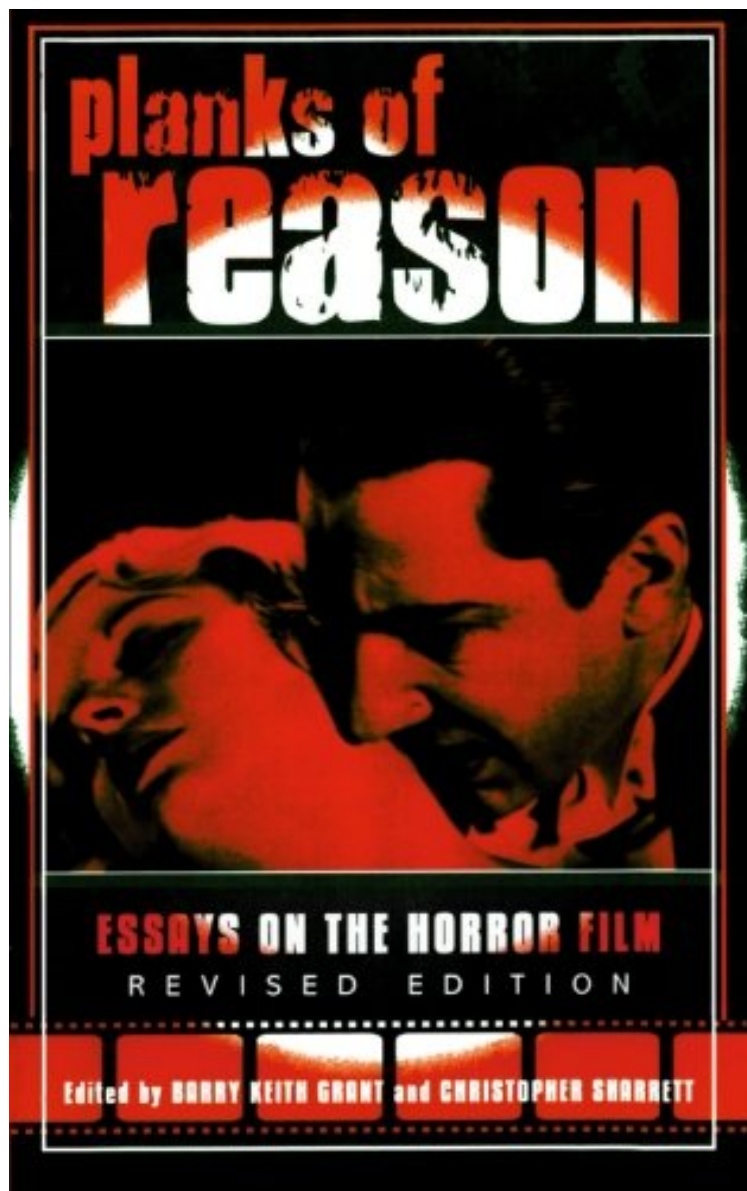


(Download ebook) Planks of Reason: Essays on the Horror Film

## Planks of Reason: Essays on the Horror Film

*Christopher Sharrett*

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**Christopher Sharrett : Planks of Reason: Essays on the Horror Film** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Planks of Reason: Essays on the Horror Film:

The original edition of *Planks of Reason* was the first academic critical anthology on horror. In retrospect, it appeared as a kind of homage to the "golden age" of the American horror film, as this genre played an increasing role in film culture and American life. The original material represented the history of the genre through the early 1980s and is a crucial part of the book's value, then and now. The first edition helped legitimize academic writing on the horror genre by addressing breakthrough works of such directors as John Carpenter, Tobe Hooper, George Romero, David Cronenberg, and Wes Craven. This revised edition retains the spirit of the original, but also offers new takes on rediscovered classics and recent developments in the genre. In addition to reprinting 17 essays, including Robin Wood's "An Introduction to the American Horror Film," this revised edition features a new essay on the yuppie horror film by editor Barry Keith Grant, as well as an updated analysis of *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* by co-editor Christopher Sharrett. Other new essays focus on William Castle's *The Tingler* and Roger Corman's *Pit and the Pendulum*, and the recent wave of Japanese horror films. Contains more than 60 photos.

Originally published in 1984, this collection of essays remains relevant and informative for those seeking a broad overview of the genre....Grant and Sharrett provide a new introduction (it is twice the length of the previous one) and do an excellent job of summing up that state of horror film at the dawn of the new century....Recommended.

(CHOICE)The 1984 edition of academic essays sought to establish the genre as a legitimate subject of study. The second edition takes that achievement as given, and also accounts for films produced over the past two decades, which above all have lost all interest in any social or cultural commentary or critique. Only one essay has been revised; otherwise, some have been dropped and new ones added. Ten of them explore definitions and approaches, the other 12 focus on particular films and filmmakers. (Reference and Research Book News)About the AuthorBarry Keith Grant is professor of film studies and popular culture at Brock University in Ontario, Canada. He is the author of *Voyages of Discovery: The Cinema of Frederick Wiseman*, and editor of several books on film.Christopher Sharrett is Professor of Communication at Seton Hall University. His work has appeared in *Cineaste*, *Kino Eye*, *Journal of Popular Film and Television*, *Film Quarterly*, *Persistence of Vision*, and numerous anthologies.