The Horror Genre: Can You Take It?

Nathan Alleyne ENG1121

Just So You Don't Get Lost ;)

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Notable Questions

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Why are the most popular horror movies so popular?

Who are the masterminds behind these movies?

Has it changed? Will it change?

Are you scared?

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iN tHe BeGiNniNg...

THE CASTLE OF OTRANTO

HORACE WALPOLE Not to get boring, but during the 18th-century pre-Romantic Era, English writer Horace Walpole published "The Castle of Otranto" in 1764. This novel was considered to be the first gothic novel, the literary form that the horror genre is known to have derived from. Big thanks to Horace!



Who likes horror the most? :} (D.C.)

Those most likely to be interested in this genre are

- More likely to be darker in aura/aesthetic
 - Of both genders, with men making up a little bit more of the audience than women (studies show)
 - Very diverse in terms of race, interests, mentality, likes and dislikes, since horror can divide up into subgenres that appeal to everyone :)

Best of the Best!

Sit back, relax, and spectate some of the most wonderful authors, directors, writers and producers of the horror genre and some of their masterpieces!

James Wan

- Saw (All of them)
- The Conjuring
- Insidious
- Annabelle

Jordan Peele

- Get Out
- Us
- Candyman (June 2020)

Stephen King

- lt
- Gerald's Game
- The Shining
- Pet Sematary
- 1922
- The Mist
- In the Tall Grass
- Carrie
- Children of the Corn
- Doctor Sleep

Quentin Tarantino

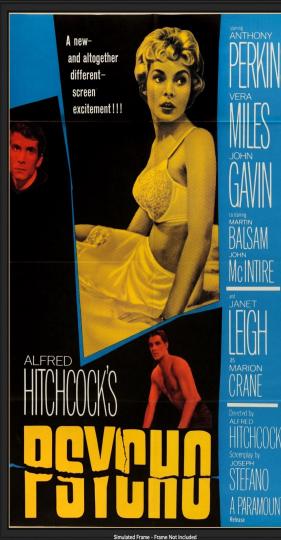
- Kill Bill Volume 1 and 2
- From Dusk till Dawn
- Planet Terror
- Pulp Fiction

Alfred Hitchcock

- Psycho
- The Birds
- Dial M for Murder

Tom Six

- The Human
 - Centipede (1, 2, and 3)



You'll float too. September 8 M

A new nightmare from the mind of Academy Award winner Jordan Peele Writer/Director of Get Out

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Why is horror as popular as it is?

Newly produced horror movies have come to tackle very important issues in society head-on. Those issues can include racism, identity, capitalism, feminism, sex, classism, mental health, trafficking and so much more. These movies challenge their viewers' perspectives on these topics, and leave them thinking about them for hours or days later.

Additionally, the fear that's induced by horror movies is sometimes exchanged for positive emotions by the views, those like excitement, joy, relief, and satisfaction, either during the movie or after. The Journal of Consumer Research relays the message that "people are willing to endure negative affect in order to experience a positive aftermath."

People feel good after watching horror movies! Weird huh?

What's with the A.A.'s?

African Americans in horror movies were once known to have been the first to die, the actors portraying those characters having less screen time, therefore receiving less pay. This popular stereotype of blacks being the first to die, or be killed was derived from 'subtle' racism from when blacks started to be represented in films. Prior to them actually being on screen, black people used to be portrayed by white people in blackface. Crazy huh?



Leading up to today's cinematic creations, black people have come to play more important roles in horror movies than ever before. We have come from having no roles at all, to fully African American casts! Black actors and actresses now make up a large number of the most successful actors to date. Directors like Jordan Peele and Spike Lee are credited with utilizing African American talent to showcase and exploit problems with society while still managing to make their films extremely entertaining and powerful.

Evolution, am I right?

'Us', yeah, you and me.

This breathtaking and spine chilling film has received tons of recognition since its release in March of 2019.

Directed by Jordan Peele, this film follows a family that encounters their murderous killer doppelgangers. >>>

It showcases the strength in the African American family dynamic, as they all work together to outsmart... themselves!

The film has won numerous awards for its Leading Actress, Lupita Nyong'o and its former-comedian director, Peele.



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Just a Little Taste...



In this clip from the film, the extremely talented actress Lupita Nyong'o gives a chilling monologue from the perspective of the tethered Mother of the family, Red. She describes in detail the horrific backstory of Adelaide, the normal mother, and her "shadow", which is her.

Watch if you dare, but be prepared for goosebumps.

All's well that ends well... or not ;)

Horror has come such a long way, and is only moving forward. The genre of horror will continue to be redefined again and again, and will be portrayed in exciting and invigorating new ways every year. From Alfred Hitchcock to Jordan Peele, from Horace Walpole to Stephen King, the known directors and writers of the horror genre will go down in history for allowing this category to be considered one of the best in terms of fictional literature and film.

Still scared?

Author's Note

I chose this genre to write about and explore because my love for horror films runs deep and I thought it would be an interesting experience to exploit the talented writers, directors, and producers of the most renowned and terrifying cinematic masterpieces. I decided to break down my favorite horror movie, incorporating posters and the killer star song of the soundtrack, a remixed "I Got 5 On It."

This website was intentionally created with a dark theme, creepy pictures, and an all around creepy aesthetic, to match that of the genre it focuses on.

My audience, aside from English Comp II, would have to be those interested in exploring the sp00ky horror genre, its origins, its backbone, and where it's heading.

Works Cited

Cohen, Joel B., et al. "On the Consumption of Negative Feelings." Journal of Consumer Research. Vol 34. Oct. 2007. p 283.

https://youtu.be/WFGmO1e_sAU

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