



Horror Novels made into Movies: An analysis from the Psychological Perspective

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Abstract : *We are dealing with the theory of psychoanalysis being applied on the novels. It helps us better in better understanding of human behavior. In our research we have applied psychoanalytic theory on the three novels- "The Silence of the Lambs" by Thomas Harris, "Dracula" by Bram Stoker and "The Shining" by Stephen King, as psychoanalysis helps us to understand literary text which are about human behavior.*

Keywords: *Psychoanalysis, conscious, preconscious, unconscious, id, ego, superego, repression, Oedipal crisis.*

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Introduction :

Horror Novels and Movies: Horror fiction is a genre of literature which has the capacity to frighten. It generally focuses on death, after life and evil. It was reformulated in 18th Century as Gothic Horror with the publication of Horace Walpole's "Castle of Otranto". In the words of H.P. Lovecraft, "The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear, and the oldest and strongest kind of fear is the fear of the unknown." Horror films are popular because they speak about the basic human condition, their existential fear and their attempt to overcome that fear." For some, horror movies exacerbate existence fear, yet for many others, watching a horror film is a way to put existential fear into its proper perspective. Horror film thus seek to elicit a negative emotional reaction as the viewers experience fear and terror while watching the movie.

Certain basic characteristics are to be seen in all horror works like the presence of the supernatural beings against whom the hero is supposed to fight. Typically, the endings are left unresolved for it gives the audience a sense that the threat still waits around the corner.