



Shock Value: How a Few Eccentric Outsiders Gave Us Nightmares, Conquered Hollywood, and Invented Modern Horror

Jason Zinoman

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Much has been written about the storied New Hollywood of the 1970s, but at the same time that Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese were producing their first classic movies, a parallel universe of directors gave birth to the modern horror film. *Shock Value* tells the unlikely story of how directors like Wes Craven, Roman Polanski, and John Carpenter revolutionized the genre in the 1970s, plumbing their deepest anxieties to bring a gritty realism and political edge to their craft. From *Rosemary's Baby* to *Halloween*, the films they unleashed on the world created a template for horror that has been relentlessly imitated but rarely matched. Based on unprecedented access to the genre's major players, this is an enormously entertaining account of a hugely influential golden age in American film.

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