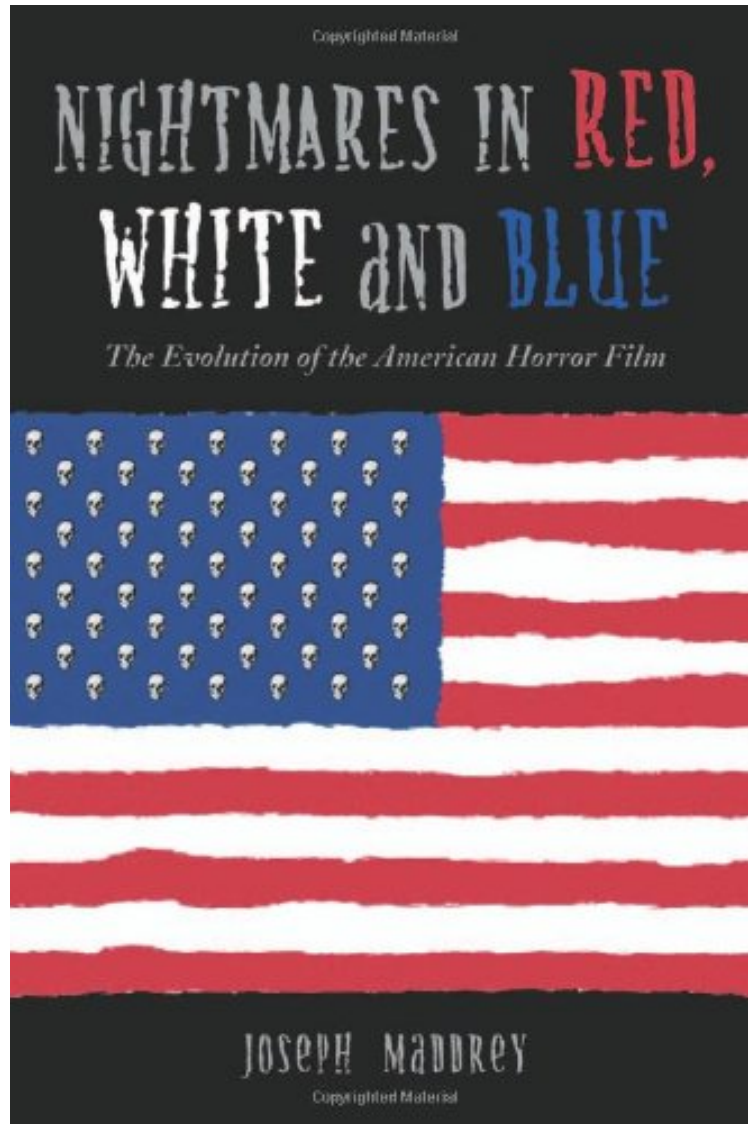


Nightmares in Red, White and Blue: The Evolution of the American Horror Film

Joseph Maddrey

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#1639427 in Books McFarland n Company 2004-04Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.08 x .48 x 5.96l, .65 #File Name: 0786418605208 pages | File size: 37.Mb

Joseph Maddrey : Nightmares in Red, White and Blue: The Evolution of the American Horror Film before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nightmares in Red, White and Blue: The Evolution of the American Horror Film:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The United States and its horrorBy Mr. Richard K. WeemsA quick read, especially if you are familiar with the genre. I first feared that Maddrey would be a little too broad in scope, but

his views of the growth and revisions of US culture through its horror movies is quite insightful and sensical. Combine this with his final chapters that focus on auteurs like Hitchcock, Carpenter, Lynch and a magnificent crater on Wes Craven, and you have a book that should be reading material for citizenship.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. New insights into old and new moviesBy Deborah M. OkeyI teach a college course in horror literature, and a major theme of my course is that horror encodes cultural fears into tangible enemies that are defeated to restore order to our world. This documentary discusses that concept, as well as others I cover in class superbly with clips from classics dating bak to Nodferatu all the way up to post-9/11 films. Commentary is provided by the greats in horror cinema-- John Carpenter, George Romero, and Roger Corman as well as younger horror directors of note, such as Darrin Lynn Bousman, who brought insights into Jigsaw in Saw II. It gives horror fans an historical overview as well as a look at the cultural value of this marginalized genre. Fascinating, entertaining, and streamed flawlessly by .0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great readBy Matthew B. HamiltonThis, and the the documentary based on the book, are great to read and watch. If you're a horror fan especially. Otherwise, it's just a great look at how Americans play their fears on the big screen as sort of a theraputic way of dealing with them. I thought that the book and the film just sort of blew by some films and eras, however. The movie I could see dealing with time constraints and what not but the book has no excuse. It should have delved into a few more movies and not ended with the director's section. That being said, though, it is a great book taking a literary view on the American horror genre dating back to the silent era.

What's weighing on Americans? Look to horror movies for your answer--they're one of the best measures of the American consciousness. From an early fascination with the Gothic, to the mutant horrors of the Atomic Age and alien enemies of the Cold War, to the inner demons of the psyche and the American Dream turned nightmare, the history of American horror films is a reflection of changing American cultural attitudes and values--and the fears that accompany them. This survey of the pivotal horror films produced in America examines the history of the genre as a reflection of cultural changes in the United States. It begins with an exploration of the origins of the genre, and follows its development until the present, using various films to document the evolution of Hollywood horror flicks and illustrate their cultural significance. The second part focuses on eight pivotal directors whose personal visions helped shape the genre--from early pioneers like Tod Browning and Alfred Hitchcock, to modern masters like John Carpenter and Wes Craven. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy here.

"refreshing...direct, cogent and uncluttered...it's a vibrant, compact and easily digestible refresher"--NC Flix.About the AuthorJoseph Maddrey is a television producer and freelance writer. He lives in Studio City, California.