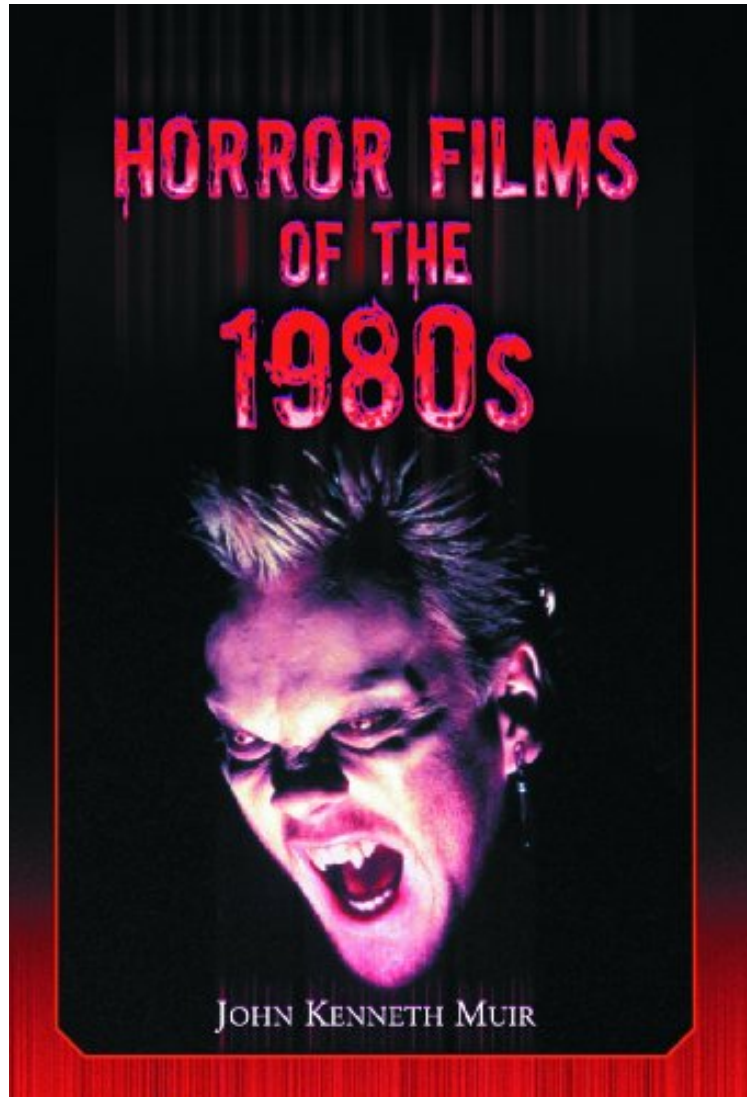


Horror Films of the 1980s

John Kenneth Muir

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#3091738 in Books McFarland n Company 2007-03-27Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 1.93 x 7.34 x 10.221, 3.58 #File Name: 078642821X843 pages | File size: 68.Mb

John Kenneth Muir : Horror Films of the 1980s before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Horror Films of the 1980s:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Crack for '80s Horror fansBy CJThis is a very full and addictive account of '80s horror, including some truly obscure gems and turkeys. It took a tremendous effort for Muir to wade through all of this material and look deeply into each movie, although it was obviously a labor of love, and he had help. When he reviews a movie, he doesn't just crank out a paragraph or two to describe it, he lists contemporary or retro "professional" reviews, then offers his own highly detailed breakdown of the story and the motivations of the

writers and the characters. For legendary movies such as *The Shining*, he gives several pages of material for your consumption, and it really is difficult to put it down once you start reading! He also gives a lengthy intro to the book which identifies and discusses the tried and true clichés of '80s horror, such as the disposable teen campers, which includes the nerd, the jock, the hot tramp, the virginal last girl, etc. It's true; I've seen all of these play out a millions times in '80s flicks. The only real flaw of the book is that he goes WAY out into left field (pun intended) on many occasions to attack Reagan and his imagined Republican conspiracy behind everything, which is out of place and distracting. Those are his personal views, and more often than not were probably not important to the creators of the movies. At times it's as if you're reading a left wing blog that happens to have a movie review section. Fortunately, he doesn't insist on doing this for every review. This would be an easy 5-star collection if edited to remove the political blather. Even so, it's still well worth having and will help you find more rare movies to add to your stash! Looking forward to checking out his '70s horror collection soon.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. If you liked the first volume..By Sergio pescador Totally amazing. All the minor details to improve from the first set, are corrected here: Shorter reviews, great trivia, the words of someone who knows his stuff At first I fear a complete "slasher" beatdown (A personal genre favourite) but all the author's opinions are founded. A really entertaining and fascinating reading, the whole political panorama, it left me speechless. This book series deserve to be on the Smithsonian.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Amazing job on 80s horror!! Well done!!! A must for any horror fan By Customer I bought this book when it first came out and I have not put it down since. I had to track down the 70s edition as well after going through this one. He hits it out of the park. The layout of the book is great. It's broken down by years and movie titles are alphabetical order within each year, making a search for a particular movie very easy to find. One of the great things about this book (and there are MANY...I can't wait for the 90s edition...HURRY UP SEPT. 2011!!) is that he includes oddball titles that only TRUE HORROR fans would know about. This gives everyone an opportunity to learn more about these movies. Yes, FRIDAY THE 13th, NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET and HALLOWEEN are all represented, but so is HELL NIGHT, MOTEL HELL, WITHOUT WARNING, etc. There were a LOT of movies in this book that I didn't even know about. And a good portion of my DVD collection is made up of 80s horror movies. I am a TRUE horror fan, especially 80s horror, and if you need to get one book on 80s horror, this is the one!!

John Kenneth Muir is back! His *Horror Films of the 1970s* was named an Outstanding Reference Book by the American Library Association, and likewise a Booklist Editors' Choice. This time, Muir surveys 300 films from the 1980s. From backwards psychos (*Just Before Dawn*) and yuppie-baiting giant rats (*Of Unknown Origin*), to horror franchises like *Friday the 13th* and *Hellraiser*, as well as nearly forgotten obscurities such as *The Children* and *The Boogens*, Muir is our informative guide through 10 macabre years of silver screen terrors. Muir introduces the scope of the decade's horrors, and offers a history drawing parallels between current events and the nightmares unfolding on cinema screens. Each of the 300 films is discussed with detailed credits, a brief synopsis, a critical commentary, and where applicable, notes on the film's legacy beyond the 80s. Also included is the author's ranking of the 15 best horror films of the 80s.

"Writing is clear, with a personal but expert tone...useful information and enjoyable commentary...recommended." -- Booklist/RBB "Muir again plunges into the dark...appropriate to the so-called era of greed, he has this time added more of everything: films, background, appendices, and critical analyses...ample, witty, well-versed entries...highly recommended." --Library Journal "Have no fear. Muir reveals all...readable and entertaining...this tremendous tome of terror is the quintessential concordance to the films of the dead teenager decade...Muir opts for comprehensiveness...Muir's genius lies in his giving context to the films. Muir has carved out a niche for himself with this kind of reference work...recommended." --Choice "Comprehensive...insightful." --CRL News "One of the finest horror reference books I've ever read." --City Slab

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About the Author: John Kenneth Muir is the award-winning author of more than seventeen books including *The Encyclopedia of Superheroes on Film and Television* (2004, A Library Journal starred review), *Horror Films of the 1970s* (2002) and *Terror Television* (2001); both received the Booklist Editors' Choice award.