

# [PDF] Night Film: A Novel

## Marisha Pessl - pdf download free book

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### Books Details:

Title: Night Film: A Novel

Author: Marisha Pessl

Released: 2013-08-20

Language:

Pages: 624

ISBN: 140006788X

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### Description:

**An Amazon Best Book of the Month, August 2013:** As she proved with her first book (Special Topics in Calamity Physics), Pessl is a sly, smart, sophisticated writer. What's surprising about her elaborately plotted and addictive new novel is how it gets better as it grows more convoluted. I can envision a massive white board busy with diagrams and arrows to track the spider-webbed storyline. Once Pessl works past a few slow spots and finds her momentum, the story churns into a dark, propulsive, and insatiable mystery. The daughter of a reclusive horror film director is found dead, and a disgraced journalist and two sidekicks become obsessed with uncovering the truth of her death and the true identity of her infamous father, whose terrifying films (banned from theaters and found only via underground methods) depict what is "graphic and dark and gorgeous about life, thereby conquering the monsters of your mind." Complex, shadowy, and a bit sad, Pessl's riveting tale keeps us guessing until the final pages, along the way raising questions about reality, magic, art, fear, and celebrity. Sprinkled throughout are clever page props--website screenshots, news clippings, smudged police reports, and coffee-stained transcripts. It all holds together impressively,

with a satisfying payoff that'll leave you spent and sorry the ride is over. Special note to impatient readers (like me): stick with it, and savor it. You'll be glad you did. --

**From Publishers Weekly** Seven years after *Special Topics in Calamity Physics*, Pessl returns with a novel as twisted and intelligent as that lauded debut. Again, the story centers on a father-daughter relationship, but this time the sinister element is front and center, beginning with the daughter's death. The night films of Stanislas Cordova have a cult following: fans hold underground screenings and claim that to see his work is to leave your old self behind, walk through hell, and be reborn. Ashley Cordova is his enigmatic daughter; she appears in his final film at the age of eight, debuts as a pianist at Carnegie Hall at 12, and apparently commits suicide at 24. Scott McGrath is a reporter who lost his job investigating Stanislas and can't resist his need to uncover the real story of Ashley's death. Though the structure is classic noir, Pessl delivers lifelike horror with glimpses, in the form of faux Web sites, of the secretive Stanislas, his films, and his fans. Things slow down when Scott breaks into Stanislas's estate; sustained terror depends on what is withheld, not what is shown. But Pessl does wonderful work giving the hard-headed Scott reason to question the cause of Ashley's death, and readers will be torn between logic and magic. Agent: Amanda Urban, ICM. (Aug.)

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