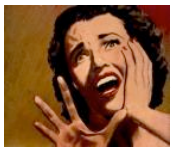


It's alive! It's alive!



Love horror movies? Enjoy begin scared? Want to learn more about this spine-tingling genre? This is what you need.



Introduction:

Horror movies have been with us since the beginning of motion pictures. For years, the general population thought that horror movies rotted people's brains and corrupted our youth and those ideas are still held today by some people. Yet, audiences flocked to the theaters to see these movies then and they still do now. Why? Because horror takes us to an extreme emotion in a controlled environment. We get to be scared, but in the safety of our own homes or local movie theaters.

Since horror movies have remained so popular, countless books and web sources have been created to analyze the movies and educate the public about their availability. With so much information out there, a horror movie fan can feel lost when trying to find a new movie or

wanting to learn more about an old favorite. This guide will help anyone who wants to explore this fearsome genre.



Suggested Search Terms:

Some key terms to keep in mind for searches are the different types of horror movies out there:

Murder Mystery
Haunted House

Slasher Flicks
Zombies

Vampires
Ghosts

There are certain directors and producers also associated with the horror genre and the most common ones to look for are:

George Romero
Dario Argento
F.W. Murnau
Sam Raimi

James Whale
Clive Barker
Tobe Hooper
William Castle

Wes Craven
John Carpenter
David Cronenberg
Val Lewton

There are also some actors and actresses commonly associated with horror movies:

Boris Karloff
Jamie Lee Curtis
Lon Chaney
Dee Wallace

Robert Englund
Bruce Campbell
Peter Cushing
Vincent Price

Bela Lugosi
Tony Todd
Christopher Lee
Elvira



Web resources:

So many horror websites offer the same information over and over again that it's difficult to know which ones will actually provide you with any answers. The following websites, databases, interactive software, and video sites are the most reliable and informative websites for horror movies; each offering something a little different for you. These sources were chosen due to their usability, popularity, currency, and information value.

Fangoria

<http://www.fangoria.com/>

“Fangoria”. 2009. <http://www.fangoria.com/>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

Fangoria has been considered the #1 name in horror since 1979. This website offers reviews of movies both in theaters and on DVD/Blu Ray. The Fangoria Entertainment section shows movie trailers from the Independent Film Channel's IFC Midnight Movies department. Fangoria also prints a magazine that you can subscribe to on their webpage to get all the latest information on horror movies, art, books, and more.

Bloody Disgusting

<http://www.bloody-disgusting.com/>

“Bloody Disgusting”. 2009. <http://www.bloody-disgusting.com/>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

Bloody Disgusting is your source for the latest movie trailers, movie news, and articles written by Bloody Disgusting employees, with the main contributor being Mr. Disgusting, himself. Bloody Disgusting has also scored several interviews with some of the leading and up-and-coming people in the horror movie business. The Movie Pit allows you to search for any movie within the website.

Turner Classic Movies

<http://www.tcm.com/index.jsp>

“Turner Classic Movies”. 2009. <http://www.tcm.com/index.jsp>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

More than just a website for a television channel, Turner Classic Movies (TCM) has a searchable database for movies of every genre. Each movie’s webpage is packed with tidbits of information from the cast list to movie trivia. A search for *Psycho* retrieved information on both the original 1960 Alfred Hitchcock version and the 1998 Gus Van Sant remake. Both movie pages include cast and crew information, links to other fan sites, and plot synopses. TCM also offers forums for lovers of all genres to connect with like-minded people.

Horror Movies.ca

“Horror Movies.ca”. 2009. <http://www.horror-movies.ca/>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

Horror Movies.ca provides up-to-the-minute horror news on its homepage and offers an RSS feed for movie reviews of both high and low profile movies. Horror Movies.ca also encourages user participation by voting on movie posters and submitting your own reviews once you are a member of the website.

Upcoming Horror Movies

<http://www.upcominghorrormovies.com/>

“Upcoming Horror Movies”. 2009. <http://www.upcominghorrormovies.com/>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

Upcoming Horror Movies clearly focuses more on movies that are soon to be released either in theaters or on DVD/Blu Ray. The homepage has a schedule of releases along with a guide to let users know if the release is on DVD, in theaters, in limited release, a remake, a prequel, in talks, or airing on TV or on-demand. You will never be in the dark (if you will pardon the pun) about what horror movies will be available to you.

Black Horror Movies

<http://www.blackhorrormovies.com/>

“Black Horror Movies”. 2009. <http://www.blackhorrormovies.com/>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

Black Horror Movies is a very different website. Its focus is on the portrayals of African Americans in horror movies. Black Horror Movies gives a racial perspective on different horror movies from the classics of the 30s to modern films. The website also has an alphabetical listing of African American actors and actresses, which horror movies they appeared in, and whether or not they died in the movies. Be careful! There are spoilers in that section!

Scary Horror Movies

<http://www.scaryhorormovies.com/>

“Scary Horror Movies”. 2009. <http://www.scaryhorormovies.com/>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

Scary Horror Movies at first appears to be simply a giant commercial website, but on further inspection, it provides movie descriptions and critical reviews for several horror movies. Yet, the biggest contribution this website makes is its list of horror DVD Easter Eggs and where to find them.

Asian Horror Movies

<http://asian-horror-movies.com/>

“Asian Horror Movies”. 2009. <http://asian-horror-movies.com/>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

Asian Horror Movies is the definitive English language website for Asian horror movies. The website offers movie synopses and a chance to view the movies on your computer for free. You even have the option to share movies with friends.

Dread Central

<http://www.dreadcentral.com/>

“Dread Central”. 2009. <http://www.dreadcentral.com/>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

Dread Central is the website for reviews galore! Though, this website is not just for theatrically-released horror movies. There are also reviews for horror books and online horror movies. With several interviews with industry legends and original horror tales written

specifically for Dread Central, this website has something to offer for every “horrorphile.”

Horror Movies at B Movies

<http://www.bmovies.com/horormovies.php>

“Horror Movies at B Movies”. 2009. <http://www.bmovies.com/horormovies.php>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

Horror Movies at B Movies is the website you need if you’re looking for schlocky, cheesy, or low profile movies. It provides an alphabetical list of just about every low budget horror movie available for viewing, including 1922’s *Nosferatu*. Each movie has a rating out of five dots along with basic plot information and the option to watch the movies online.

Fearnet

<http://www.fearnet.com/movies/index.html>

“Fearnet”. 2009. <http://www.fearnet.com/movies/index.html>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

Fearnet is an excellent source for horror and science fiction movie news. With several videos of red carpet interviews, movie trailers, and set visits, you can keep up with all of the latest Hollywood buzz on your favorite horror movies. Fearnet also provides one other interesting feature: on Wednesdays, you can watch five movies online for free that you won’t find anywhere else.

Atomic Monsters.com

<http://www.atomicmonsters.com/>

“Atomic Monsters”. 2009. <http://www.atomicmonsters.com/>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

Atomic Monsters is an amusing website dedicated to the monster movies from the Atomic Age. Read reviews of such movies as *The Alligator People* and *Catwomen of the Moon*. The Drive-In section provides original, tongue-in-cheek cartoons with the same flavor of many of the old Atomic Age movies. If you have a warped sense of humor, you will probably enjoy these.

Black Hole

<http://blackholereviews.blogspot.com/>

“Black Hole”. 2009. <http://blackholereviews.blogspot.com/>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

Very few stand-alone movie blogs offer the insight and information that Black Hole provides. The blogger focuses on Asian and European horror movies, but also provides reviews for lesser known American horror movies as well. With lots of pictures and movie clips, Black Hole will give you a real taste of what these movies are like and perhaps pique your interest in some new horror movies.

Castle Gore

<http://www.castlegore.co.uk/>

“Castle Gore”. 2009. <http://www.castlegore.co.uk/>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

Castle Gore is for horror fans that have come to be known as “gore hounds.” Here you will find movie reviews of some of the goriest horror movies from the past as well as information on upcoming gore movies. Please note that many of these movies have some graphic images and coarse language.

Cult Reviews

<http://www.cultreviews.com/>

“Cult Reviews”. 2009. <http://www.cultreviews.com/>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

Cult Reviews is a Belgium-based website that provides reviews on current and past movies that were released outside of the mainstream. This website also offers forum discussions and the ability to watch some cult classics online.



Databases:

IMDb

<http://www.imdb.com>

“The Internet Movie Database”. 2009. <http://www.imdb.com>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

IMDb, the Internet Movie Database, is the definitive place on the internet for movie information. You can search for any movie, director, or actor in the huge database as well as find movie quotes, trivia, and message boards. You can find information on classics, like *Dracula* and *Halloween*, to low-budget B-movies, like *Carnival of Souls*, to cheesy, so-bad-they’re-good flicks, like *Blood Freak* and *Attack of the Killer Tomatoes*.

Brimstone Pit

<http://www.horrmovies.org/>

“Brimstone Pit”. 2009. <http://www.horrmovies.org/>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

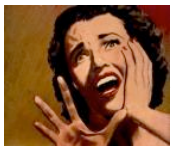
Brimstone Pit database offers 1520 movies to browse through where you will find plot synopses, cast and crew information, movie running times, and more. You can browse titles by year of release or alphabetically.

Horror Movie Database

<http://www.buried.com/horrmovies/>

“Horror Movie Database”. 2009. <http://www.buried.com/horrmovies/>. Last accessed May 26, 2009.

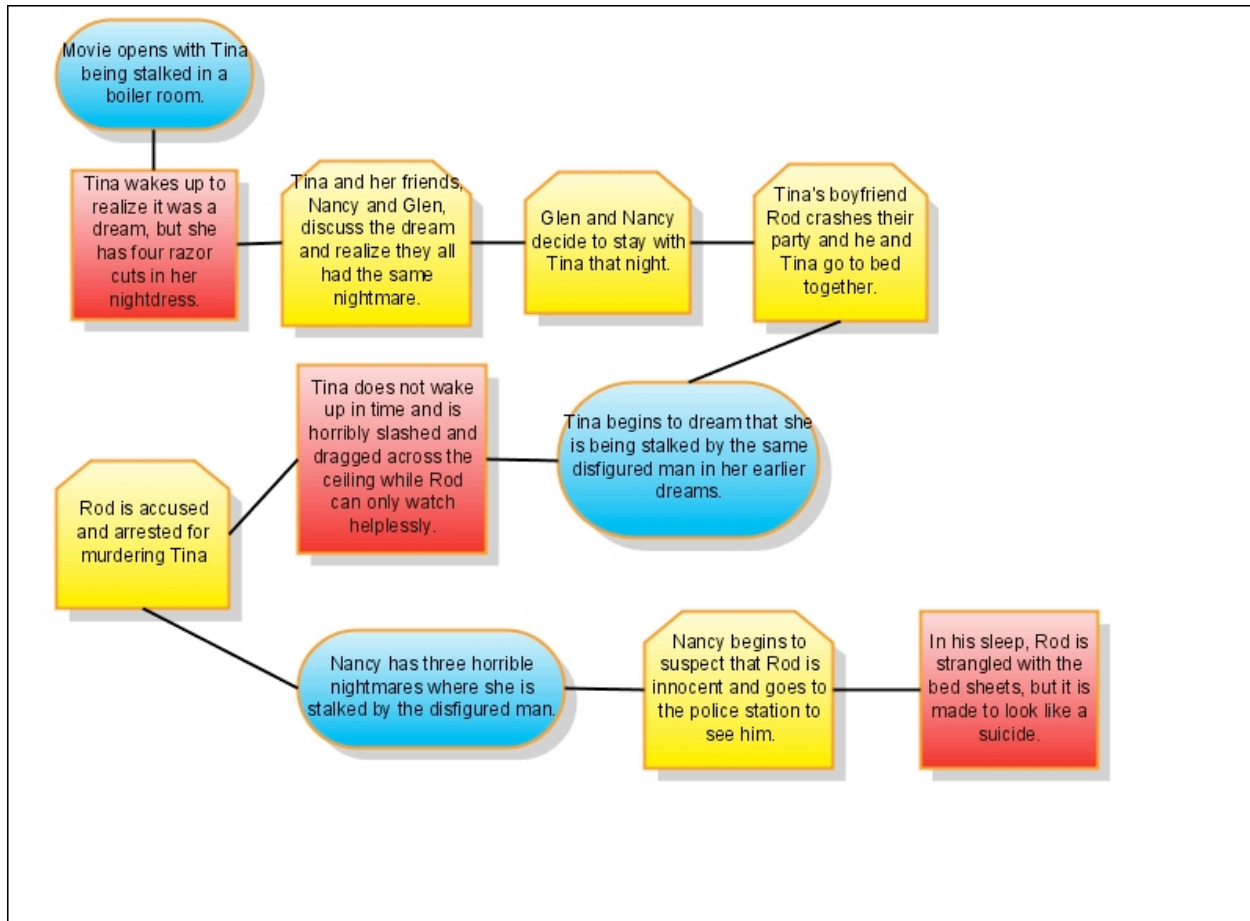
Buried.com’s Horror Movie Database is associated with Brimstone Pit, but provides more than just database browsing. You can find movie trailers, reviews, and editorials. There are also different pieces of online horror fiction as well as the opportunity to add your own horror fiction to the website.



Interactive:

Having problems keeping track of the slayings or plot points in some of the twistier movies? Or would you rather show off your computer savvy? Either way, Gliffy, a free online source for diagram software, found at <http://www.gliffy.com/>, can help you create flow charts of movie plots or set up floor plans of some of the famous horror movie

houses. Below is an example of a flow chart of part of the original *A Nightmare on Elm Street* plot. This flow chart can help you keep track of what happened in the dreams (blue ovals), what happened in the movie's waking world (yellow hexagons), and what the consequences of the dreams were (red squares).





Video:

Terror Feed

<http://www.terrorfeed.com/>

“Terror Feed”. 2009. <http://www.terrorfeed.com/>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

Terror Feed is a website dedicated to nothing but horror videos. There are almost 3000 videos with more being added continually. You will find several movie clips, trailers, and interviews. Some popular videos are linked below.

Saw 5 trailer:

<http://www.terrorfeed.com/index.php?id=saw5-trailer>

Twilight Behind the Scenes clip:

<http://www.terrorfeed.com/index.php?id=Twilight-BTS>

Justin Long interview, *Drag Me to Hell*:

<http://www.terrorfeed.com/index.php?id=dragmetohell-justinlong>

YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/>

“YouTube”. 2009. <http://www.youtube.com/>. Last accessed on May 27, 2009.

YouTube allows you to view movie trailers and video compilations of scenes from movies. It is easy to search and there are hundreds of

videos for the horror movie buff to sift through. Below are just a few examples of movie trailers for both modern and classic horror movies.

A video for trailers for both *Frankenstein* and *Dracula*:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2PGX38IBTM>

The U.S. trailer for *Suspiria*:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_8zbV_fFkYs

Trailer for *Ringu*, the original Japanese movie later remade into *The Ring*:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9Z-MOqAvtY>

Official trailer for *The Uninvited*, 2009:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FB0337Xqg4o>

Fearnet

<http://www.fearnet.com/movies/index.html>

“Fearnet”. 2009. <http://www.fearnet.com/movies/index.html>. Last accessed on May 26, 2009.

As mentioned before, Fearnet has several videos of red carpet interviews, movie trailers, and set visits. Below are links to some of the popular videos on the website.

The Devil’s Tomb trailer:

http://www.fearnet.com/videos/b15651_devils_tomb_trailer.html

Halloween 2 set visit:

http://www.fearnet.com/videos/b15341_h2_fearnet_on_set.html

Bill Nighy interview while shooting *Underworld 3*:

http://www.fearnet.com/videos/b15565_underworld_3_bill_nighy_interview.html



Extensions:

So, watching horror movies sounds like fun, but what if you want to do something else? There are several ways for you to use your creative side with horror movies. Here are just a few ideas of what you can do with your love of horror.

Recutting movies into horror trailers

It has become very popular among high school and college students to edit scenes from a movie and rearrange them into what looks like a trailer for a completely different movie. Can you imagine *Cinderella* as a horror movie? Well, someone did. Here is the link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sT5LKxTAe10>

What about a scary *Mary Poppins*?

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2T5_0AGdFic&feature=related

Sponge Bob Squarepants? Most like *Sponge Bob Jaws*.

http://www.teachertube.com/viewVideo.php?video_id=81959&title=SpongeBob_Jaws

Reading macabre tales

Some of the best horror movies from the 1960s were based on Edgar Allen Poe's writings. Stephen King has also had numerous books adapted to movies. Believe it or not, it's quite amusing to read the book first and then watch the movie. It's amazing how many things they change from the book to the movie. Check your local library for these great tales of terror.

Horror movie marathons

What good are movies if you can't share them with your friends? Organize an evening of fear with your fellow horror lovers. Have each person bring a movie no one else has seen so you can all enjoy brand new scares. Use any of this pathfinder's resources to discover some new horror.

Horror movie trivia night

Think you know more about horror than anyone else? Put it to the test. Organize a horror trivia night either as a fun activity or a fund raiser for your school or organization. Making up questions is a great way to test your own knowledge as well as others while still having fun. Work those brain muscles to find out who really is the quiz master of the macabre in your group.

Fan fiction

Lots of people express their creativity through fan fiction of their favorite horror movie characters. Just what do you think happened in Michael Myers childhood? What was the relationship between Mrs. Voorhees and Jason like before he died? You can write your own version. Buried.com's Horror Movie Database welcomes fan fiction from horror lovers of all kinds. Go to <http://www.buried.com/horormovies/> to check out what others have written and see where you can post your own.

Would you rather create your own tales of terror? There's a place on Buried.com for that too. All creativity is welcome.

Artwork

Horror artwork has gained quite a bit of popularity over the past few decades. Whether the art is paintings, sculptures, silk screens, or even digital art, there is a fan base for this kind of artwork. Plus, art is a great way to express yourself. If you want to share your art with the world, you can create your own online gallery or look into displaying them at local art festivals. Your local library should have some books and online guides on how to create your own online gallery, but Microsoft offers an online class at <http://www.microsoft.com/education/onlineartgallery.msp>. To find local art festivals, go to <http://www.festivals.com/> to search for art festivals near you.

Volunteering at haunted houses

During Halloween there are several local haunted houses are in the works with several of them needing volunteers. You can help build sets, create costumes, set up lights, or even play a character. This is a great

opportunity to let your darker side come out. Some haunted houses act as charities as well, so your participation could be considered community service. Go to <http://www.hauntedhouse.com/> to find haunted houses in your area. Not interested in volunteering, but want to go visit haunted houses? Haunted House.com will help you there too.

Make your own horror movie

Are there no horror movies out there that satisfy you? Do you think you can do better? Make your own! Grab a video camera and some of your friends for this fun and creative project. The public library should have several sources for making movies on a budget, but here are some of the best resources:

Cheap Scares!: Low Budget Horror Filmmakers Share Their Secrets

Lamberson, Gregory. 2008. *Cheap scares!: Low budget horror filmmakers share their secrets*. McFarland & Co. Jefferson, NC.

This book acts as a step-by-step guide to creating a movie from an original outline to screenwriting to budgeting to even distributing the film. There are interviews with an entertainment lawyer and a marketing executive for a DVD distributor for legal and business perspectives.

The Six Day Horror Movie: A No-nonsense Guide to No-budget Filmmaking

DiPaolo, Michael. 2004. *The Six Day Horror Movie: A No-nonsense Guide to No-budget Filmmaking*. McFarland & Co. Jefferson, NC.

This book is a diary of DiPaolo's own experience making a movie. He uses his experience to explain each aspect of production and post-production. DiPaolo also offers advice on methods of what he calls guerilla filmmaking and how to avoid some of the less desirable people in the movie industry.



Print Sources:

The Rough Guide to Horror Movies

Jones, Alan. 2005. *The rough guide to horror movies*. Rough Guides. London.

This is a comprehensive overview of horror movies. Jones uses critically analysis to put the movies in the context of the time in which they were released. This gives the reader insight into why and how each movie was made the way it was. Jones also provides a bibliography that includes magazines, websites, and film festival listings.

VideoHound's Horror Show: 999 Hair-raising, Hellish, and Humorous Movies

Mayo, Mike. 1998. *VideoHound's horror show: 999 hair-raising, hellish, and humorous movies*. Visible Ink Press. Detroit, MI.

Mayo reviews 999 movies from every era, highlighting each period's fears for context. His book contains sidebars, photos, and extensive film credit information. The reviews cover less well-known works as well as successful movies, but avoid movies not in print.

The Essential Monster Movie Guide: A Century of Creature Features on Film, TV and Video

Jones, Stephen. 2000. *The essential monster movie guide: A century of creature features on film, tv and video*. Billboard Books. New York.

Jones lists hundreds of "creature features" from classics like *Frankenstein* to *The Simpson's Halloween Specials*. All entries include

cast lists, evaluative synopses, remake and sequel listings, and star ratings.

British Horror Cinema

Chibnall, Steve and Petley, Julian, eds. 2002. *British Horror Cinema*. Routledge. London.

This is a compilation of essays on the films, their creators, and their critics. The book also confronts the negative connotations of the of the British approach to the genre as well as placing the nastier films in historical context.

Fangoria's 101 Best Horror Movies You've Never Seen: A Celebration of the World's Most Unheralded Fright Flicks

Lukeman, Adam. 2003. *Fangoria's 101 Best Horror Movies You've Never Seen: A Celebration of the World's Most Unheralded Fright Flicks*. Three Rivers Press. New York.

Lukeman worked with the Fangoria magazine editors to create entries for each movie. Each entry contains a summary and analysis of the film as well as some "Terror Trivia." The book ends with a DVD source list.

Eaten Alive!: Italian Cannibal and Zombie Movies

Slater, Jay and Alexander, Nick, et al. 2002. *Eaten alive!: Italian cannibal and zombie movies*. Plexus. London.

Slater and Alexander et al. created a comprehensive guide to Italian cannibal and zombie movies. Each film is reviewed by either a film critic or a fan. This book contains several movie stills and some are very graphic. Beware, a strong stomach is needed.

Classic Movie Monsters

Glut, Donald F. 1978. *Classic movie monsters*. Scarecrow Press. Metuchen, NJ.

This book takes a critical and historical look at Hollywood's most famous monsters including the Wolf Man, the Mummy, and Godzilla.

Legacy of Blood: A Comprehensive Guide to Slasher Movies.

Harper, Jim. 2004. *Legacy of blood: A comprehensive guide to slasher movies*. Critical Vision. Manchester, UK.

Harper covers the typical conventions of slasher flicks, such as the heroine, the killer, and parents/authority figures. He also provides some psychological analysis of the different attitudes towards sex, drugs and alcohol, and religion within these movies.

The Monster Show: A Cultural History of Horror

Skal, David J. 1993. *The monster show: A cultural history of horror*. Norton. New York.

Skal's book contains behind-the-scenes Hollywood stories mixed with social analysis of each era. He makes intriguing arguments about the archetypal monsters of the 1930s as reactions to the Great Depression as metaphors for class warfare and the 1950s movie monsters as representations of atomic fears. Movie still and posters are used to further understanding of historical context.