

THREE TO READ:

BOOKS THAT KEEP THE CHILLS ON YOUR BACK

Whether the story contains monsters from a different world or demons within the house you live, horror novels are riveting. We chose to read three horror novels because we were interested in learning what dynamics the author must use to maintain the audience's interest. We acknowledged the difficulties that authors must encounter while sustaining the audience's suspense and therefore wanted to look into different kinds of horror novels to see what general characteristic this genre contains. After choosing to look at what aspects of horror stories are truly terrifying, we uncovered a few key elements in these three books.

Recommended by Monica Z., Jason R., Dylan C. from High Tech High International



Salem's Lot
by Stephen King

In Salem's Lot, suspense building is everything! Routinely leading the reader to believe something terrible is going to happen to a character, but only actually delivers a scary experience occasionally; therefore, the reader can not predict when something terrible will happen. This unpredictability enables him to maintain suspense throughout the novel. What Stephen King also does is he builds so much suspense and are very climactic but end up nothing happens, and he also does it sometimes and something crazy happens. He builds up the suspense and then sometimes doesn't follow through. This author did a great job representing horror through background scenes and pop-ups. I recommend this book to readers who can imagine the scene very well in their head. 400 pages

FIC KING



Horns
by Joe Hill

In Joe Hill's book Horns, the main character named Ig who wakes up after a long night of drinking. He wakes up with horns on his head, and the ability to make people speak their deepest darkest secrets in all honesty. Horns was a very unusually interesting book, when you think of horror you think of scary pop ups, or monsters. This book was a different type of horror. The author Joe Hill, represents horror in the novel by sinister exchanges and abnormal events. I recommend this book to readers who enjoy very dark, raw, dialogue and happenings. The author does a great job showing horror, but he just does it in his own way. To call this book entertaining would be an understatement, it kept me hooked on to what was going to be said during the next exchange between characters. 368 pages

FIC HILL



The Exorcist
by William Peter Blatty

The Exorcist, written by William Peter Blatty is about a little girl named Regan that starts out to be a normal child, living with her mother Chris, in Washington, D.C. Regan begins to start acting very strange and the mother becomes concerned for her. Throughout the book, Regan's actions become more and more strange, concerning, and vicious. Professional help is reached but nothing can stop Regan from acting so savage and violent. The Exorcist is a wonderful book for those who enjoy getting caught up in the moment of a good horror story. Also, those who love great detail in a story should read this book. 385 pages

FIC BLATTY



San Diego Central Library
@ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common