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Sommario/riassunto This book focuses on expressions of the tragic in Spanish cinema. Its

main premise is that elements from the classical and modern tragic tradition persist and permeate many of the cultural works created in Spain, especially the films on which the book centers this study. The inscrutability and indolence of the gods, the mutability of fortune, the recurrent narratives of fall and redemption, the unavoidable clash between ethical forces, the tension between free will and fate, the violent resolution of both internal and external conflicts, and the overwhelming feelings of guilt that haunt the tragic heroine/hero are consistent aspects that traverse Spanish cinema as a response to universal queries about human suffering and death. Luis M. González is

Professor in the Hispanic Studies Department at Connecticut College, where he teaches Spanish Film, Literature and Culture. His publications on Spanish theater and film include thefollowing books: La escena madrileña durante la II República (1931–1939), El teatro español durante la II República y la crítica de su tiempo (1931–1936), and Fascismo, kitsch y cine histórico en España (1939–1953). He also coauthored a translation of Valle Inclan´s Comedias Bárbaras into English, and he is the editor of Teatro: Revista de Estudios Escénicos .