

# Horror

## What's it all about...

Horror fiction's most basic definition is that it is designed to *scare* the reader. The genre's tone can vary from comedic to dour or hectic to suspenseful, but all Horror stories maintain an atmosphere of menace.

The novice reader should be aware that unsolved or unhappy endings are the norm; fans of the genre treasure this aspect. Monsters of some kind often frame the story. Horror fiction can be expected to have more graphic violence or sexual situations than many other genres and this can shock new readers.

It is recommended that the advisor look to how soon the mayhem starts and match the degree of savagery to the readers' tastes!

## The classic works:

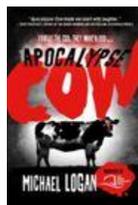
- *The Call of Cthulu* (1929) by H.P. Lovecraft
- *Rosemary's Baby* (1968) by Ira Levin
- *Carrie* (1974) by Stephen King
- *Ghost Story* (1979) by Peter Straub

## Resources to find the best in Horror:

- **Read On... Horror Fiction:** a reference work for librarians and patrons categorizing titles both current and classic
- **The Horror Readers' Advisory:** outlines the history of the genre with tips for readers' advisors too
- **Monsterlibrarian.com:** regularly updated site to help both readers and readers' advisors
- **Horror.org:** website of the Horror Writers Association with industry and author news

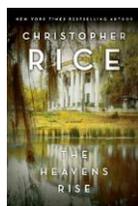
## Your list of recent titles:

- *Apocalypse Cow* (2013) by Michael Logan



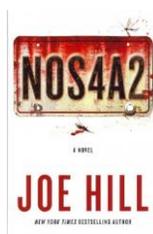
File under: only in Scotland. An experimental virus has infected the animals and turned them into bloodthirsty, brain hungry, killer beasts! Darkly hilarious and extravagantly gruesome, Fans of the movie *Shaun of the Dead* will approve.

- *The Heavens Rise* (2013) by Christopher Rice



When Niquette Delongre is exposed to a small parasite deep in the swamps outside of New Orleans, she must come to grips with her mysterious and dangerous new powers to battle against a rising evil.

- *NOS4A2* (2013) by Joe Hill



When an unstoppable monster who transforms children into his own terrifying likeness, kidnaps her son, Victoria McQueen, the only person to ever escape his evil, must engage in a life-and-death battle of wills to get her son back.

- *Doctor Sleep* (2013) by Stephen King



A long-awaited sequel to *The Shining*. An itinerant, alcoholic, and middle-aged Dan Torrance uses his remnant powers to assist the dying before coming to the aid of a twelve-year-old girl being tortured by a tribe of murderous paranormals.

- *Red Rain* (2012) by R.L. Stine



In the aftermath of a hurricane from which she barely escapes while on a small island, travel writer Lea Sutter impulsively adopts a pair of orphaned twin boys against the wishes of her family, before encountering the twins' sinister natures.

Enjoy!