Figures

O.I	The author pictured with Wes Craven and director Steven	
	Mena in Los Angeles, October 2003	2
0.2	The author pictured with Wes Craven in Los Angeles,	
	October 2012	6
0.3	Craven's most famous creation, Freddy Krueger, would help	
	to define the contemporary horror film	IC
I.I	The crew of Pandora Experimentia, picture courtesy Ken Lyon	18
1.2	Wes Craven embarks on his first film shoot, picture courtesy	
	Ken Lyon	22
2.I	Surprisingly it was the representation of the police (played by	
	Martin Kove and Marshall Anker) that also caused censorship	
	problems in Germany	33
2.2	David Hess as Krug proved a controversial screen figure	38
2.3	The violence in The Last House on the Left kept it censored in	
	Germany for decades	45
2.4	The Last House on the Left is now seen as a horror classic	48
3.I	With its desert location, The Hills Have Eyes draws on folklore	
	of an older and less settled America	54
3.2	Michael Berryman played a memorable villain in The Hills	
	Have Eyes as Pluto	6c
3.3	Lance Gordon as the sub-humanoid troglodyte Mars,	
	an evocation of the Pagan	66
3.4	The Hills Have Eyes launched Wes Craven onto bigger projects	67
4.I	Actress Janus Blythe was one of the few original cast members	
	to return for the sequel	71

4.2	Robert Houston returns for a controversial opening sequence	
	which provides extensive flashbacks to the original film	73
4.3	A new younger cast headlined the sequel, led by actress	, -
	Tamara Stafford as Cass	80
5.I	Family conflict is central to A Nightmare on Elm Street	88
5.2	Robert Englund's Freddy Krueger became a horror film icon	
	in the 1980s	93
5.3	Heather Langenkamp's Nancy Thompson has been celebrated	
0 0	as one of the genre's most resourceful "final girls"	98
6.i	Nancy fails to convince her mother that Freddy Krueger is real	103
6.2	Tina is an early victim of Freddy's	107
6.3	Heather Langenkamp's Nancy Thompson is victimised by Freddy	•
Ü	in the bedroom and in the bathroom, stealing her privacy	113
7.I	A young Bruce Willis stars in Shatterday	119
7.2	All roads lead to madness in Shatterday	122
7·3	Her Pilgrim Soul expanded Craven's ambitions within the	
	television format	127
8.i	Kristy Swanson stars as Samantha in Deadly Friend	134
8.2	Although rated R, Deadly Friend shows evidence of starting out	
	as a more family-friendly project, with the presence of the	
	robot BB	137
8.3	Despite a promising young cast, Deadly Friend was not a	
	critical or commercial success	141
9.I	The Serpent and the Rainbow continues Craven's presentation	
	of nightmarish dream sequences	150
9.2	Bill Pullman was becoming an established leading man	
	when he appeared in The Serpent and the Rainbow	155
9.3	The tropical locations of The Serpent of the Rainbow make it	
	unique among Craven's films	158
IO.I	Mitch Pileggi's Horace Pinker was seen as an attempt at a	
	"new" Freddy Krueger-type franchise character	164
10.2	Mitch Pileggi would achieve broader fame after Shocker	
	failed at the box office	168
10.3	Despite its comical tone, Shocker touches on serious topics	
	such as the death penalty in the United States	173
II.I	The presence of Fool as the main character gives <i>The People</i>	
	Under the Stairs potential appeal to a far younger audience	
	than its R-rating suggests	178
11.2	The People Under the Stairs was a commercial success for	
	Wes Craven in 1991, with critics praising the performance	
	of Brandon Adams	182

11.3	The People Under the Stairs shows the seedy underbelly of a	
	rich suburban family	187
I2.I	Among the young cast of <i>The People Under the Stairs</i> is	,
	A. J. Langer as the abused and captive Alice	191
12.2	Brandon Adams as Fool in <i>The People Under the Stairs</i> is given	
	a demanding child-actor lead role	194
12.3	As with Craven's best work, The People Under the Stairs	
	contains some evocative and terrifying images	201
13.I	Wes Craven appears as himself in his New Nightmare	205
13.2	One of horror cinema's most famous "final girls," actress	
9	Heather Langenkamp, returned to her most famous role in	
	Wes Craven's New Nightmare	211
13.3	Actor Robert Englund briefly steps out of the makeup for	
	his seventh film as Freddy Krueger	213
I4.I	Vampire in Brooklyn was not the critical or commercial success	
	that star Eddie Murphy hoped for	218
14.2	Vampire in Brooklyn star Angela Bassett would work with	
	Wes Craven again in Music of the Heart	225
14.3	Despite some extravagant special effects, Vampire in Brooklyn	
	never took a bite from the box office	226
I5.I	Based on a true story, Music of the Heart obtained an	
U	Academy Award nomination for its lead actress Meryl Streep	234
15.2	Meryl Streep plays enthusiastic violin teacher and hard-working	٠.
	single mother Roberta Guaspari in Music of the Heart	239
15.3	Angela Bassett plays Janet Williams, an overworked school	07
0.0	principal, in Music of the Heart	243
16.I	Films such as <i>The Purge</i> franchise could be seen to owe their	
	lineage to the likes of Craven's The Last House on the Left	249
16.2	The Purge led to a franchise and a television adaptation	254
16.3	The blatant use of political imagery is a recurring facet of	
	The Purge franchise	259
17.I	Scream saw Craven reinvent the horror film for a new generation	263
17.2	Prior to Scream, Craven had dabbled with postmodern	
,	elements in his classic Wes Craven's New Nightmare, starring	
	Robert Englund as Freddy Krueger	266
17.3	Actor David Arquette returned for the fourth sequel, simply	
, .	titled <i>Scream</i> , the first to be made without Craven	270
I7.4	The Ghostface figure, here pictured in <i>Scream</i> , remains iconic	273