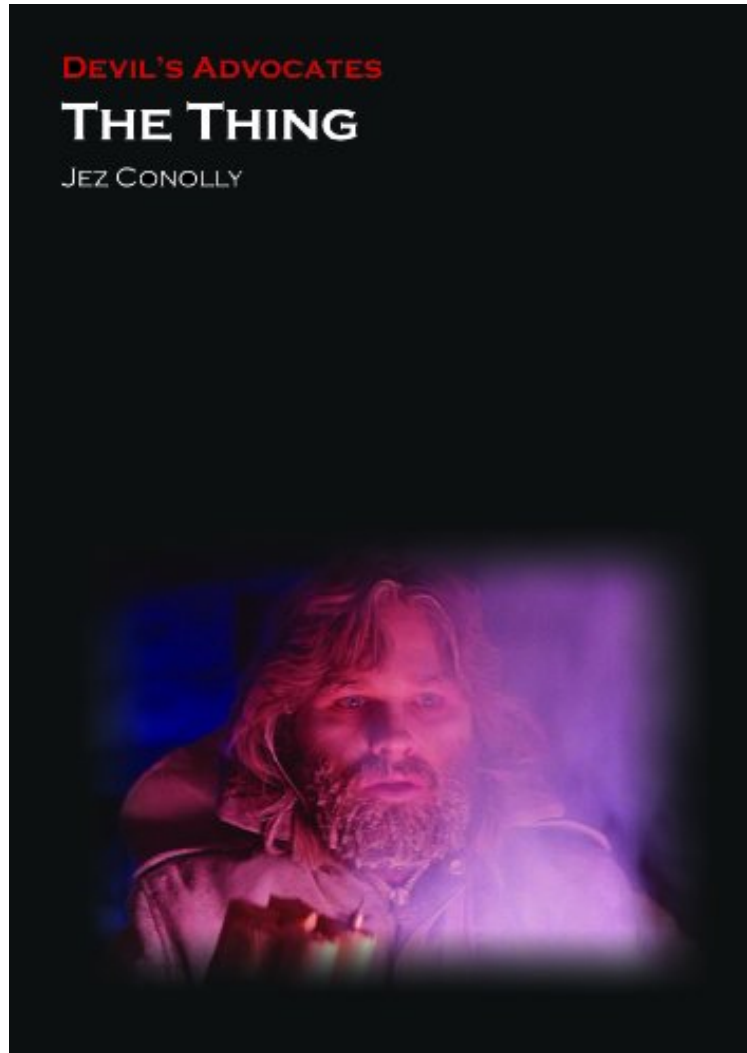


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The Thing (Devil's Advocates)

Jez Conolly

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Jez Conolly : The Thing (Devil's Advocates) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Thing (Devil's Advocates):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Only for real fansBy Ignatius MalibuOk I'm a geek. I go to Outpost31.com and I never miss the film. I waited for the prequel like people line up for Black Thursday sales. So if you are a geek like me and REALLY LOVE the Carpenter film, this is for you. An interesting find and fun to see the author's take on different aspects of the film. This is one guy who actually loves the film more than I do! But if you are just a normal Sci/Fi and Horror movie buff...this will be TMI for you. So be warned.Anybody seen Fuchs?0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice, full view of a classicBy Mr. Richard K. WeemsThis book is one installment of a series of books on various classic and challenging horror films. I went to this one in particular on

recommendation from Rue Morgue magazine. And I was quite glad for the purchase. Unfortunately, I think the presentation of the book itself, if you actually buy it, might put you off a little at first. For the price, you get a pretty slim volume with middling formatting. If other installments in the series are anywhere near as good as this one, I hope the price factor as well as the publication quality don't drag it down too much. Because in this particular volume, Jez Conolly there's a really interesting job with the Jon Carpenter film in many ways. There's a chapter of some close critical reading, as well as some examination of the special effects, movie history, to provide a full view of this movie. Some of the critical application gets a little weak and how much it has to stretch its logic, but there is a lot to get out of this book that will really give you a full appreciation if you already liked the movie. And if you don't, you'll get some pretty interesting bits about it anyway.

Consigned to the deep freeze of critical and commercial reception upon its release in 1982, *The Thing* has bounced back spectacularly to become one of the most highly regarded productions from the 1980s 'Body Horror' cycle of films, experiencing a wholesale and detailed reappraisal that has secured its place in the pantheon of modern cinematic horror. Thirty years on, and with a recent prequel reigniting interest, Jez Conolly looks back to the film's antecedents and to the changing nature of its reception and the work that it has influenced. The themes discussed include the significance of *The Thing's* subversive antipodal environment, the role that the film has played in the corruption of the onscreen monstrous form, the qualities that make it an exemplar of the director's work and the relevance of its legendary visual effects despite the advent of CGI. Topped and tailed by a full plot breakdown and an appreciation of its notoriously downbeat ending, this exploration of the events at US Outpost 31 in the winter of 1982 captures *The Thing's* sub-zero terror in all its gory glory.

About the Author Jez Conolly is co-editor, with Caroline Whelan, of three books in the World Film Locations series (Dublin, Reykjavik and Liverpool) published by Intellect. He is Faculty Librarian for Arts and Social Sciences Law at University of Bristol, UK.