch: How The Bond Films Conquered the World:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. BLEAH! By Blair Kramer I bought this God-awful book simply because I'm a die-hard James Bond fan (in other words: I'll buy ANY book related to Bond). Here's the bottom line...

Mr. McKay writes opinions. In this case, *THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN TOUCH* deals with his opinions of the Bond films and all things related to them (including the spy movie genre' and other films that actually have little or nothing to do with Bond and his world). simply ignoring his plainly annoying British style of writing, Mr. McKay is stupidly, spectacularly, incredibly, stupendously, infuriatingly, undeniably WRONG about everything (except, I must say, his opinion of Hitchcock's *TORN CURTAIN*)! He condescendingly dismisses the Beatles films of the 1960's, and clearly sniffs his nose at *OUR MAN FLINT* and *IN LIKE FLINT* (after reversing the order of their release), even though they are certainly two of the best films of their type. I knew the book was treading on thin ice when I read McKay's long winded and plainly dumb snipe at the movie version of *THUNDERBALL*. It certainly isn't a perfect film, but most Bond fans agree that, as Bond films go, it is visually stunning and extremely exciting. At the very least, it is definitely a much better film than McKay would have us believe. After all is said and done, on a purely intellectual level, *THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN TOUCH* has absolutely nothing to offer the serious Bond fan. Skip it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. very funny and fun By Robert Williams very funny and fun. Not one of those books of lists (villains, girls, gadgets, etc.). It's like sitting down to watch the films with the author over some beers and really enjoying the experience. For More James Bond reviews visit 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The Author with the Bronze Touch By JAK One of the first books written on the Bond films was a rather obscure effort by John Brosnan and it was called "James Bond in the Cinema" This author's opinions of the early Bond films mirrored Brosnan's views to such an extent I wondered if I would come across any fresh views at all. Mr. McKay is a good writer but the ultimate value of film criticism is whether or not the author knows what he's talking about. Alas, Mr. McKay does not. There are many far better books available on the James Bond series.

When Albert R. Broccoli and Harry Saltzman set out to make what they expected to be the first of three or four movies based on the espionage novels of Ian Fleming they can hardly have dreamt that they were founding a business that would still be going str Yet the role of James Bond, which transformed Sean Connery's career in 1962 when *Dr No* came out, still retained its star-making power in 2006 when Daniel Craig made his Bond debut in *Casino Royale*. This is the story of how, with the odd misstep along the way, the owners of the Bond franchise, Eon Productions, have contrived to keep James Bond abreast of the zeitgeist and at the top of the charts for 45 years, through 21 films featuring six Bonds, three Ms, two Qs and three Moneypennies. Thanks to the films, Fleming's original creation has been transformed from a black sheep of the post-war English upper classes into a figure with universal appeal, constantly evolving to keep pace with changing social and political circumstances. Having interviewed people concerned with all aspects of the films, Sinclair McKay is ideally placed to describe how the Bond brand has been managed over the years as well as to give us the inside stories of the supporting cast of Bond girls, Bond villains, Bond cars and Bond gadgetry. Sinclair McKay, formerly assistant features editor of the *Daily Telegraph*, works as a freelance writer and journalist. He is also the author of *A Thing of Unspeaking Horror: The History of Hammer Films*, which the *Guardian* called *A splendid history* and the *Independent on Sunday* described as *Brisk, cheerful and enthusiastic*.

From *Publishers Weekly* This delightful critical appreciation celebrates the longest-running of all film franchises as much for its absurd excesses as for its stylish thrills. Journalist McKay considers the films' family-run production company to be the Bond saga's true auteur and devotes a chapter to each of the movies up through the groundbreaking *Casino Royale* with Daniel Craig. McKay's 360-degree treatments take in everything from the script and actors' performances to the set design, score, and titles sequences, with droll digressions thrown in on such Bond motifs as Persian cats, monorails, impossible leaps of villainous logic, and substandard action set pieces (That's another thing that Bond producers never really learn: boat chases are intrinsically dull). McKay writes in a breezy, chatty style, as if perpetually in between mouthfuls of popcorn; he remains raptly focused on aesthetics and eyeball impact while still teasing out underlying sexual and geopolitical themes. He's a charming hybrid of critic and fan, calling out *Thunderball's* failings How is it possible for a drama involving nuclear blackmail to drag on so? while managing to find the good even in *George Lazenby*. The result is a scintillating read that's often more entertaining than the movies themselves. Photos. (Aug.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From *Booklist* *Starred* Not a making-of film book, like so many others, but rather an exploration of the themes and impact of the James Bond movies, this lively volume is sure to appeal to fans of 007. The author, clearly a huge Bond fan himself, writes with a wry tone, but hes brimming with knowledge and insight. He tracks the movies from their origin, as cold-war spy adventures, through their transition to fantastic adventures in supervillainy, to horror of horrors! quaint artifacts of a bygone era, and then, inevitably, back around to relevance again. He compares and contrasts the movies to their source material, Ian Fleming's novels and short stories, and he fills the book with delightful Bond arcana. Fans know, for example, that Bonds first screen appearance was in 1954, on American television, where he was a CIA agent called Jimmy, but do they also know that in 1956 a British actor, Bob Holness, played Bond in a South African radio dramatization? Or that, in the early 1980s, the films producers seriously considered replacing Roger Moore with James Brolin? McKay explores the key ingredients of a Bond movie Maurice

Binders titles, Ken Adams mammoth sets, the Bond girls, a star who looks like he could kill (and who looks good in fine clothes) and he examines the wide-ranging impact the movies have had on pop culture. Without Bond, he asks, would we have had Mission: Impossible, The Man from U.N.C.L.E., Get Smart, or Austin Powers? A splendid book, packed with information and combining astute analysis with the enthusiasm of a hard-core fan. --David Pitt [R]eading McKays retrospective, it seems like Bond is just getting started. --New York Post [O]ne of the very best attempts to take stock of the Bond film smart and unexpected. -- The New Republic Thoroughly researched, drolly written and critically sophisticated. -- The Daily Mail Armed with encyclopedic knowledge and wit as dry as a shaken martini, Sinclair McKay casts a critical eye at the cinematic phenomenon launched in 1962s Dr. No with Sean Connery uttering that famous introduction: Bond. James Bond. McKay astutely addresses the plots of each film and places them in the political and popular cultures of their eras (Bond has but one love interest in 1987s The Living Daylights because producers feared encouraging promiscuity in an age of AIDS). Hes also an insightful critic, championing the initially maligned On Her Majestys Secret Service (1969) as one of the best in the series. And hes often funny, discussing Roger Moores many centuries in show business, and describing sillier moments in the films as naff, which the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary defines as unfashionable, lacking in taste or style -- something McKays book most definitely is not. -- Newark Star-Ledger A marvelously entertaining tome...an arch but jolly 'galumph.' -- Metrolife Thoroughly researched and documented yet fetching in tone and style, McKays fun, smart, and informative book gracefully treads the criticism/entertainment border -- Library Journal Delightful critical appreciation McKay writes in a breezy, chatty style, as if perpetually in between mouthfuls of popcorn Hes a charming hybrid of a critic and fan [The Man with the Golden Touch is] a scintillating read thats often more entertaining than the movies themselves. -- Publishers Weekly Zeltserman deftly drags the reader through the story, keeping you wondering about the truth The Caretaker of Lorne Field is camp, and therein lies its appeal. -- Dallas Morning News