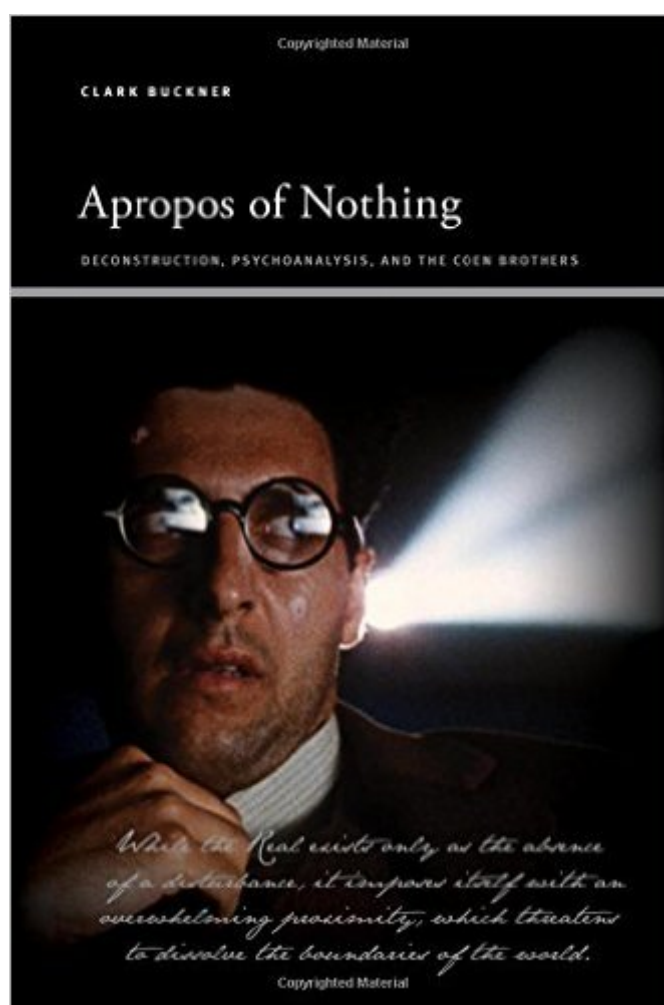


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Apropos Of Nothing: Deconstruction, Psychoanalysis, And The Coen Brothers (SUNY Series, Insinuations: Philosophy, Psychoanalysis, Literature)



Synopsis

Everything you wanted to know about the Lacanian critique of deconstruction, but were afraid to ask the Coen Brothers. The Coen Brothers's™ films are rife with figures of absence. In *The Big Lebowski*, the Dude does nothing. He is put on the trail of a kidnapping that never happened, and solves the crime when he realizes that he paid the ransom with a ringer for a ringer. • *The Hudsucker Proxy* features a dupe who draws zeros throughout the film, enthusiastically proclaiming, "You know, for the kids!" • *Barton Fink* is a film that revolves around the absence of a film. In *Apropos of Nothing*, Clark Buckner appeals to these and other figures of the void in the Coen Brothers's™ films in order to articulate the close proximity and ultimate opposition between Lacanian psychoanalysis and Derridean deconstruction. In the process, he situates both theories in relationship to Heidegger's™ existential phenomenology, and undertakes a comparative analysis of the negativity in death, language, drive, anxiety, visual perception, paternity, and the unconscious. Formulating one of the most theoretically rigorous readings of the Coen's™ oeuvre to date, Buckner also offers a readable overview of some central debates in late twentieth-century continental philosophy.

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