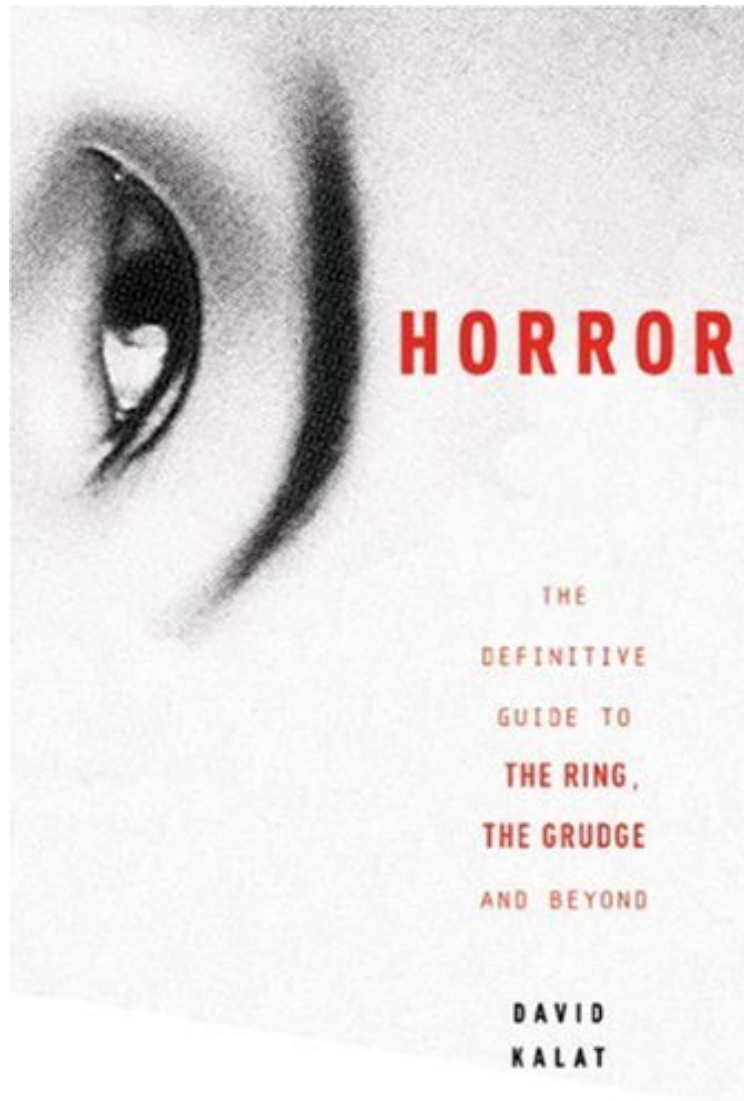


[PDF] J-Horror: The Definitive Guide to The Ring, The Grudge and Beyond

J-Horror: The Definitive Guide to The Ring, The Grudge and Beyond

David Kalat

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David Kalat : J-Horror: The Definitive Guide to The Ring, The Grudge and Beyond before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised J-Horror: The Definitive Guide to The Ring, The Grudge and Beyond:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. intelligent, accessible, insightful -- alas, no indexBy Thomas M. SiposIn 2006 I was asked to serve on a panel about Japanese horror films, at the World Horror Convention. Although I was already familiar with J-horror, I sought a book on the topic to help me "bone up" and found Japanese Horror

Cinema. What a dreadful book! Written in typically turgid academese, with the author rambling off about all sorts of political topics (e.g. Reagan, Thatcher) that had nothing to do with J-horror. I gave up on finishing the book. No problem. The panel was a success. Even so, it might have gone even better if I instead had David Kalat's book (which was published the following year.) Kalat's book is written the way every film book should be written.* The prose is intelligent yet accessible. No academic jargon.* The research is extensive and full of colorful details. Such as how Jungi Ito developed the Tomie series, from inspiration (a tragic childhood death at his school), to manga (winning a comics contest while working as a dental technician), to film series.* The analysis is insightful and thought-provoking, increasing the reader's understanding and appreciation of the films being discussed.* The physical book is itself reader friendly. Some film books (especially those written by academics) use overly small fonts. Kalat's book is printed with comfortable fonts, on non-glare paper, along with some black-and-white images from the films. The book suffers from one serious flaw. It has no index. This lessens its value as a research tool. I have a large library of horror film books. Often I'll want to research a particular film, actor, or director. Indexes are helpful in that regard. This book does have a filmography, which is something, but no substitute for an index. Even so, Kalat's book is a great read. I'd compare it to Maitland McDonagh's excellent *Broken Mirrors/Broken Minds: The Dark Dreams of Dario Argento* for its friendly prose and intelligent insights. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. *The Book I've Been Looking For!* By Sillyman Ever since I became interested in modern Asian horror films, I've been trying to find a book that would help me pick out what films to watch next. This is that book! Whereas other books touch on such films, this book focuses on them in detail, fully explaining all the different versions of *The Ring* and *The Grudge*, which films influenced them and how they have influenced subsequent films. Fully covers all recent horror films from Japan, Korea and Hong Kong; as a result of it, I have bought a number of fantastic films that I would not otherwise have heard of. It includes detailed chapters on: *The Ring* series; *The Grudge* series; the Tomie series; Kiroshi Kurosawa; Korean films; Hong Kong films; American remakes. Very readable. Written with enthusiasm and knowledge. Excellent! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Probably the best book on the subject so far for English speaking folk. By Mark Martucci Kalat never fails! He also does great audio commentaries. I re-bought the Mabuse films in the UK set just because he did the commentaries. This book covers J Horror up to when they started to become run off the mill.

Navigating the numerous versions released in the U.S. and Japan of *The Ring*, *The Grudge*, Tomie and other films and sorting out the finest output of legends like Takashi Miike is an intimidating task. J-Horror breaks down each and every franchise, from the narrative to the talent behind the screen and other trivia, for a greater understanding and appreciation of the genre. Learn about the influence Japanese folklore and ghost stories had on J-Horror, and the influence of J-Horror on American cinema. Just don't forget your copy on the way to the video store!