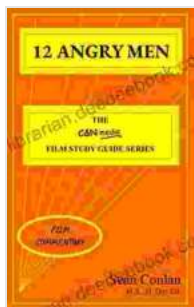


12 Angry Men Film Commentary: A Masterclass in Human Behavior and the Power of Jury Duty

12 Angry Men is a 1957 American courtroom drama film directed by Sidney Lumet and written by Reginald Rose. The film tells the story of a jury of 12 men who must decide whether or not to convict a young man of murder. The film is notable for its realistic portrayal of jury deliberations and its exploration of the human psyche.

Themes

12 Angry Men explores a number of themes, including:



12 Angry Men - Film Commentary (C&N media Film Study Guide Series) by CGP Books

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 463 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 65 pages
Lending : Enabled



- **The power of jury duty:** The film shows how jury duty can be a powerful force for good, as it allows ordinary citizens to play a role in the administration of justice.

- **The importance of due process:** The film emphasizes the importance of following due process in criminal cases, as it ensures that the accused receives a fair trial.
- **The dangers of prejudice:** The film shows how prejudice can lead to wrongful convictions, as it can cloud the judgment of jurors.
- **The power of one:** The film shows how one person can make a difference, as Juror 8 is able to convince the other jurors to reconsider their verdict.

Characters

The 12 jurors in the film are a diverse group of men with different backgrounds and experiences. Each juror brings his own biases and prejudices to the deliberations, which makes the film a fascinating study of human behavior.

The following is a brief description of each juror:

- **Juror 1 (Foreman):** The foreman is a middle-aged man who is initially convinced that the defendant is guilty. However, he is open to changing his mind after listening to the evidence and the arguments of the other jurors.
- **Juror 2:** Juror 2 is a young man who is initially biased against the defendant because he is a member of a minority group. However, he is able to overcome his prejudice and eventually votes to acquit the defendant.
- **Juror 3:** Juror 3 is a middle-aged man who is a businessman. He is initially skeptical of the defendant's innocence, but he is eventually

persuaded by the evidence and the arguments of the other jurors.

- **Juror 4:** Juror 4 is a middle-aged man who is a stockbroker. He is initially convinced that the defendant is guilty, but he is eventually persuaded by the evidence and the arguments of the other jurors.
- **Juror 5:** Juror 5 is a young man who is a recent college graduate. He is initially biased against the defendant because he is a member of a minority group. However, he is able to overcome his prejudice and eventually votes to acquit the defendant.
- **Juror 6:** Juror 6 is a middle-aged man who is a blue-collar worker. He is initially convinced that the defendant is guilty, but he is eventually persuaded by the evidence and the arguments of the other jurors.
- **Juror 7:** Juror 7 is a middle-aged man who is a salesman. He is initially biased against the defendant because he is a member of a minority group. However, he is able to overcome his prejudice and eventually votes to acquit the defendant.
- **Juror 8:** Juror 8 is a middle-aged man who is an architect. He is initially the only juror who believes that the defendant is innocent, and he is able to convince the other jurors to reconsider their verdict.
- **Juror 9:** Juror 9 is an elderly man who is a retired businessman. He is initially convinced that the defendant is guilty, but he is eventually persuaded by the evidence and the arguments of the other jurors.
- **Juror 10:** Juror 10 is a middle-aged man who is a cab driver. He is initially biased against the defendant because he is a member of a minority group. However, he is able to overcome his prejudice and eventually votes to acquit the defendant.

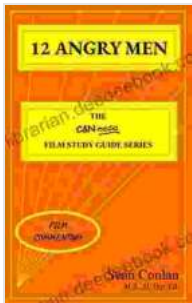
- **Juror 11:** Juror 11 is a middle-aged man who is a teacher. He is initially biased against the defendant because he is a member of a minority group. However, he is able to overcome his prejudice and eventually votes to acquit the defendant.
- **Juror 12:** Juror 12 is a middle-aged man who is a foreman. He is initially convinced that the defendant is guilty, but he is eventually persuaded by the evidence and the arguments of the other jurors.

Filmmaking Techniques

12 Angry Men is a masterclass in filmmaking technique. Sidney Lumet uses a number of techniques to create a sense of tension and suspense, including:

- **Close-ups:** Lumet uses close-ups to focus the audience's attention on the jurors' faces, which allows us to see their emotions and reactions to the evidence and the arguments.
- **Long takes:** Lumet uses long takes to create a sense of realism and immediacy. The audience feels like they are actually in the jury room with the jurors.
- **Mise-en-scène:** Lumet uses mise-en-scène to create a sense of atmosphere and mood. The jury room is a small, cramped space, which creates a sense of claustrophobia and tension.
- **Sound:** Lumet uses sound to create a sense of atmosphere and mood. The jury room is filled with the sound of the air conditioning, which creates a sense of tension and suspense.

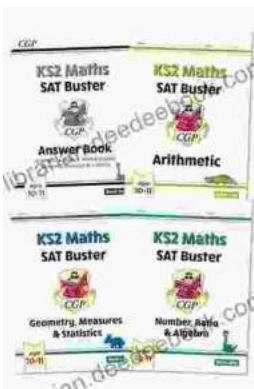
12 Angry Men is a classic film that is still relevant today. The film's themes, characters, and filmmaking techniques are all masterfully done, and the film offers a powerful reminder of the importance of jury duty and the dangers of prejudice.



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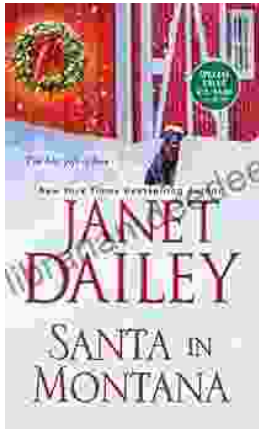
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