

How did Stephen King's literary works have a certain power in cinematic art ? (AXE ART et POUVOIR)

You probably know these famous stories that have marked generations both literary and cinematographically. From the haunted hotel to the killer clown, from characters with extraordinary powers to the rabid dog. Of all these stories, Stephen King is the imperishable creator who never ceases to amaze us in the field of horror, fantasy and science fiction. His worldwide fame also affects the world of cinema where his novels have been adapted several times without it being necessarily known that he is the pioneer of these films that are essential today. Which leads us to ask ourselves the following question: In what way did the literary works of Stephen King have any power in cinematic art?

Biography

Stephen Edwin King was born in 1947 in Portland, into a more than modest family. His father, Donald Edwin King is a merchant sea captain while his mother Nellie Ruth Pillsbury is a stay-at-home mom. Since he was young he discovered a real passion for reading and took refuge in all the books he got his hands on.



He first worked as a janitor and in a laundry, also inspiring characters and short stories, before becoming an English professor at university.

Since his beginnings, Stephen King has encountered many refusals with regard to the manuscripts of short stories and novels that he submits to publishers. His wife supports him and it will not be trivial since it will be her who, in 1974, recovers a manuscript of several pages that he had thrown in the trash and encourages him to continue it. And she is right since after a lot of rework, this short story will be developed and purchased by the publisher Double Day who will release the novel "Carrie" in 1974.

He will thus become a world-renowned writer, and his name will become a real brand generally associated with the horror genre.

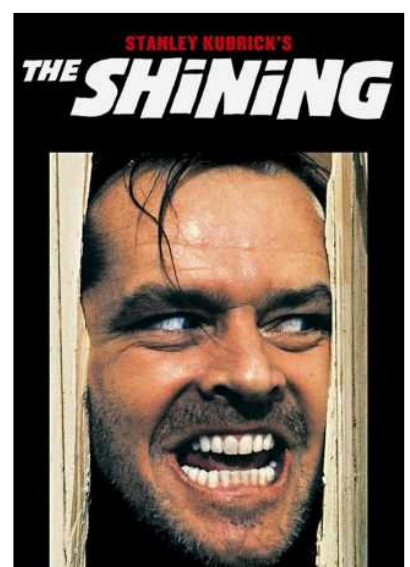
Most famous works

The productivity of this author is rather remarkable. Indeed, Stephen King writes every day and has thus published more than two hundred short stories and more than sixty novels, including seven under the name of Richard Bachmann. On the strength of his success, in particular with the publishing of his first novels from 1974 such as *Carrie*, *Salem* and *The Shining*, Stephen King has a worldwide reputation which has earned him several literary distinctions. With the genre of horror and fantasy literature often criticized, Stephen King's books are often described as sub-literature. The author also did not help by declaring in the early 90s that he was the literary equivalent of a Big Mac with fries. Moreover, he is regularly criticized for his familiar style, his use of gore and the excessive length of some of his novels. Conversely, its sense of storytelling, its lively and complex characters as well as its ability to play with readers' fears are award-winning. Beyond the horrific nature of most of his books, he regularly addresses the themes of childhood and the condition of the writer, he paints a very realistic and uncompromising social portrait of the United States at the end of the 20th century. At the beginning of the next century, he tackled social problems such as homophobia, religious bigotry, religion, racism and bullying. Thus, since the early 2000s, he has won numerous literary awards, no longer for a particular book or short story, but for his entire career as well as for his contribution to the field of horror where his books have sold over 350 million copies worldwide.

Movie adaptation

Stephen King is also the author of a famous horror novel “*Shining*”. In this book, Jack Torrance is an educated but hot-tempered man. He tries to rebuild his life and that of his family after losing his job as a teacher due to an outburst of violence. Having stopped drinking, he accepts a job as a caretaker in a large isolated hotel in the mountains, which is closed in winter. This book was a great success, it has sold 350 million copies worldwide. This novel was therefore adapted to the cinema, in 1980 by Stanley Kubrick.

The adaptation of *Shining* to exceed the sum of 15 million dollars, but it also enjoyed great worldwide success which earned him two awards, that of the Saturn Award for best actor in a second role (1981) and the Saturn Award for Best DVD Collection (2012). This



film received many positive reviews especially from actors and about film directing. But despite its positive reviews it is a good adaptation but different from the book.

Worldwide success

Along with the oft-criticized genre of horror and fantasy literature, Stephen King's books are often denigrated as subliterate.

Thus, for a few years and after having published many bestsellers for several decades now, Stephen King has begun to acquire real recognition among his literary peers. As such, Stephen King is often said to be the contemporary equivalent of Charles Dickens,

The popularity of Stephen King as well as the richness of his work have prompted many authors to write books on Stephen King, whether to list Stephen King's books, or films based on Stephen King or for studies of his work. .

His stories have generated a large filmography because they have been transformed into a hundred films, television films, series, have been adapted for theatre, comics and video games. Stephen King's name has become synonymous with horror.

Since the beginning of his career, the author has sold more than 350 million books worldwide, translated into more than thirty languages. Having become one of the most popular authors of horror and fantasy, he is one of those emblematic writers whose popularity and wealth every aspiring author wishes.