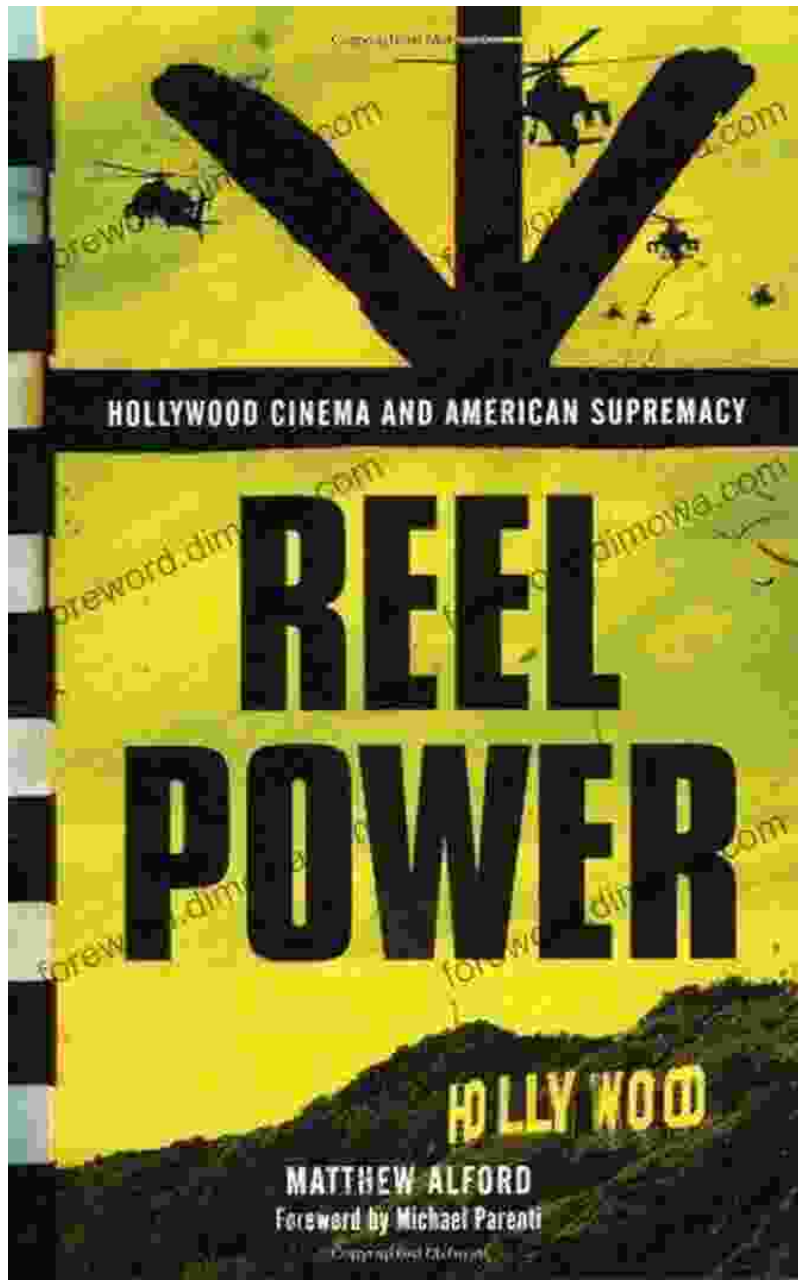
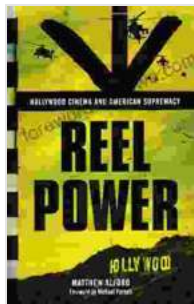


Reel Power: Hollywood Cinema and American Supremacy



In his groundbreaking book, *Reel Power: Hollywood Cinema and American Supremacy*, Thomas Doherty argues that Hollywood cinema has played a pivotal role in shaping American identity and promoting American

supremacy. Through a close analysis of over 100 films, Doherty shows how Hollywood has consistently depicted the United States as a benevolent global leader, while casting other nations as inferior or even evil.



Reel Power: Hollywood Cinema and American Supremacy by Matthew Alford

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 904 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 233 pages



Doherty's book is a major contribution to the study of American cinema and its role in shaping American foreign policy. It is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the complex relationship between Hollywood and the American empire.

Hollywood's Depiction of the United States

Doherty argues that Hollywood films have consistently portrayed the United States as a benevolent global leader. This depiction is evident in films such as *The Battle of Algiers* (1966), which depicts the United States as a force for good in the fight against communism, and *Black Hawk Down* (2001), which celebrates the heroism of American soldiers in Somalia.

Hollywood's depiction of the United States as a benevolent global leader is not simply a reflection of American values. It is also a product of the close

relationship between Hollywood and the US government. For decades, the US government has worked with Hollywood to produce films that promote American interests. This collaboration has been particularly evident in the production of war films, which have often been used to justify American military interventions.

Hollywood's Depiction of Other Nations

In contrast to its depiction of the United States, Hollywood has often portrayed other nations in a negative light. This negative depiction is evident in films such as *The Birth of a Nation* (1915), which depicts African Americans as inferior to whites, and *Apocalypse Now* (1979), which depicts the Vietnam War as a futile and bloody conflict.

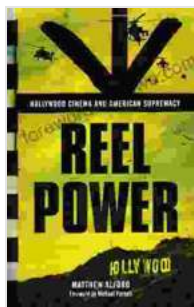
Hollywood's negative depiction of other nations is not simply a reflection of American racism and xenophobia. It is also a product of the Cold War, which led to a sharp increase in anti-communist propaganda in Hollywood films. During the Cold War, Hollywood films often depicted the Soviet Union and its allies as evil and threatening.

The Impact of Hollywood Cinema

Doherty argues that Hollywood cinema has had a profound impact on American identity and foreign policy. He shows how Hollywood films have shaped American perceptions of other nations and justified American military interventions.

Doherty's book is a timely reminder of the power of Hollywood cinema. In an era of increasing global instability, it is more important than ever to be aware of the ways in which Hollywood films can be used to promote American supremacy.

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