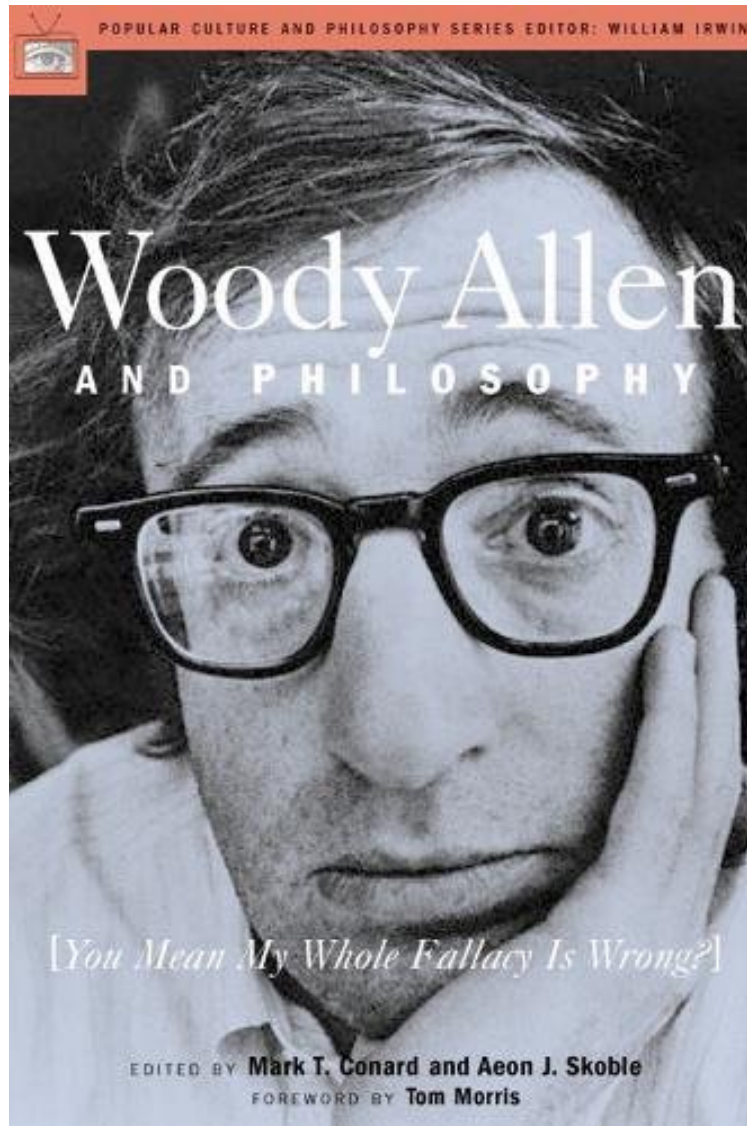


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Woody Allen and Philosophy: You Mean My Whole Fallacy Is Wrong?

Aeon J. Skoble, Mark T. Conard
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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Woody Allen and Philosophy: You Mean My Whole Fallacy Is Wrong?:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CSRgreat material32 of 41 people found the following review helpful. Could have been a lot better.By Review GuyThe first thing to know about this book is that it is but one

in a series. "Woody Allen and Philosophy" is brought to you by the same folks who brought you "The Simpsons and Philosophy," "Seinfeld and Philosophy," and so on. I have not been impressed with this series. Generally, the pop culture topics chosen have no explicit philosophical inspiration. Philosophy must be read-in to otherwise superficial material. Some of these movies and sit-coms constitute good illustrative examples of philosophical topics (e.g. the tired observation that Seinfeld is a "deconstructive" comedy about nothing), but none of them was consciously embedded with philosophy. Woody's work is different. The attempt to understand the intellectual references contained in Woody's early films is precisely what led me to study philosophy in the first place. They contain deeply philosophical themes and explicit philosophical references. Films like Annie Hall, Love and Death, and Bananas are absolutely packed with high-culture easter eggs waiting for a good interpreter. Sadly, the essays in this book miss pretty much all of them. Of course, I admit I am the sort of snob who thinks that philosophy should not be the handmaiden to pop culture. I am embarrassed to see Schopenhauer wasted on Seinfeld. The bottom line is that you will enjoy this book if you enjoy the series itself. Serious Woody Allen fans and philosophers alike will probably be disappointed. 17 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Articles focus on Allen's philosophy and viewpoints

By Midwest Book Review

How often has the reader combed a casual survey of actor Woody Allen longing for insights into the witty sayings and cutting remarks Allen is notable for? Wonder no longer. In Woody Allen And Philosophy, Mark Conrad and Aeon Skoble edit a fine philosophical approach to Allen's sayings and life, presenting articles which survey his pragmatic optimism, his sex comedys and spoofs, and his artistic films alike. Articles focus on Allen's philosophy and viewpoints and provide plenty of personal insights in the process of analyzing his works.

Fifteen philosophers representing different schools of thought answer the question what is Woody Allen trying to say in his films? And why should anyone care? Focusing on different works and varied aspects of Allen's multifaceted output, these essays explore the philosophical undertones of Anne Hall, Crimes and Misdemeanors, Manhattan, A Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy and reminds us that just because the universe is meaningless and life is pointless is no reason to commit suicide.

"...a good mix of academics and entertainment, and dedicated Woody Allen fans will find this a fascinating read." -- Back Stage, October 29, 2004

"Those who stick with this book will experience their next Woody Allen encounter at a much deeper level." -- Foreword, January 1, 2005

About the Author

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Mark T. Conard is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Marymount Manhattan College. He is a contributor to Seinfeld and Philosophy (2000) and The Simpsons and Philosophy (2001). He has published numerous scholarly articles on Kant and Nietzsche. His first novel, Dark as Night, was released by Uglytown Press in 2003. Aeon J. Skoble is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Bridgewater State College, Massachusetts. He co-edited The Simpsons and Philosophy (2001) and Political Philosophy: Essential Selections (1999).