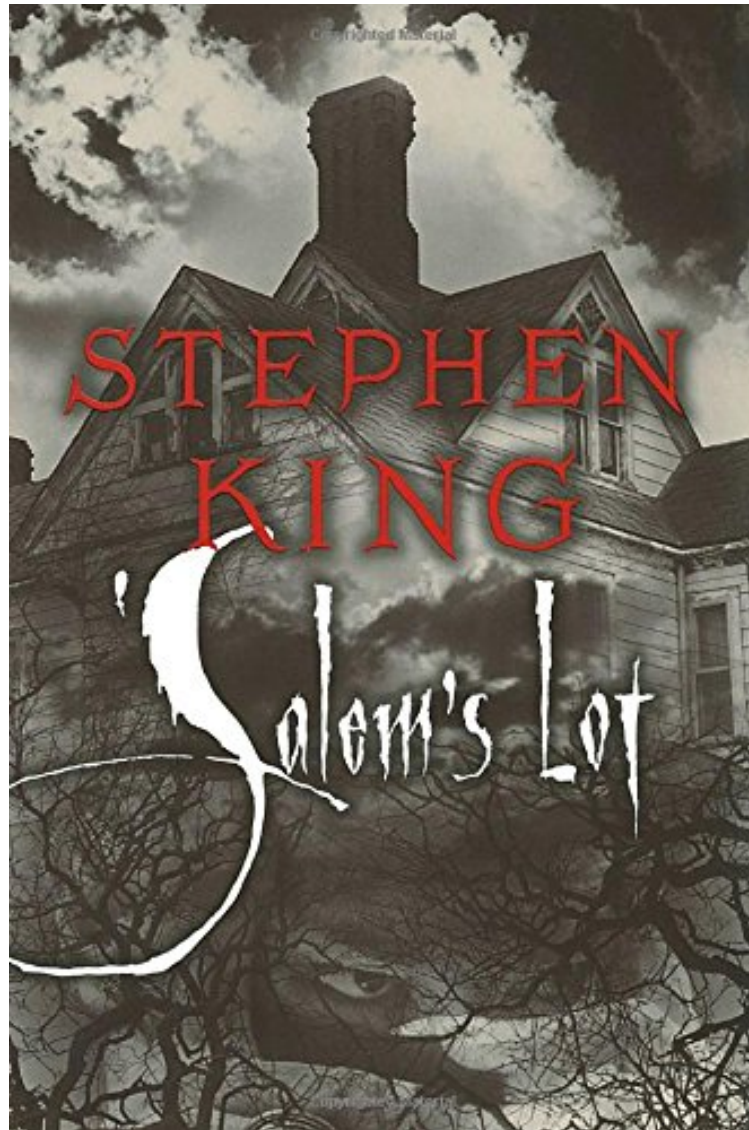


[Ebook free] 'Salem's Lot

## 'Salem's Lot

Stephen King

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**Stephen King : 'Salem's Lot** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 'Salem's Lot:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I thought I knew the story!!By Lisa D. HawkinsI really thought I knew this story by watching the 1979 version but found I enjoyed the book better, because it connected missing pieces of the puzzle and filled in gaps that were not in the movie too! The book was filled with horrific events that I feel a

remake of this version would be excellent since none of the two movies stayed true to the original storyline! Long story short I love the book and could read it again! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. simpler is better. 'Salem's Lot doesn't count on "take-that-society" themes that his newer books seem to heavily rely on. This is just a good ol' fashioned screambook. A master vampire, the creepy-yet-efficient servant, the brave young boy that teams up with the fiction-writing main character (go figure)...it all comes together into a good story. The setting (place /and/ time) greatly works to the benefit of 'Salem's Lot. This story wouldn't even be plausible in this century; but the lack of cell phones and internet brings a nostalgic atmosphere where a vampire taking over a small town isn't just possible; the way King sets his story up, it seems /plausible/. It doesn't give you intellectual ammo, it won't help you figure out society's problems...but it sure as hell is a fun read. King at his best. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. 'Salem's Lot' By Delia Lteif Stephen King is my favorite writer, he has yet to disappoint me. I have read many of his books. I was pleasantly surprised to (as I was reading) find that it's about vampires. This book is a great for anyone who likes to read. There is no better writer than King. SPOILER: one aspect of the story I ask myself about, or ask King himself, is why the protagonists did not warn the rest of the town, they drove by people and walked by them and even spoke to them. The few main characters got together to solve the problem but failed to warn anyone else. I understand it was in fear that no one would believe them but, they knew what was going to happen and just stood by and let it. That being said, I loved the story, Stephen King has never bored me. I have yet many King novels to read and I will be starting on Dr. Sleep now. Thank you, Delia Rocha 4/26/2015

Stephen King's second novel, the classic vampire bestseller 'SALEM'S LOT', tells the story of evil in small-town America. 'Salem's Lot is a small New England town with white clapboard houses, tree-lined streets, and solid church steeples. That summer in 'salem's Lot was a summer of homecoming and return; spring burned out and the land lying dry, crackling underfoot. Late that summer, Ben Mears returned to 'salem's Lot hoping to cast out his own devils and found instead a new, unspeakable horror. A stranger had also come to the Lot, a stranger with a secret as old as evil, a secret that would wreak irreparable harm on those he touched and in turn on those they loved. All would be changed forever: Susan, whose love for Ben could not protect her; Father Callahan, the bad priest who put his eroded faith to one last test; and Mark, a young boy who sees his fantasy world become reality and ironically proves the best equipped to handle the relentless nightmare of 'Salem's Lot. This is a rare novel, almost hypnotic in its unyielding suspense, which builds to a climax of classic terror. You will not forget the town of 'salem's Lot nor any of the people who used to live here.

.com Stephen King's second book, 'Salem's Lot (1975)--about the slow takeover of an insular hamlet called Jerusalem's Lot by a vampire patterned after Bram Stoker's Dracula--has two elements that he also uses to good effect in later novels: a small American town, usually in Maine, where people are disconnected from each other, quietly nursing their potential for evil; and a mixed bag of rational, goodhearted people, including a writer, who band together to fight that evil. Simply taken as a contemporary vampire novel, 'Salem's Lot is great fun to read, and has been very influential in the horror genre. But it's also a sly piece of social commentary. As King said in 1983, "In 'Salem's Lot, the thing that really scared me was not vampires, but the town in the daytime, the town that was empty, knowing that there were things in closets, that there were people tucked under beds, under the concrete pilings of all those trailers. And all the time I was writing that, the Watergate hearings were pouring out of the TV.... Howard Baker kept asking, 'What I want to know is, what did you know and when did you know it?' That line haunts me, it stays in my mind...." During that time I was thinking about secrets, things that have been hidden and were being dragged out into the light." Sounds quite a bit like the idea behind his 1998 novel of a Maine hamlet haunted by unsightly secrets, Bag of Bones. -- Fiona Webster From Booklist \*Starred\* Before vampires became sympathetic characters with their own alternate worlds, complete with vampire coffee shops and vampire politics, they used to be bad guys, scary not sexy, and they preferred wreaking havoc in horror novels rather than exuding tortured sensitivity in YA coming-of-age fiction. Fortunately, we don't need to go all the way back to Dracula and Boris Karloff to remember those halcyon days: we have Stephen King's Salem's Lot, from 1975. Oddly, it's not the vampires that make Salem's Lot great popular fiction. Mr. Barlow, our lead vampire, is no Dracula. He doesn't even appear until the story is nearly half over, and he is perhaps the most one-dimensional figure in the book (but that single dimension is enough: unadulterated evil). The real main character isn't a person at all, human or vampire: it's the seemingly idyllic New England town of Jerusalem's Lot. King once said that in Salem's Lot, he set out to create a fictional town with enough prosaic reality about it to offset the comic-book menace of a bunch of vampires. He did just that by drawing on our universal fear of outsiders, and nowhere is that fear more recognizable than in our traditional image of the New England small town, where insularity itself becomes a defense against incursion by strangers. The stereotypical Yankee, befuddling outsiders with a series of cryptic yups and nopes, may be a comic character from folklore, but he is also a soldier defending his Maginot Line against potential blitzkrieg. And behind the crotchety Yankees seeming impregnability, there is the

constant fear that one day a stranger will come to town who won't take no for an answer. That juxtaposition of prosaic reality against outlandish terror has always been central to King's technique for scaring his readers. In *Salem's Lot*, he does it by looking beneath the surface of idyllic New England. We see the pastoral beauty, the close-knit community, and the unpretentious lifestyle, yet from the beginning, we also see the harbinger of something else, something other. The novel begins with a stranger, not Barlow but a writer, Ben Mears, returning to the Lot, where he had lived briefly as a boy. Mears has come home again not to reclaim his innocence but to expunge his demon—the memory of the body of a man dead for decades, still hanging in the closet of the Marsten House. Mears believes he hallucinated this horrible scene, but he wants to explore why it happened, why this house prompted him to imagine evil. What Mears finds when he returns to the Lot is that the Marsten House is now occupied by another stranger, our Mr. Barlow. As the known gives way to the unknown, King shows how the small-town insistence on maintaining the illusion of tranquility makes easy pickings for a vampire intent on fomenting a little evil. If *Salem's Lot* were just another old-fashioned vampire novel, it would portray a straightforward struggle between good (people) and bad (vampires). It would not portray the arrival of vampires in the Lot as a kind of supernatural manifestation of the town's distorted sense of itself. King feels both affection for and anger toward his small town. A part of him wants to see *Salem's Lot* get its comeuppance, and this part gives the novel a degree of frisson that most vampire stories lack. And yet, in the end, the vampires don't win, at least not exactly. Yes, Ben Mears pounds a stake in Barlow's heart, but that isn't enough. The evil continues to thrive. The town needs its own stake. Writers of every kind—from Nathaniel Hawthorne to Grace Metalious to John Updike to Carolyn Chute—have wrestled with their mixed feelings about the small towns of New England. But it took Stephen King to burn one down. --Bill Ott "Spine-tingling fiction at its best." --Grand Rapids Press "A master storyteller." --The Los Angeles Times "An unabashed chiller." --Austin American Statesman [The] most wonderfully gruesome man on the planet. USA Today A super exorcism...tremendous. Kirkus SA novel of chilling, unspeakable evil. Chattanooga Times [King is] . . . the guy who probably knows more about scary goings-on in confined, isolated places than anybody since Edgar Allan Poe. Entertainment Weekly Stephen King has built a literary genre of putting ordinary people in the most terrifying situations. . . . he's the author who can always make the improbable so scary you'll feel compelled to check the locks on the front door. The Boston Globe Peerless imagination. The Observer (London)