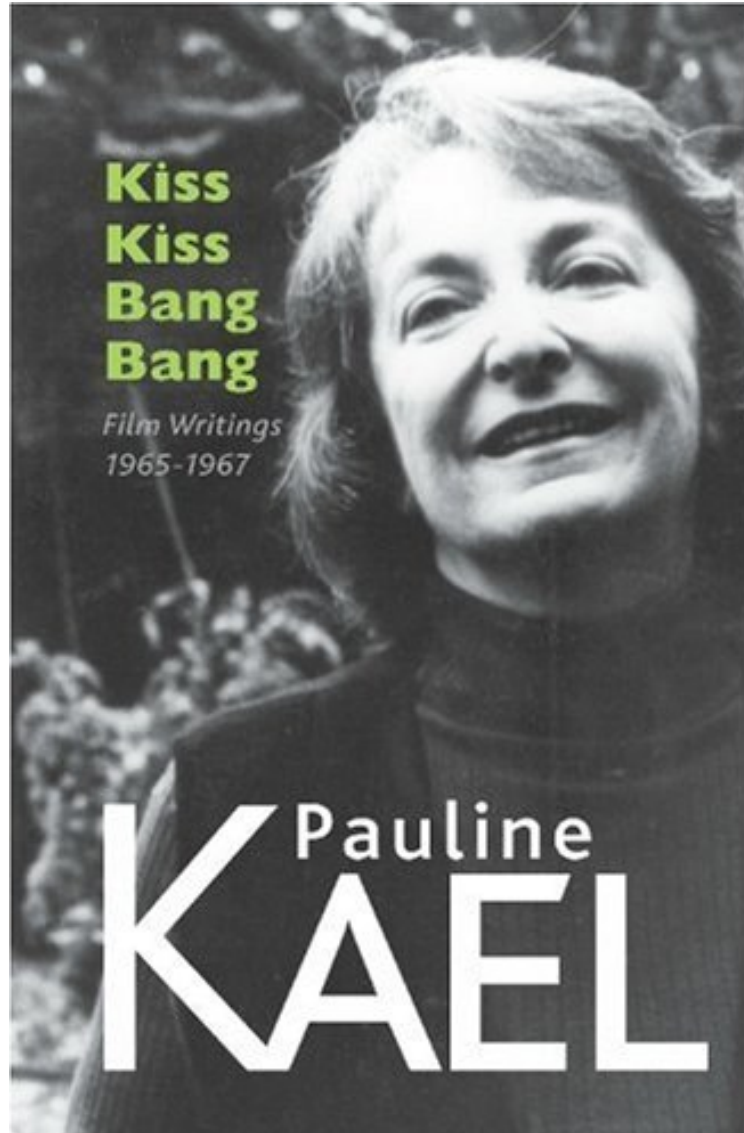


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Kiss Kiss Bang Bang

Pauline Kael

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Pauline Kael : Kiss Kiss Bang Bang before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kiss Kiss Bang Bang:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... this is a must have for any movie lover like myself. By acjI looked up several movies that I greatly admire and found them missing but I still think this is a must have for any movie lover like myself. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Still the best film critic of all time By Manly Pointer Kael's work is just as vital and insightful today as when it was first published. The issues of art and commerce

that she was covering in the 1960s are still relevant, and reading these reviews and essays sheds a painful light on the lack of seriousness of most modern film critics. 22 of 29 people found the following review helpful. briefest statement imaginable for the basic appeal of movies

By Peter Shelley

This is Pauline Kael's second book of film reviews, covering 1965- 1967, when she was freelancing and yet to be attached to The New Yorker magazine. It also includes notes on 280 movies capsule reviews which predates her later 5001 Notes at the Movies companion. On the title of the book, Kael says she got it on an Italian poster and is perhaps the briefest statement imaginable of the basic appeal of movies. "This appeal is what attracts us, and ultimately what makes us despair when we begin to understand how seldom movies are more than this". In this volume her raves include a 17 page study of Bonnie and Clyde, Persona, Falstaff, Band of Outsiders, Masculine Feminine, Laurence Olivier as Othello, and Boudou Saved from Drowning though made in France in 1931 was only released in the United States in 1967. Her pans Blow-Up, Madame X, Hawaii, Darling, Ship of Fools, and her infamous review of The Sound of Music which lost her a job. She also includes essays on The Creative Business, Godard and the Movie Brutalists, an exhaustive The Making of The Group covering 33 pages, suggested movies for children, and studies of the careers of Brando, Orson Welles and Stanley Kramer. A few amusing quotes. After the first few minutes of Grand Prix, my companion said Now you know what it's like to be run over. You don't go to this movie, it comes after you. Pasolini's The Gospel According to st Matthew was so static that I could hardly wait for that loathsome prissy young man to get crucified. In The Bible God couldn't have had much much of a sense of humour if he went to the trouble of destroying the posing prancing faggots of Sodom. And, the process shots in Fantastic Voyage are so clumsily mated with the figures that the actors look as if a child has cut them out with blunt scissors.

Kiss Kiss Bang Bang is virtually an informal history of the movies. This volume deals with over 300 of them, some essay length, some in short sharp paragraphs. From Bonnie and Clyde to Blow Up, Miss Kael praises, damns and displays her extraordinary grasp of films, film-makers, techniques and film history.

About the Author

Winner of the American National Book Award for her film criticism in 1974, Pauline Kael was, until her retirement in 1974, a reviewer and critic of films and filming for over thirty years. Other titles by Pauline Kael available from Marion Boyars are: I Lost It At the Movies, Going Steady, Kiss Kiss Bang Bang, Reeling, When The Lights Go Down, Taking It All In, State of the Art, Hooked, Movie Love, Raising Kane and Other Essays and 5001 Nights at the Movies.