

You asked for it!

Stephen King

In the past year, Stephen King was among the most popular authors in the library. Here are a few books you might like to read if you like Stephen King.

Clive Barker writes Horror and Fantasy, as well as where the two meet. For pure, unadulterated horror try *The Damnation Game*.

Ray Bradbury's classic story of the diabolical carnival, *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, might satisfy readers who enjoyed King's *Bag of Bones*.

Orson Scott Card's *Homebody* is a Horror novel with underlying themes of redemption, healing, and hope.

Neil Gaiman is prolific in both Horror and Fantasy. His deliciously complex characters, detailed settings, sophisticated prose will satisfy the King reader. For a strange twist on reality, try *American Gods*.

Laurel K. Hamilton writes the Anita Blake Series. Anita raises zombies from the dead in her 9-5 job and moonlights as a vampire killer. Hamilton mixes the everyday with the horrific as Anita fights evil and sometimes becomes evil herself.

Dean R. Koontz is another writer in multiple, often blended genres. Like King, Koontz's stories feature a cast of personable characters involved in fast-paced, deadly battles between good and evil. Koontz, too, writes in a variety of genres, including Horror, Fantasy, and Psychological Suspense. Fans of King's *Black House* should try Koontz's *From the Corner of His Eye*.

Robert R. McCammon's *Boy's Life* is an especially evocative tale of small town life and Horror that grows from the ordinary.

Douglas J. Preston and **Lincoln Child** write fast-paced adventures, building suspense, sympathetic characters, and frequently a battle against evil. Their first title, *Relic*, with its supernatural monster unleashed in a New York museum, comes closest to actual Horror, and readers who enjoy that may explore further.

Dan Simmons, and his evocative horror novels offer many satisfactions for King's fans, including fast-paced and involved story lines, personable protagonists, ominous undertones that grow into horrific situations, evocative settings, and satisfying resolutions. Try *Summer of Night*.

Peter Straub focuses on characters, finds Horror in the everyday, and fills his works with ghost stories and nightmares, as well as psychological undertones. *Mr. X* is a recent example.

