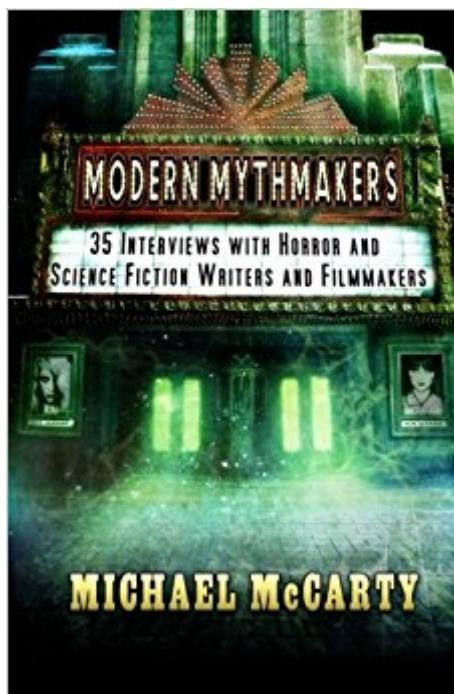


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Modern Mythmakers: 35 Interviews With Horror & Science Fiction Writers And Filmmakers



Synopsis

Modern Mythmakers: 35 Interviews with Horror & Science Fiction Writers and Filmmakers Modern Mythmakers is a collection of 35 interviews from horror and science fiction's most influential writers and filmmakers, including Ray Bradbury, Dean Koontz, Richard Matheson, John Carpenter, John Saul, Joe McKinney, the Night of the Living Dead crew (including John Russo, Kyra Schon and Russ Streiner), Elvira, Whitley Strieber, Christopher Moore, and many more. Line-up: Foreword by Alan Dean Foster; Forrest J. Ackerman; C. Dean Andersson; Adrienne Barbeau; Ray Bradbury; Ramsey Campbell; John Carpenter; Dan Curtis; Elvira; Rusty Fischer; Neil Gaiman; Mick Garris; Laurell K. Hamilton; George Clayton Johnson; Jack Ketchum; Dean Koontz; Herschell Gordon Lewis; Thomas Ligotti; Bentley Little; Graham Masterton; Richard Matheson; Joe McKinney; Christopher Moore; Night of the Living Dead Crew: John Russo, Kyra Schon, & Russ Streiner; William F. Nolan; Ingrid Pitt; Linnea Quigley; Fred Olen Ray; John Saul; David Snell; Darce Stoker; Peter Straub; Whitley Strieber; Timothy Zahn; Afterword by The Amazing Kreskin.

“Interesting interviews, masterfully compiled”
“Modern Mythmakers is a horror-fiend’s dream”
“a bubbling cauldron of genre info straight from the mouths of the madmen and women we fans worship.”
“I was struck by the skill with which Michael McCarty conducts himself. He should have his own nightly talk show or at least a radio program dedicated to his work.”
“Zero Signal Magazine”
“beware the dark, and what lurks in the minds of those you read and watch in the wee hours. Highly recommended.”
“Hellnotes”
“Modern Mythmakers is a healthy-sized bowl of horror-themed Wheaties coated with inspiration that will fuel your writing and filmmaking passion. And for the straight up fan boys and girls, it is full of spoonfuls of trivia regarding classic horror and science fiction film and literature.”
“Horror Novel Reviews”

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Customer Reviews

... "Interesting interviews, masterfully compiled..." - Horror News" ... beware the dark, and what lurks in the minds of those you read and watch in the wee hours. These are the people that can see into that place, interpret it, and hand us back some of our most frightening nightmares... Highly recommended." - Hellnotes "I was struck by the skill with which Michael McCarty conducts himself. He should have his own nightly talk show or at least a radio program dedicated to his work." - Zero Signal Magazine "Modern Mythmakers is a healthy-sized bowl of horror-themed Wheaties coated with inspiration that'll fuel your writing and filmmaking passion. And for the straight up fan boys and girls, it's full of spoonfuls of trivia regarding classic horror and science fiction film and literature." - Horror Novel Reviews

An excellent collection of interviews with writers, filmmakers and actors involved with science fiction, fantasy and horror. All the interviews are concise and really bring out the best of the interviewee. Of course, we all have our favorites. I tended to identify more with the writers than the filmmakers, since I became a fan of the genres as a reader; some of the actors I did not know until film and roles were mentioned, but that's hardly surprising since I mostly consider actors to be a "necessary evil." Of particular interest to me was the interview with Ray Bradbury (still one of my favorites) and the way McCarty probed the very short stories I remembered most. He was similarly insightful with the works of other authors. I suppose the measure to apply to a book like this is how much new information did I learn about writers I already feel knowledgeable about? By that standard, McCarty's book succeeds admirably.

This book contained short interviews of people involved in horror and science fiction. They worked in various fields: author, editor, tv\movie directors or actors, but the majority of those interviewed were authors. The author of this book was able to establish a comfortable relationship in his interviews and was therefore able to get reactions and responses from the person interviewed that

were genuine and reflective. I have to admit that I haven't read all of the authors interviewed, but after reading their interview, I want to read their books now! I enjoyed reading the various authors reply to a common question-my favorite one being what monster they would imagine being. The only thing I felt missing in this book would be a bibliography of the authors. Even though their works are mentioned in the interview, it would be nice to have this resource.

We all have dreams and ambitions and look to finding out secrets of success, the steps leading up the ladder, and the private inner thoughts in the psyches of those who have made it. Step inside the theater pictured on the cover and go back to their origins, the pains of fame, and what drives them onward from Forry Ackerman (Deceased, Rest His Soul) to the major writers we have come to love and know through their works of horror to those involved in the production business and the reality of being there. The questions posted by Michael McCarty are insightful and conversational. The stories told in the interviews both inform and surprise. No guarantee in the span of a short interview you will come to know the whole person (that would be ridiculous), but you come to understand the path leading to their success. They are the modern mythmakers, the names we've known, the books we've read, the acting we've seen, and the films we've come to adore. The interviews are windows of insight into their journey. One thing must be mentioned and that is the effect of the interviews on those of us who read them. All 35 are on a kind of Red Carpet, posing for pictures and having their say. We who are trying to get out there, anywhere, in our ambitions will be learning what it takes to make it on the Red Carpet ourselves. Yes, we look for book and film lore, natch! Also, we are looking for a kind of advice helping us on our own journeys based on those who made it and grabbed the brass ring. Whether you are looking for that which you have never known and would love to discover - or - just finding what comes next for yourself, *Modern Mythmakers* is the book you are going to want to read and delve into when that brass ring of yours appears to bear illusive dimensions. Let the past teach you and your experience might yet teach others. Or, just enjoy it for itself and what it says, that too is enough.

Wonderful collection of interviews with writers like Ray Bradbury and Richard Masterson as well as moviemakers like Adrienne Barbaeu and Ingrid Pitt. Love to read this kind of interview collection and this is a really good example of the best. Linnea Quigley talks about *Return of the Living Dead*, Forrey Ackerman talks about his collection of memorabilia, William F. Nolan (*Logan's Run*) talks about writing and becoming a writer, Ingrid Pitt talks about books she wrote. It's sad to think how many of these people have passed on since these interviews were collected, but in books like

these, they have left some of themselves behind other than their creations.

He has included several very big names in the genre, but some seem to be in for some unknown reason other than the author's obsession with Night of the Living Dead. I understand not being able to get Stephen King for an interview, but to cover English writers and not include Terrance Dicks (Dr. Who and the Daleks) or any of people associated with Dark Shadows (such as Sam Hall) seems out of place. Most of the interviews are high quality and it was very impressive that Michael McCarty was so familiar with the interviewee's work. I did get a little tired of the "What advise would you give to writers?" and "What monster would you like to be?" when almost all the answers were the same.

If you've wondered what it'd be like to sit down with the likes of Ray Bradbury, John Carpenter or Richard Matheson, this is it. Not only do get to hear what these greats have to share, but you benefit from the author's ability and experience at putting these master storytellers at ease.

Modern Mythmakers: 35 Interviews with Horror & Science Fiction Writers and Filmmakers by Michael McCarty is a gem. A collection of 35 interviews with some of the biggest names in sci-fi and horror fiction and film, this book is chock full of sage advice for those who want to write in these genres, or fans. It gives a down and dirty look at what drives or drove such greats as the late Ray Bradbury, Dean Koontz, and others who have given us books and films that have become classics. This is a book that you'll want to read again and again.

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