SOME SUBGENRES

Body Horror: or biological horror is a subgenre of horror that intentionally showcases grotesque or psychologically disturbing violations of the human body.

Cosmic Horror: the horror of the unknowable and incomprehensible, often associated with H.P. Lovecraft

Gothic Horror: Crumbling mansions, creepy atmosphere, long-buried secrets, murder — gothic conventions are readily recognizable. There are many types of gothic fiction; this subgenre of suspense is as much a tone as it is a type. Gothic romances, mysteries, and horror all share the same disquieting atmosphere.

Paranormal: includes beings and phenomena that are outside the realm of normal scientific understanding of the natural world. Often seen as different from supernatural horror.

Post-Apocalyptic: depict fundamentally broken societies. It shows how humanity has lost its way, whether through misguided good intentions, political repression, exploitation, or invasion by an outside force.

Psychological: focuses on mental, psychological, and emotional states that the characters go through, using them as a way to relate and scare the audience simultaneously.

Slasher/ Serial Killer: involving a killer stalking and murdering a group of people, usually by use of bladed tools.

POPULAR AUTHORS

Clive Barker
Lauren Beukes
Tananarive Due
Grady Hendrix
Shirley Jackson
Stephen Graham Jones
Stephen King
Dean Koontz
H.P. Lovecraft
Edgar Allan Poe
Peter Straub



There are more great horror books throughout the adult fiction section!

Look for this sticker on the spine to discover your next great read!

Where to find these books:

Books are located in their respective sections under the author's last name.

Fiction = Fiction Section
Mystery = Mystery Section

Graphic Novels are organized by the authors last name or series name when applicable.

Get book recommendations:

westlinnoregon.gov/library/personalized-book-recommendations

July 2023

CONTACT













503-656-7853



wlref@lincc.org



westlinnlibrary.org

West Linn Public Library

ADULTS

HORROR



Annihilation

by Jeff VanderMeer (Fiction)

Four women set out on a scientific expedition to Area X, a quarantined zone that defies all attempts to map its terrain or understand its nature. Eleven previous missions have failed; is the twelfth time the charm, or will these intrepid explorers join their predecessors as casualties of Area X? [Cosmic]

The Cabin at the End of the World

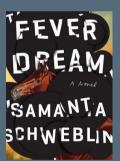
by Paul Tremblay (Mystery)

A family vacationing at a remote cabin on a quiet New Hampshire lake faces a home invasion by four strangers carrying menacing but unidentifiable objects who claim to be acting to save the world. [Psychological]

The Death of Jane Lawrence

by Caitlin Starling (Fiction)

Set in a dark-mirror version of post-war England, Caitlin Starling crafts a new kind of gothic horror from the bones of the beloved canon. This Crimson Peak-inspired story assembles, then upends, every expectation set in place by Shirley Jackson and Rebecca, and will leave readers shaken, desperate to begin again as soon as they are finished. [Gothic]



Fever Dream

Samanta Schweblin; translated by Megan McDowell (Fiction)
Follows the nightmarish experiences of a dying woman and a boy beside her hospital bed, who explore the dynamics of broken souls, toxic relationships and the power and desperation of family.
[Psychological]

The Last House on Needless Street

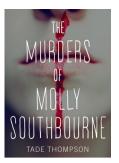
by Catriona Ward (Fiction)

When a neighbor moves in next door, a family of three -a teenage girl who isn't allowed outside, a man with memory loss and a house cat who reads the bible - are terrified that the unspeakable secret that binds them together will be exposed. [Slasher/ Serial Killers]

A Lush and Seething Hell: Two Tales of Cosmic Horror

by John Hornor Jacobs (Fiction)

Two stories that blend together the psychological and the supernatural while examining the violence and depravity of the human condition. [Cosmic]



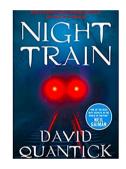
The Murders of Molly Southbourne

by Tade Thompson (Fiction)
Whenever she bleeds, another
molly is born, identical to her in
every way and intent on her
destruction. Molly knows every
way to kill herself, but she also
knows that as long as she
survives she'll be hunted.
[Body]

My Heart is a Chainsaw

by Stephen Graham Jones (Fiction)

Protected by horror movies -- especially the ones where the masked killer seeks revenge on a world that wronged them, Jade Daniels, an angry, half-Indian outcast, pulls us into her dark mind when blood actually starts to spill into the waters of Indian lake. [Slasher/ Serial Killer]



Night Train

by David Quantick (Fiction)
Waking up frightened and alone
on a train full of dead people, a
woman trapped in an
apocalyptic future runs into a
strongman, an assassin, and a
collection terrifying creatures
in an effort to determine how
she got there.
[Post-Apocalyptic]

One of Us Will Be Dead By Morning

by David Moody (Fiction)

Trapped on a barren island that has become the location of an extreme sports company specializing in corporate team-building events, 15 people gradually realize that a killer is in their midst as members of the group begin to succumb to suspicious accidents, a situation that is further complicated by rumors of an approaching tsunami. [Slasher/ Serial Killer]

The Only Good Indians

by Stephen Graham Jones (Fiction)
Seamlessly blending classic horror and a dramatic narrative with sharp social commentary, The Only Good Indians follows four American Indian men after a disturbing event from their youth puts them in a desperate struggle for their lives.
Tracked by an entity bent on revenge, these childhood friends are helpless as the culture and traditions they left behind catch up to them in a violent, vengeful way. [Paranormal]



The Passage

by Justin Cronin (Fiction)
The latest test subject in a covert government experiment, abandoned six-year-old Amy is rescued by an FBI agent who hides them in the Oregon hills, from which Amy emerges a century later to save the human race from a terrifying virus.
[Post-Apocalyptic]

Uzumaki : Spiral into Horror

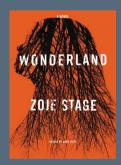
by Junji Ito (Graphic Novel)

Kurôzu-cho, a small fogbound town on the coast of Japan, is haunted not by a person or being but by a pattern: uzumaki, the spiral, the hypnotic secret shape of the world. It manifests itself in everything from seashells and whirlpools in water to the spiral marks on people's bodies, the insane obsessions of Shuichi's father and the voice from the cochlea in our inner ear. As the madness spreads, the inhabitants of Kurôzu-cho are pulled ever deeper into a whirlpool from which there is no return! [Body]

Where They Wait

by Scott Carson (Fiction)

Out-of-work war correspondent Nick Bishop takes a job writing a profile for a new mindfulness app called Clarity, which becomes more disturbing by the minute, especially when he discovers that no one with Clarity has any interest in his article--only in him. [Psychological]



Wonderland

by Zoje Stage (Fiction)
Moving to a rural farmhouse in far upstate New York, Orla, a retired dancer, must protect her family from an unknown entity that is calling to them from the land, in the earth, beneath the trees -- and in their minds. [Paranormal]

Zone One

by Colson Whitehead (Fiction)
In a world decimated by zombies, the U.S.
government has retreated to Buffalo, New York,
and survivor efforts to rebuild are focused on
lower Manhattan. With several others, Mark
Spitz works as a "sweeper" (eliminating zombie
stragglers) as he struggles with PASD (PostApocalyptic Stress Disorder) and recalls humanity
before the apocalypse. [Post-Apocalyptic]