

RA in a Half Day
October 30th, 2013
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Important **Horror** Authors and a Selection of Their Work

Stephen King

Carrie
The Shining
Everything's Eventual

Anne Rice

Interview with a Vampire
The Vampire Lestat

Shirley Jackson

The Haunting of Hill House
We Have Always Lived in the Castle
The Lottery and Other Stories

Dean Koontz

Odd Thomas (Series)
From the Corner of His Eye
Phantoms

Clive Barker

The Hellbound Heart
The Damnation Game
Books of Blood, v. 1-3

Daphne du Maurier

Rebecca
The Birds
Don't Look Now: Selected Stories

H.P. Lovecraft

The Dunwich Horror and Others
Dagon and Other Macabre Tales
The Horror in the Museum and Other Revisions

Peter Straub

Ghost Story
In the Night Room
A Dark Matter

Joe R. Lansdale

Mucho Mojo
Writer of the Purple Rage
Mad Dog Summer and Other Stories

Kathe Koja

The Cipher
Skin

Robert Aickman

The Collected Strange Stories

Ray Bradbury

Something Wicked This Way Comes

Max Brooks

World War Z

Mark Z. Danielewski

House of Leaves

Neil Gaiman

A Study in Emerald

Mira Grant

Feed

Junji Ito

Uzumaki

Henry James

Turn of the Screw

M.R. James

Ghost Stories of an Antiquary

Caitlin R. Kiernan

The Drowning Girl

Robert Kirkman

The Walking Dead

Richard Matheson

Hell House

Joyce Carol Oates

Zombie

Dan Simmons

Carrion Comfort

Robert Shearman

Remember Why You Fear Me

Scott Smith

The Ruins

Genre Speed Dating: Horror

Definition

Horror fiction's most basic definition is it's designed to *scare* the reader. Its tone can vary from comedic to dour or hectic to suspenseful, but all stories tend to maintain an atmosphere of menace. Unresolved or unhappy endings are the norm. Monsters of some kind usually frame the story. Horror fiction also has more graphic violence or sexual situations than most other genres.

RA Tips and Tricks

Instead of recommending horror by which type of supernatural force menaces the protagonists, look at how soon violence erupts and match that to the reader's taste on the Storyteller vs. Visceral spectrum.

The graphic violence and sexual content in most horror can be shocking to some new readers.

Potential New Horror Reader Checklist

- Patron enjoys thrillers of any kind.
- Patron does not mind blood and guts.
- Patron prefers character-driven plots over action-stories.
- Patron does not mind fantasy elements in their novels.

Resources for Great Picks

- The Bram Stoker Awards
- Weird Tales Magazine
- MonsterLibrarian.com
- Raforallhorror.blogspot.ca
- Hellnotes.com
- Spratford, Becky Siegel. *The Reader's Advisory Guide to Horror* (2nd Edition). 2012.
- Saricks, Joyce G. *Readers' Advisory Guide to Genre Fiction* (2nd Edition). 2009.
- Spratford, Becky Siegel. *The Horror Readers' Advisory: The Librarian's Guide to Vampires, Killer Tomatoes, and Haunted Houses*. 2004.
- Fonseca, Anthony J. and June Michele Pulliam. *Hooked on Horror: A Guide to Reading Interests in Horror Fiction*. 1999.