

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910299997903321
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Titolo	Adultery and the Female Star // by Edward Gallafent
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : Palgrave Macmillan UK : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2018
ISBN	9781137352248 1137352248
Edizione	[1st ed. 2018.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (237 pages)
Collana	Palgrave Close Readings in Film and Television, , 2634-6141
Disciplina	791.436543
Soggetti	Ethnology Motion pictures Sex Sociocultural Anthropology Close Readings in Film and TV Gender Studies
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. Bette Davis: 1937-43: Motherhood -- 3. Joan Fontaine: 1939-50: Devotion -- 4. Kim Novak: 1954-64: The Stranger -- 5. Meryl Streep: 1979-85: The Present and the Past -- 6. Conclusion. .
Sommario/riassunto	This book provides an in-depth study of Bette Davis, Joan Fontaine, Kim Novak and Meryl Streep, and the treatment of adultery in their films. It avoids the near-impossible challenge of writing about the sheer volume of adultery in film by focusing on specific periods in the work of these four major Hollywood actresses who have each performed roles that share some features but also contain points of difference. The periods discussed cover Davis's work in 1937 to 1943, Fontaine's work between 1939 and 1950, Novak in 1954 to 1964, and finally Streep's work between 1979 and 1985. Closely analysing both established classics and lesser known films, Edward Gallafent explores the work of a broad range of directors including Alfred Hitchcock, Max Ophüls, Sydney Pollack and Billy Wilder. Adultery and the Female Star explores topics such as motherhood, the significance of place,

censorship, and adaptation, and is the first book of its kind to take on the topic of adultery in relation to these four actresses. It ultimately argues that our understanding of the adultery narrative is tightly bound up with our understanding of the Hollywood stars that depict it. .
