



October Column View from the Library

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Monsters Among Us

October is that time of year when we celebrate not only Autumn but also the eerier aspects of the world as the month cusps into November. The Library has hordes of weird resources lurking among the shelves, ready for thrills and chills!

First, let's talk about a main event: As a ramp-up to Halloween, we will feature a three-night series on The Doctor and His Monster: a showing of *Frankenstein* (the 1931 movie) on Friday the 28th; on Saturday the 29th an exploration by Washington Humanities Speaker Lance Rhoades of how Mary Shelley's 1818 *Frankenstein, or, the modern Prometheus* addressed some of mankind's greatest concerns with a creation that took on a life of its own on; and then in conclusion, Mel Brooks' comedy *Young Frankenstein* on Sunday the 30th.

Speaking of classics, how about starting out with Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* or Bram Stoker's *Dracula*; Edgar Allan Poe's Tales of Suspense or H.P. Lovecraft; or moderns such as one of Anne Rice or Stephen King (over 100 listings in the catalogue!)

Our DVD collection ranges from the sublime--the 1922 German Expressionist *Nosferatu*--to the ridiculous--the 2015 New Zealand mockumentary *What We Do in the Shadows*. Remember the late great David Bowie in *The Hunger*? Tarantino's cult favorite *From Dusk to Dawn* (2000)? Or a true Indie classic: *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*?

Or maybe you prefer your thrills themed? Vampires? Seven seasons of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*! Stephenie Meyers' Twilight series in both books and DVDs. Anne Rice's more than two dozen novels. Zombies? We've got 35 entries under "Zombies--Fiction": from *World War Z* to *The Walking Dead*, available in graphic novel, print book, ebook, and DVD formats (6 seasons). Or how about the classic mash-up *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (both the book and the DVD)? And then there's my personal favorite: Colson Whitehead's *Zone One*.

Just to reassure you that there are scares for all ages, younger readers can chill to R.L. Stine's *Goosebumps* or *Nightmare Room* series. Or the dozen volumes of the eponymous *Saga of Darren Shan*. If you haven't already seen it--or want to watch again--check out Pixar's *Monsters, Inc.*

All in all, the San Juan Island Library offers an equal opportunity to be thrilled and chilled--but of course, only if you dare...

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