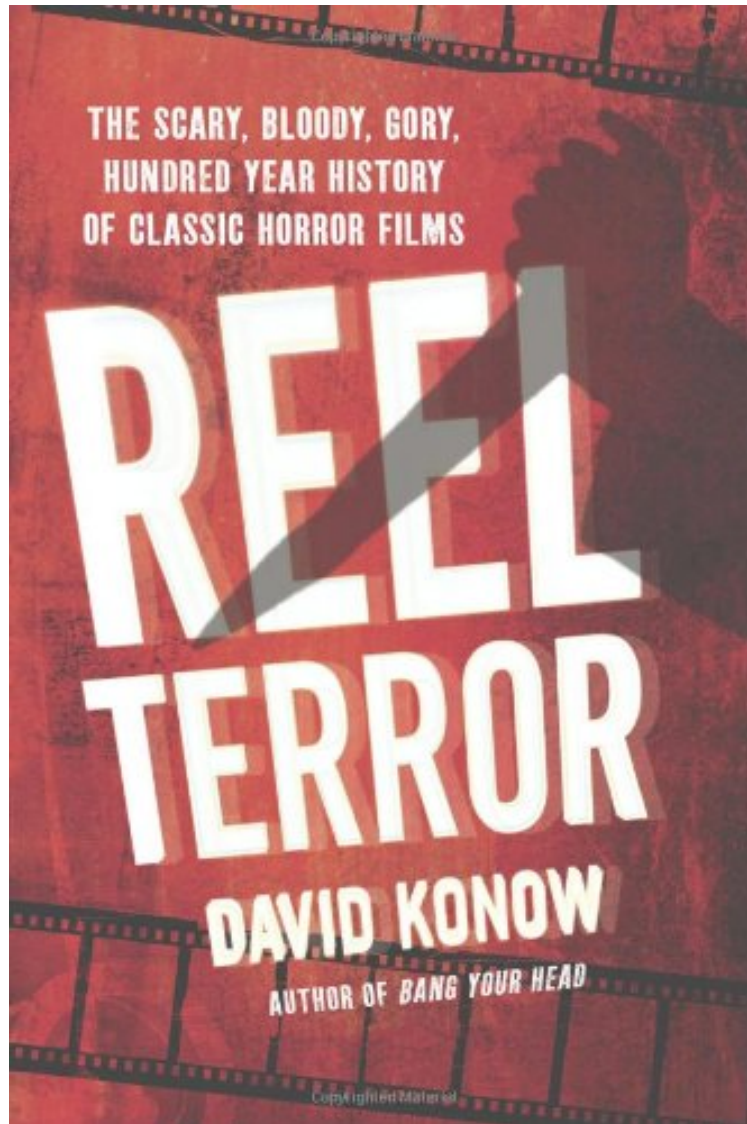


(Pdf free) Reel Terror: The Scary, Bloody, Gory, Hundred-Year History of Classic Horror Films

Reel Terror: The Scary, Bloody, Gory, Hundred-Year History of Classic Horror Films

David Konow

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David Konow : Reel Terror: The Scary, Bloody, Gory, Hundred-Year History of Classic Horror Films before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Reel Terror: The Scary, Bloody, Gory, Hundred-Year History of Classic Horror Films:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Engaging Even for Newcomers to the GenreBy J. L.Excellently written. Not a huge horror fan, but enjoyed the commentary. I did like Shock Value better, but only because this one

contained "deeper cuts" that I hadn't heard of or seen, but that wouldn't be a problem for most readers. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Despite some editing problems, it's an extremely informative read. By Michael Hannah Author repeats himself (as in, an almost exact sentence in two separate paragraphs) as well as some other editorial mistakes. Besides this, it's a really interesting read and can be pretty hard to set down. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great. By Michael J. Cahill Excellent book on horror movies. Not a dry academic book on horror movies. I learned some neat stuff about the making of some of these movies and their impact in movie making and society. If you know about little something about the making of Halloween for example, you won't think it's a total rehash of what you already knew. I really enjoyed this book.

From the author of the definitive heavy metal history, *Bang Your Head*, a behind-the-scenes look a century of horror films *Reel Terror* is a love letter to the wildly popular yet still misunderstood genre that churns out blockbusters and cult classics year after year. From *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* to *Paranormal Activity*, Konow explores its all-time highs and lows, why the genre has been overlooked, and how horror films just might help us overcome fear. His on-set stories and insights delve into each movie and its effect on American culture. For novices to all out film buffs, this is the perfection companion to this Halloween's movie marathons.

From Booklist The author of *Bang Your Head: The Rise and Fall of Heavy Metal* (2002) battles other forces of darkness with this conversational history of the horror film. For ubergeeks this is like being in a museum with a docent whos moving too quickly, reciting well-trod lore about the usual suspects: *Frankenstein*, *Night of the Living Dead*, *The Exorcist*, *Rosemarys Baby*, *The Shining*, et al. For casual fans, though, the book provides a sweeping, cohesive tale of how horror was maligned, then considered prestige, then maligned again. Several themes emerge: how the best films were often made by directors not especially interested in the genre (Whale, Friedkin, Kubrick, Fulci); how many of those directors subsequently felt trapped; and how they constantly struggled with the ratings board. Konow loads his chapters with historical and modern critical reception, reactions of living directors on classic films (Craven on *Psycho*, del Toro on *Creature from the Black Lagoon*), and wild stuff about ad campaigns and box office. Will incite both fan-boying excitement as well as outrage about whats glossed over (wheres *The Wicker Man*?!). --Daniel Kraus In *Reel Terror*, David Konow displays undeniable fervor for his subject and its fans, aptly calling his book "a love letter to a great and underappreciated genre. Washington Post An exhaustive and entertaining film-by-film history of an oft-maligned genre that refuses to die. Horror films are about as old as the medium itself, and Konow (*Bang Your Head: The Rise and Fall of Heavy Metal*, 2002) begins with Universal Studio's horror triumvirate of Bela Lugosi, Boris Karloff and Lon Chaney and continues to well-known modern-day horror films like *The Ring* and the *Saw* franchise. Along the way, he dissects dozens of great and not-so-great movies, including those by respected directors who entered horror only briefly (Polanski and *Rosemary's Baby*, Kubrick and *The Shining*), by directors who went on to bigger things (Sam Raimi and *The Evil Dead*, Peter Jackson and *Dead Alive*), and directors who made horror their genre of choice (George Romero and *Dawn of the Dead*, John Carpenter and *Halloween*). For each film, Konow tells the story of how it came into being and why it works. But he is no dry cinephile; rather, he is an informative, knowledgeable fan. So why does a horror film work? We all like to be safely scared, and the right music helps. Would *Jaws* be *Jaws* without its trademark music? Obviously, the right makeup and a good story are important. But often, as Konow frequently points out, it's what's not there that counts: *Rosemary's baby* is never seen; there's not all that much shown in *Psycho's* shower scene; there's no music in the original *Dracula*, which makes it that much more unsettling. On the other hand, "Friday the 13th delighted in letting the blood and heads fly." So maybe the rules are there to be broken. It's such details that make the stories of these films so entertaining. Of course, there will be arguments: Is *Se7en* really a horror film? Where's the original *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*? Why do those teenagers keep going into that dark room to be scared senseless? A well-told account of the films that have scared the pants off generation after generation. Kirkus s With an inviting, you-are-there narrative often absent in genre histories, *Reel Terror* charts the scary/delicious rise of the horror film industry in America. A must for lovers of all things creepy, violent and dark; a useful primer for those just discovering the classics. Chainsaw, anyone? Mike Sager, Esquire, author of *The Someone You're Not* David Konow is the Dr. Frankenstein of prose, and *Reel Terror* is his magnificent monster of a book. Konow assembles the skin, bones, and viscera of horror's hundred-year onscreen history, and doesn't miss a bloody stitch. This definitive terror tapestry delivers what Quint promised in *Jaws*: the Head, the Tail... the Whole Damn Thing. KJ Doughton, author of *Metallica Unbound* *Reel Terror* is a love letter to our much maligned genre. A book which cuts through the hyperbole and tells the history of horror how it is: the trials, tribulations, key events and coincidences which conspired to turn horror from the dirty little secret it was into the commercial and creative juggernaut it eventually became. A book that's thoroughly recommended to anyone with even a passing interest in the history of movie scares. For new and long-standing genre fans alike, *Reel Terror* is a fascinating read. Written with passion and deep respect, it'll broaden your understanding of how horror developed from the black-and-white Universal classics through to the mainstream smashes of the last decades. It's a thoroughly entertaining book, packed with memories and anecdotes from the people who made the movies and defined the genre. A fascinating look at the

history of horror filled with stories, details and memories that remind you why you fell in love with the genre in the first place. Superb. David Moody, author of *Hater* and the *Autumn* series More than any other genre, the Horror film reflects the zeitgeist of its era. In *Reel Terror* David Konow expertly connects the dots from *Dracula* to *Psycho* to *The Exorcist* to *Paranormal Activity* giving the reader an insightful explanation of how the films got made and why we got scared. Scott Alexander Larry Karaszewski, *Screenwriters of Ed Wood, 1408, and The People Vs Larry Flynt* This book will nicely flesh out popular music collections and complements Chuck Klosterman's recent memoir-cum-musicological study, *Fargo Rock City*, and Deena Weinstein's cultural study, *Heavy Metal*. Recommended. *Library Journal* on *Bang Your Head* So you wanna meet the band? How Bad? David Konow's *Bang Your Head* deifies heavy metal's amp-loving sinners in spandex, debauched power balladeers such as *Black Sabbath*, *Judas Priest*, *Motorhead*, and *Metallica*, dudes who single-handedly keep the hair-spray industry in business. *Elissa Schappell, Vanity Fair* on *Bang Your Head* A fine pop-music history. *Booklist* on *Bang Your Head* It became acceptable to mock heavy metal with *Beavis and Butt-head* and *Wayne's World*. After that, hardly a devil-horn salute or head-bang existed without an inherent sense of ridicule, sending *Skid Row* and similar bands to the land of *Behind the Music*. Given some distance from the genre's demise, it's refreshing to read *Bang Your Head: The Rise and Fall of Heavy Metal*, David Konow's unsarcastic history of heavy metal. Konow tackles the acceptable (*Metallica*, *Guns n' Roses*, *Slayer*) and the absurd (*Ratt*, *Twisted Sister*, *Cinderella*) with the same enthusiasm. Surrounded by hairspray, spandex and a stiletto-clad Tawny Kitaen, Konow delivers an insightful and straightforward retrospective of metal makeup and all. *Jason Buhrmeister, Playboy* on *Bang Your Head* Amusing poop history *Tom Nawrocki, Rolling Stone* on *Bang Your Head* About the Author DAVID KONOW is the author of *Bang Your Head: The Rise and Fall of Heavy Metal*, and has written for numerous publications and websites including *Deadline.com*, *L.A. Weekly*, *The Wrap*, *Turner Classic Movies*, *Rue Morgue*, *TGDaily.com*, *Guitar World*, *MovieMaker*, *Fangoria*, and more. He lives in Southern California.