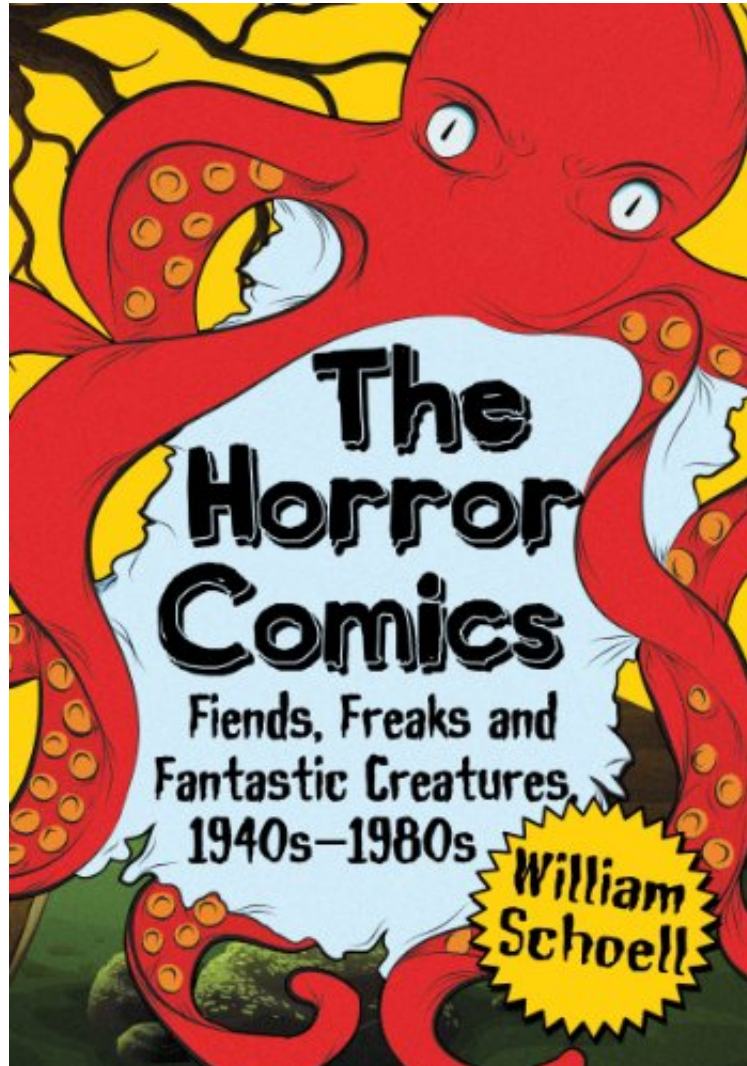


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The Horror Comics: Fiends, Freaks and Fantastic Creatures, 1940s-1980s

William Schoell

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2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thorough and detailed look at decades of horror comicsBy elbookbagI enjoyed "Creature Features," Schoell's book on monster movies, so I bought this and was amazed at how much material Schoell manages to cover in one volume. This has chapters on virtually every publisher of horror

comics from the golden age to the bronze age and if Schoell missed anything it wasn't apparent to me. The thing I especially enjoyed about the book was that he whets your appetite by describing especially good or well-drawn stories that you may want to track down [if you can afford the original comics] and enjoy. Schoell points out the most memorable stories published not just by EC but other golden age publishers; by Dell and Gold Key and DC in the silver age; and Marvel and Charlton in the bronze age. He also includes the little-known Atlas revival of the seventies. This is packed with information and good photos, but it's also a lot of fun to read. Highly recommended.

From the Golden Age of the 1940s, through the Silver Age of the '60s, up until the early '80s--the end of the Bronze Age. Included are the earliest series, like American Comics Group's Adventures into the Unknown and Prize Comics' Frankenstein, and the controversial and gory comics of the '40s, such as EC's infamous and influential Tales from the Crypt. The resurgence of monster-horror titles during the '60s is explored, along with the return of horror anthologies like Dell Comics' Ghost Stories and Charlton's Ghostly Tales from the Haunted House. The explosion of horror titles following the relaxation of the comics code in the '70s is fully documented with chapters on Marvel's prodigious output--The Tomb of Dracula, Werewolf by Night and others--DC's anthologies--Witching Hour and Ghosts--and titles such as Swamp Thing, as well as the notable contributions of firms like Gold Key and Atlas. This book examines how horror comics exploited everyday terrors, and often reflected societal attitudes toward women and people who were different.

"valuable...excellent addition to the shelves or tablets of any horror scholar"--Dead Reckonings>About the AuthorWilliam Schoell is the author of many books about the performing arts and pop culture. He lives in New York.