



## My Bloody Valentine (1981) 9.18.20

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- ❖ We picked up the copy of *My Bloody Valentine* we watched this week for the show at [The Archive in Bridgeport, CT](#). The Archive is absolutely our favorite store. Anyone in the area who loves movies should visit this amazing establishment and pickup some wonderfully weird movies. Find The Archive at 118 Congress Street, Bridgeport CT.
- ❖ [Men, Women, and Chainsaws: Gender in the Modern Horror Film](#) by Carol J. Clover — This is a seminal book in academic criticism on the horror genre. As always, we highly recommend any of our listeners with an interest in learning about horror movies read this book. Clover doesn't spend much time discussing *My Bloody Valentine*, but her insights remain relevant to any discussion of the film and its relationship to the rest of the horror/slasher genre.
- ❖ [Buster Keaton's Sherlock Jr.](#) Edited by Andrew Horton — We're linking this resource we used in our *Sherlock Jr.* (1924) episode because it's such a fantastic introduction to the concept of homosocial bonds, an incredibly important idea when it comes to understanding *My Bloody Valentine*. We didn't quote from it during this episode, but "The Detective and the Fool: Or, The Mystery of Manhood in Sherlock Jr." by Kathleen Rowe Karlyn is the specific essay discussing homosocial bonds, and we'll provide some passages below:
  - "The gendered relationships of the Holmesian universe might more accurately be explained... by the structure of desire Eve Sedgwick has described as homosocial, a term used in history and the social sciences to describe social bonds among people of the same sex...the real play of desire is often not male to female, but male to male. This desire may or may not be overtly sexual but it does involve eros of another kind – the drive to identify with and emulate an admired other... Yet those bonds exist within a logic of sameness rather than difference, a logic that, as Sedgwick explains, functions historically and politically as a kind of 'social glue' that fosters the maintenance and transferred of power in patriarchal society. Homosociality encompasses 'male friendship, mentorship, entitlement, rivalry, and heter – and homosexuality,'" attachments that link men together along a continuum of desire between homosocial and homosexual. This structure allows for heirarchy without difference, and it explains the relationships between men so familiar in Western literature and culture, beginning with the Socratic dialogues and including not only Watson's relationship with Holmes but the boy's with his fictional ideal" (106-07). [[Between Men: English Literature and Male Homosocial Desire](#) by Eve Sedgwick]