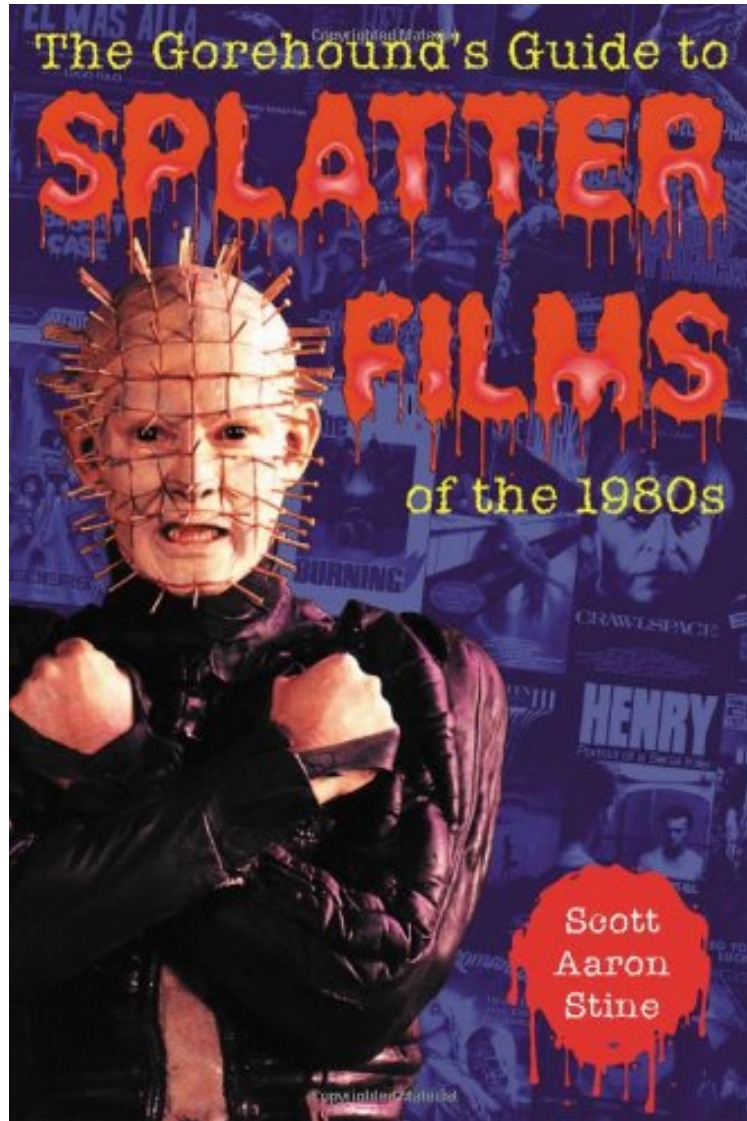


The Gorehound's Guide to Splatter Films of the 1980s

Scott Aaron Stine

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#3926908 in Books 2003-07-08Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.12 x .85 x 6.08l, 1.17 #File Name: 0786415320398 pages | File size: 51.Mb

Scott Aaron Stine : The Gorehound's Guide to Splatter Films of the 1980s before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Gorehound's Guide to Splatter Films of the 1980s:

12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Wish I hadn't wasted my money on this book!By ohenrybearI usually always enjoying reading all the "horror movie" review books/encyclopedias out there, but I really wish I had never wasted my time and money on this one! First of all, the price tag seems a little steep to me for a softcover book. More importantly, though, is that the whole time I was reading this book I had to keep asking myself why did this

author even want to write this? It is clear through reading his reviews that he is NOT a fan of 80's horror/splatter films at all. He gives very unfavorable reviews to most of the films in the book. He makes rude comments about them, the people who make them, star in them, or even those of us that like to watch them! He pretty much trashes everything about the very films that he is writing a whole book about! I feel like it must have been absolute torture for him to endure even watching all these movies that he was reviewing. Well, come to think of it I do think he states that a couple of times in the book! So anyways, the reviews aren't much help if you are truly a fan of the genre. There is some useful information on availability of the films in either VHS and/or DVD formats. Cast lists and production information seem pretty accurate too. There are also some rare pictures/artwork included too. Yet another surprising and disappointing thing about the book are the number of obvious omissions from it. There's no reviews to such well known 80's horror films like: He Knows You're Alone, Terror Train, The Fog, Chopping Mall, Intruder, Just Before Dawn, Sorority House Massacre, April Fool's Day, etc.?! The author also states that some of the "older" purchasers of his book will probably be finding themselves having to hide it out of others' sight due to feeling ashamed of owning it! Well, in my case I won't be hiding this book because of being ashamed for liking horror movies but instead for unfortunately owning this particular "book" about them.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. great book, lots of great information
By henry faust
got it fast and in perfect shape, great for looking up books you have never heard of ...i highly recommend it.

1 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Helpful and Entertaining
By HanktheHobo
This book is exactly what it claims to be; a guide to splatter films from the 80s. The author provides several paragraphs on almost all the movies, and also a short synopsis for most as well. As other reviewers have said, he is pretty harsh on the movies he doesn't like, which are quite a few. Cry me a river. We're all big boys and girls; just because the big bad man gave bad reviews to a movie you like, it doesn't mean you have to call the book crap. After all, you are free to disregard his opinion and just use the book as a guide to movies you may not have otherwise known about. I didn't agree with all his opinions either; he attacked Evil Dead as a crap movie, but he also acknowledged this is a minority opinion among horror fans, and that most others rate it highly. As well, he can write pretty well, so the reviews are always fun to read, and quite informative. So if a movie sounds interesting to you, you can ignore his negative review and seek it out at your own peril. The point is, his opinions aren't the entirety of the reviews; he also offers plenty of info that is helpful to anyone looking to expand their 80s splatter movie watch-list. Overall, it met all my expectations. The only negative point is the price; I checked mine out from the library, so it wasn't an issue for me.

Reviews of *The Gorehound's Guide to Splatter Films of the 1960s and 1970s*: "recommended"--Booklist/RBB; "exhaustive...useful"--ARBA; "a solid reference work"--Video Watchdog; "bursting with information, opinion and trivia...impeccably researched"--Film Review; "interesting and informative"--Rue Morgue; "detailed credits...entertaining"--Classic Images. Author Scott Aaron Stine is back again, this time with an exhaustive study of splatter films of the 1980s. Following a brief overview of the genre, the main part of the book is a filmography. Each entry includes extensive technical information; cast and production credits; release date; running time; alternate and foreign release titles; comments on the availability of the film on videocassette and DVD; a plot synopsis; commentary from the author; and reviews. Extensive cross-referencing is also included. Heavily illustrated.

From Booklist
Splatter film and its "half brother," the slasher, may appear synonymous to the uninitiated, but these volumes attempt to sort out what makes each genre unique. Splatter films have been around about 40 years and still do not enjoy high status. The sequel to Stine's *The Gorehound's Guide to Splatter Films of the 1960s and 1970s* (McFarland, 2001) treats about 500 1980s titles, what Stine calls "the childhood days" of splatter films, which featured more special effects and more literalism. Most are U.S. productions, but a few European titles are covered. Entries are listed alphabetically and range in length from a half page to two pages. Technical information includes director, crew, cast, length, release date, variance in titles, distributor, and distribution forms. Plot is described briefly, with extensive commentary and background providing most of the text. The author is a "reel" aficionado and strong in his opinions (e.g., "a disgusting, albeit riotously funny, splatter flick"). Readers should not expect objectivity; rather, they can count on passionate interest. Extensive cross-references help the reader find films listed with different titles. A list of sources for DVDs and videocassettes follows the film entries. The index is extensive. About 100 black-and-white photos from movie posters and film clips supplement the text. According to Armstrong, author of *Slasher Films: An International Filmography, 1960-2001*, Alfred Hitchcock's 1960 film *Psycho* was the seminal slasher film. The prototype slasher film is defined as one that combines: an introductory murder or predictive event; a setting that does not inspire terror; visualized killings; a human or humanlike killer; systematic, thematic killing; and an unhappy or unresolved ending. Armstrong's well-developed introduction provides examples for each of these elements, and he uses the criteria to select more than 150 representative films, most of them U.S. made. The classics are found (e.g., *Scream*, *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*), but lesser-known films are also given good coverage. Entries are arranged alphabetically by English title and vary in length from one to three pages. Information includes date, screenwriters, directors, film company, length, cast, and crew; a very detailed plot outline follows. A final paragraph gives the author's critique of the film's role in the genre. Writing is straightforward and generally objective. A few black-and-white photos provide a

sense of the genre. Separate appendixes list slasher directors and screenwriters. The index is minimal. These two titles overlap somewhat in coverage (both cover the Friday the 13th and Halloween series, for example), although Stine is much more opinionated. Both are recommended for libraries with relevant collections. RBB Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "Recommended." --Booklist RBB "An admirable job...he seems to be having fun while simultaneously offering some judicious, clear-headed criticism of a group of films whose delights and flaws he knows and catalogs." --Video Watchdog "Insightful...the perfect addition to your horror library...important details." --horrornews.net About the Author Scott Aaron Stine, publisher of Trashfiend magazine and its predecessor GICK!, has been an avid collector of horror movie memorabilia for many years. He is also the author of The Gorehound's Guide to Splatter Films of the 1960s and 1970s (2001) and lives in Everett, Washington.