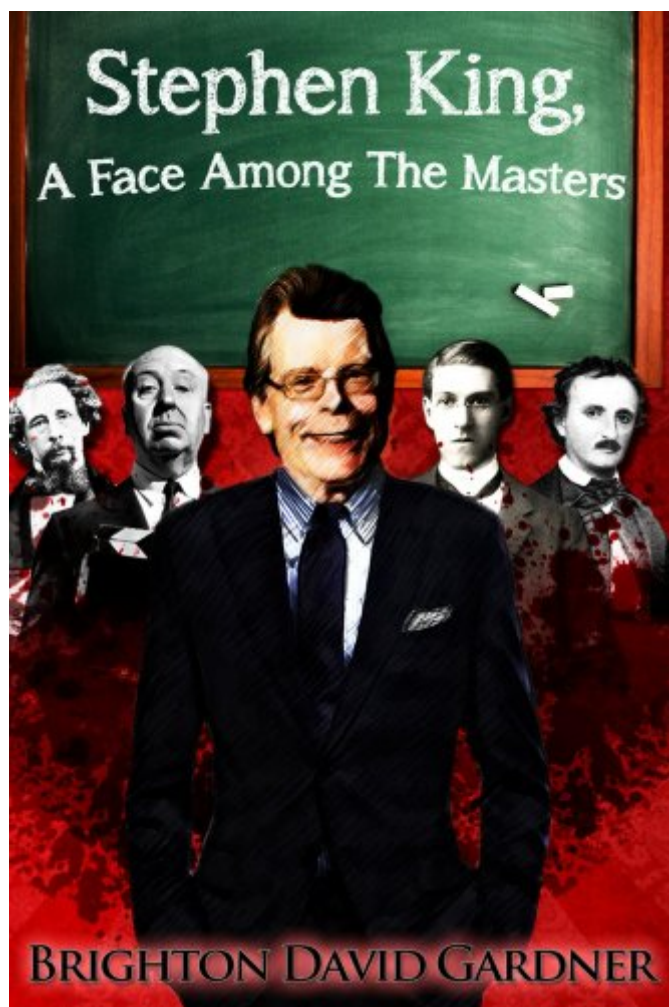


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Stephen King A Face Among The Masters



Synopsis

With dozens of bestsellers and internationally praised novels, Stephen King has become a household name and well-known author worldwide. His novels such as *Carrie* and *The Dark Tower* series have captured audiences, catapulting the author to stardom. His "constant reader" base continues to grow and hang on the author's every published word. However, King isn't alone in the elite group of writers—authors from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries such as Edgar Allan Poe, H.P. Lovecraft, and Charles Dickens have also penned novels that captured the world. Upon closer look, King's stories and characters share striking resemblances to those of the great authors of the past. But, like the works of Poe, Lovecraft, and Dickens, can King's novels stand the test of time? Filled with examples from King's bestsellers, *Stephen King: A Face among the Masters* examines the author's inspirations and what makes his books so captivating. Why is *Carrie* still so relevant, decades after its publication? What makes *11/22/63*'s Jake Epping so memorable? How does King master creating such complex worlds in *The Stand* and *The Dark Tower*? These are the worlds only a master writer can create.

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Customer Reviews

Stephen King: A Face Among The Masters, by Brighton David Gardner, published earlier this year (2014) is a quite useful analysis of King's writing which I highly recommend to any one who loves to read fiction, regardless of whether they are a Stephen King fan or not. To the "constant readers" of King, this overview of the author's history is indispensable. Gardner breaks his book down into eight chapters which trace King's development as a horror writer from his sensational first novel Carrie right up through his latest books. One of the things that makes A Face Among The Masters such a great read is the fact the author himself is a "constant reader," and therefore very familiar with King's *raison d'être*. I myself who have been reading King since Salem's Lot was published gained a tremendous amount of insight into King's writing methodologies, thanks to Gardner's detailed analysis. Gardner begins the book by describing King's extensive list of influences, among them past masters such as H.P. Lovecraft, Edgar Allan Poe, Charles Dickens, and others. Gardner's keen insights really bring the reader into the shady realm that marks King's still evolving literary world. He also goes so far as to make a connection between King's novels and the films of Alfred Hitchcock by asking the reader to think about which Stephen King books would Hitchcock have loved to adapt. In this chapter, Gardner lists nine King books which would have made excellent Hitchcock movies; it's a compelling list and provides the reader with a lot of interesting insights. Gardner goes on to associate King's writing style with the old television show The Twilight Zone, in Chapter 5.

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