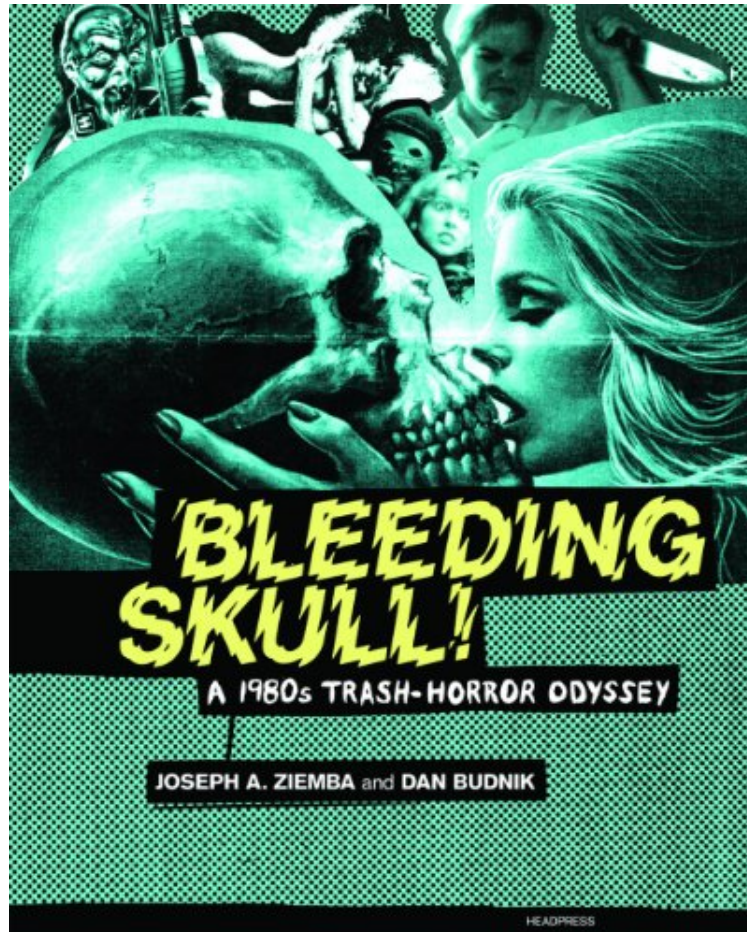


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Bleeding Skull!: A 1980s Trash-Horror Odyssey

Joseph A. Ziemba, Dan Budnik

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Joseph A. Ziemba, Dan Budnik : Bleeding Skull!: A 1980s Trash-Horror Odyssey before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bleeding Skull!: A 1980s Trash-Horror Odyssey:

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Ready for Bleeding Skull 2By orvuusWhen I first got this book, I was almost sure I wouldn't like it. The first thing I noticed is the lack of captions for the liberal sprinkling of black and white photos and artwork. Then I read a review of some video obscurity, and the review was not, seemingly, coherent itself. Later with more time I took the trouble to read the preface and run some tests of my own. This book is exactly what it purports to be -- a guide to some of the shot-on-video that became ubiquitous after its introduction in the videostore-crazy eighties. The king of playback formats was VHS, after all, so why not just cut out the middleman and give them videos shot on video? At least that's what I imagine someone might have said. The authors run a website with the same title as the book, and claim this is around 300 of their over a thousand reviews or so that they have. The reviews are in alphabetic order, and have no star ratings or funny bones or skulls to give us a one out of five rating, or anything like that. They state clearly that this was their purpose, and that they wanted to cover this previously

unexplored territory (I'd say largely ignored) without covering bigger "hit" movies or giving us all the technical background for films that obviously didn't require a lot of technical background to make! Furthermore, they review three key titles for me -- Boardinghouse, which appears to be the first movie shot on video; Night Train to Terror, which has just recently been given a delightful blu ray/DVD release by Vinegar Syndrome; and some drecky movie by Renee Harmon. I was not able to find a review of "Night Train" in any other review book I had (or more importantly, in any one of the four sites that regularly review horror or fringe/alternative movies online). The authors apparently were delighted with this film, which I admit is very appealing in a bizarre, drop the mouth, fashion (and that catchy tune will never leave your head!). Check. Boardinghouse is given the review it deserves -- at first I was going to count off because I couldn't find "Klassu" or something like that in the index, but they correctly did have it under "Kalassu." They note the movie is as bizarre as they come, and I only found it endurable at all when Kalassu lights up the screen, which is not enough reason to suffer through it. Check. Then Renee Harmon, who astonishingly DID star in her own movies, despite a very thick German-accented English, nonetheless manages to mesmerize me. Her movies will give you a bleeding skull, but you may be too astounded to look away. Check. Despite all this, out of meanness, I guess, I wanted to give this book 4 stars for lacking photo captions, but when I saw the review accurately tracks down all instances of Cameron Mitchell acting in this crazy stuff, I had to give in. Very enjoyable book for fans of bad cinema or for those just wondering what on earth they saw at 2:00 a.m. in the morning on late night TV (before infomercials sucked the fun out of TV for good). The reviews are impressionistic at times, which I think is perfectly valid if you are reviewing a movie that has no discernable plot structure or even continuity. Plus, now I don't feel so embarrassed at some of the bad movies on DVD that I actually paid money to acquire! Happy reading.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. VERY ENTERTAINING AND INFORMATIVE BUT BEWARE OF SPOILERS
By Explorator
This was an entertaining, sometimes funny / sometimes trying too hard to be funny book that will turn you on to many obscure underground treasures. The only problem I had with it were the large amount of spoilers that ruin key scenes and finales for many of the movies. It wouldn't take much to keep from ruining surprises and scenes of suspense in future reviews so I hope the author reads this and considers my point. As I said his reviews are fun to read but the copious spoilers also take some of the fun out of watching the movies. As a result, reading this turned out to be a bitter-sweet experience.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Quite Fun.
By Mr. Benac
Great collection of amusing reviews. I liked the writing style and discovered dozens of movies I'd never read about before. Well worth the Kindle Price and probably worth the paperback price, as well.

BLEEDING SKULL! A 1980s Trash-Horror Odyssey is the definitive resource on 1980s trash-horror cinema. **BLEEDING SKULL!** features 300 in-depth reviews of movies that have escaped the radar of people with taste and the tolerance of critics. Black Devil Doll From Hell, A Night To Dismember, Heavy Metal Massacre, The Last Slumber Party - this book gets deep into gutter-level, no-budget horror, from shot-on-video (SOV) revelations (Doctor Bloodbath) to forgotten theatrical casualties (Frozen Scream). Clown midget slashers! The Indonesian Jason! A pregnant woman in a bikini who eats fried chicken before getting her fetus ripped out by a psychopath! It's all here. And it's all curated by the enthusiastic minds behind Bleedingskull.com, the world's foremost authority on trash-horror obscurities. Jam-packed with rare photographs, advertisements, and VHS sleeves (most of which have never been seen), **BLEEDING SKULL!** is an edifying, laugh-out-loud guide through the dusty inventory of the greatest video store that never existed.

About the Author JOSEPH A. ZIEMBA was born and raised in the greater Chicagoland area. He's an art director and film programmer for the Alamo Drafthouse in Austin, TX. In addition to creating Bleedingskull.com, he has toured extensively as a member of the bands Wolfie, The Like Young, Beaujolais, and Taken By Savages. DAN BUDNIK grew up in Rochester, NY. Graduating from Ithaca College with a degree in film, he has worked many jobs, from janitor to Associate Editor on National Lampoon magazine. He lives with his sweet wife, a happy dog and a weird cat. They have watched The Last Slumber Party more times than