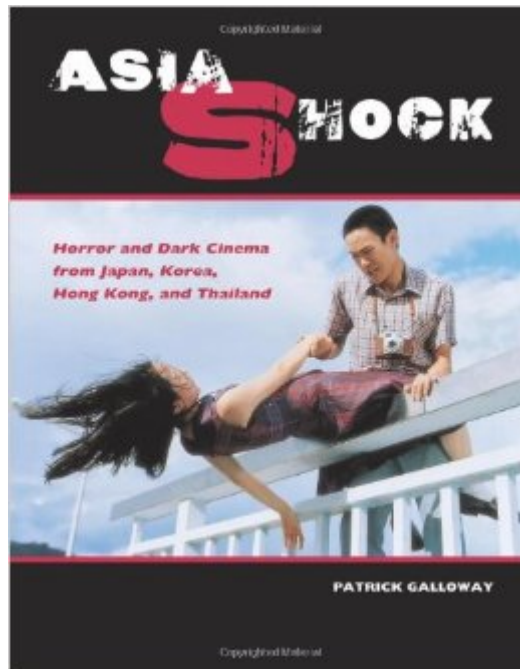


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Asia Shock: Horror And Dark Cinema From Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, And Thailand



Synopsis

Asian Extreme cinema is hot, and this book lays it out in all its gory glory. Patrick Galloway, who last looked at samurai movies in his well-received *Stray Dogs and Lone Wolves*, now takes on Asian masters of suspense, exploitation, the supernatural, and bone-chilling, blood-curdling fear and evil. The films featured here are pan-Asian, including Korea and Thailand, and represent a mix of classics and the contemporary cutting edge. Included are viewing tips and overviews of genres and cultures. "Galloway has all sorts of interesting insights and facts that'll make you want to rewatch your favorites, or check out some that you've never seen." -- *Wired* "It has a conversational feel, as if you're sitting down with a film buddy and just discussing the film." -- *Twitch* "What with brain-sauce spaghetti, switchblade cellphones, and other wonders, could horror flicks from Korea, Japan, and Hong Kong be any better? Patrick Galloway savors the genre in *Asia Shock*." -- *East Bay Express*

Book Information

Paperback: 211 pages

Publisher: Stone Bridge Press; First Edition edition (November 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1933330120

ISBN-13: 978-1933330129

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars See all reviews (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,990,618 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in Books > History > Asia > Hong Kong #703 in Books > History > Asia > Korea #2751 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Direction & Production

Customer Reviews

I recently purchased this book and was really looking forward to it. I have to say, however, that I was pretty disappointed. I thought I'd share some thoughts with potential buyers so they'll know what to expect, and what not to expect if they're considering a purchase. I'll start with the good: Mr. Galloway is clearly educated on the subject of Asian horror films and very enthusiastic about the subject. Moreover, he writes in a casual, engaging style that makes for a pleasant read -- I finished the book in a couple of hours. Additionally, in my opinion, he has great taste within the genre...I'd seen a lot of the films he discusses and there weren't any that I found myself disagreeing with him on. On to

the bad. First, be aware that this is only a book of reviews. If like me, you were hoping to find some attempt to contextualize these films, either through discussions of directors, studios, or a history of the genre in Asian film, you won't find it here. Apart from a brief introductory chapter, this is just reviews front to back. That's not necessarily a bad thing, if that's what you're looking for, but personally I think there are plenty of review sites and blogs all over the internet. When I buy a book like this I'm generally looking for a little more depth, and this is as shallow as they come. As for the reviews themselves, as another reviewer noted, Mr. Galloway explains the plot in inordinate detail for each and every movie -- far more than is necessary for a book with the stated purpose of recommending movies, a book that does not attempt to provide any critical analysis. (I'm not suggesting that he should necessarily have offered critical analysis, but if he's not going to then there is absolutely no reason to detail the plot of each movie.

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