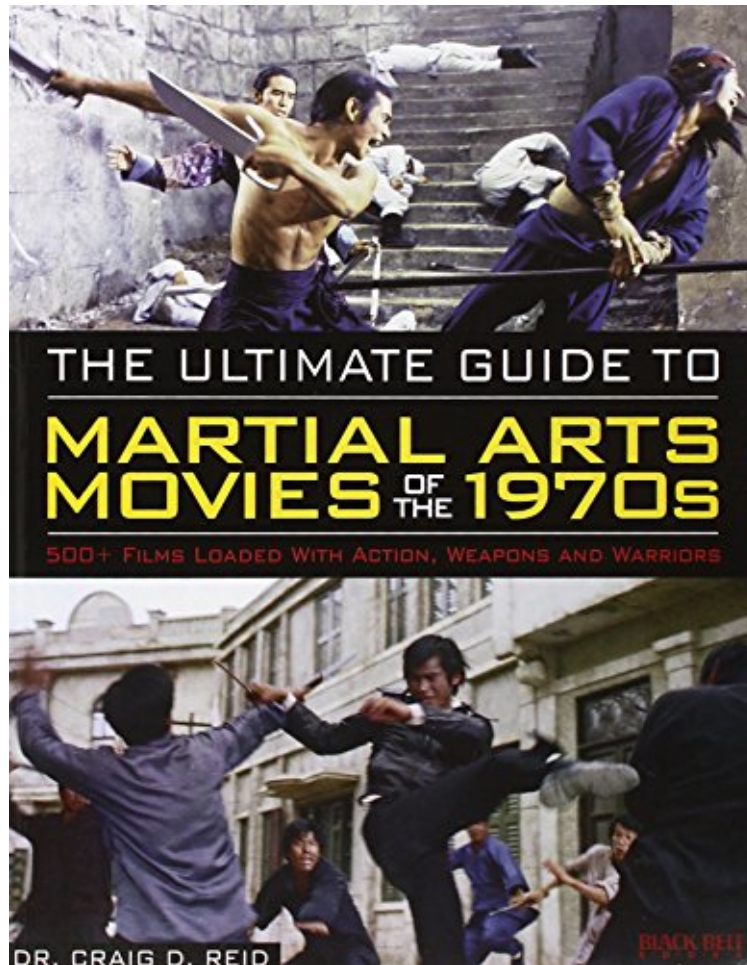


(Mobile book) The Ultimate Guide to Martial Arts Movies of the 1970s: 500+ Films Loaded with Action, Weapons Warriors

The Ultimate Guide to Martial Arts Movies of the 1970s: 500+ Films Loaded with Action, Weapons Warriors

Dr. Craig D. Reid

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Dr. Craig D. Reid : The Ultimate Guide to Martial Arts Movies of the 1970s: 500+ Films Loaded with Action, Weapons Warriors before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ultimate Guide to Martial Arts Movies of the 1970s: 500+ Films Loaded with Action, Weapons Warriors:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great book; corny humor By Film Buff Before I describe all the pros of this book, I will describe the cons; however, I highly recommend this book to anyone with an interest in these movies. As at least one reviewer has noted, the guy has a very corny sense of humor. His "jokes" appear in almost every review (he refers to them as Craig-isms). For an example of how bad it can get, I will quote directly from the book. This is excerpted from the review of the 1972 Chia Ling film "The Avenger" (a movie he lists as one of the 20 best martial arts movies of the 1970s): "...Chia Ling is surrounded by knife-wielding warriors and hatchet men trying

to feed-frenzy her into oblivion. Ultimately, it is the lady who axes the questions, and when they try to lie and cheat her, she becomes the cheetah and makes them lie on the ground." I literally groaned after I read that. But even more annoying than his groan-inducing sense of humor is the often ludicrous self-aggrandizement in which the guy engages, a lot. He never tires of telling the reader that he attended Cornell, has been practicing various martial arts for years and that he is a ground-breaking fight choreographer who knows virtually every major martial arts movie star who has ever been filmed. He even strongly implies he (he did a lot of dubbing work in Taiwan in the 1970s) is the primary reason so many 1970s martial arts films, when retitled for release in the West, had "dragon", "Shaolin" or "Bruce Lee" in the title. I am not kidding. And, as another reviewer pointed out, he does refer to his reviews of each film as "martialologies". I'm sure this will come off to many as pretentious. However, he notes in the Introduction that he did not coin the term himself and he also explains why he uses this term. Anyone reading this review may be wondering why, with the aforementioned faults, I would give the book five stars. I will now list the pros, and they far outweigh the cons. The book itself is absolutely beautiful. The high-gloss pages have gorgeous, high quality color photographs on almost every page. As detailed in another review, these are all from Shaw Brothers films. I don't consider this to be a strike against the book, as the exclusion of movie stills from other companies such as Golden Harvest is likely because of copyright reasons. The author, in the Acknowledgement section, states that he had the cooperation of Celestial Pictures (the owners of the Shaw Brothers film library) in the making of the book. I have been a huge fan of old school kung fu movies for about 35 years. I have read just about every major book devoted to the subject of martial arts films. And while this guide may be restricted to films released in the years 1970-1979, it is still the best I have ever read on the topic. And unlike most of the guides on this subject, this book is not restricted just to movies made in Hong Kong. There are entries for movies made in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, the United States, South Korea, Thailand and India (there are others I can't remember). The author, as someone who is fluent in Chinese and has worked in the kung fu film industry, has a knowledge of these films that is practically unmatched. The author reminds me of Bey Logan. Those familiar with the genre know that is about as high a compliment you can pay someone. The reviews, or "martialogies", are far more comprehensive than those found in any other guide I have read. Each review lists a film's fight choreographer(s), director and stars. Obviously, an overview of the plot is provided and the author also mentions any interesting historical tidbits or personal insights he has on the film. Also included is a discussion of the quality of the martial arts and fight choreography on display in the film. Each review also includes what the author refers to as a "titleology", in which any alternative titles are listed and a literal translation of the film's original title is provided. As many of these movies have multiple titles, this is an absolutely necessary component of any guide of this sort. The author also gives a very brief explanation of the meaning of the title and, as another reviewer pointed out, this can be so obvious as to be silly. The most interesting, and perhaps most valuable, part of each review is the listing of precisely how much screen time is devoted to actual martial arts action, a feature I don't believe I have seen in any other guide. Each review contains a count of the number of training sequences and fight sequences and lists the total amount of time, down to the second, devoted to each. At the end of the review, there is a "MA (martial arts) Percentage", the total percentage of the movie in which fighting or training occurs. One can tell at a glance if 37.6%, for example, of the movie showcases martial arts or if it is only 3.5% of martial arts action. In my opinion, this feature alone makes purchasing the book worth it. Also included in the book are several comprehensive indices containing much valuable information. The "Index of Talent Aliases" contains the names of every actor, actress, director and fight choreographer named in the book and every alias or alternative name under which these individuals may have been credited. The "Complete Martial Arts Film Reference List By Country: 1970-1979" lists the country, year of release and alternative titles for the films found in the book. This book does have a few flaws. However, the positives so overwhelm the negatives that I would highly recommend this book to anyone. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An excellent guide to martial arts movies that came out in the 1970s) By Joseph J. Truncale Even though I have been seriously involved in numerous martial arts for more than sixty years, I did not really have an avid interest in martial arts movies until after I had seen the late Bruce Lee's movies beginning with "Enter the Dragon." When the award winning martial arts movie "Crouching tiger, Hidden Dragon" came out I became hooked on these martial art action movies. The 1970s was a time when American audiences first began to appreciate Asian martial art action movies. In fact, I recall one of the first ones I saw was "Five Fingers of Death." This fantastic well-researched book really goes into great detail on the martial arts movies made in the 1970s. I was amazed at how many were produced during that time. This volume has more than 500 films with interesting details about each film. The author was an active martial arts practitioner and an avid fan of all kinds of martial art films. The truth is, he was also a consultant on numerous martial art films. The author has produced the most complete martial art movie guide of the 1970s that has ever been written. Even though most of the movies in this book were Asian martial art films, other countries, including American made ones are also included. This giant 287 page volume is organized to make it easy for the reader to understand the martialogies in this book. You will learn how much real martial art action time is spent in each film, as well as the actors, and the numerous other titles that are actually the same movie. You will also know what country the films were made in, which of course the majority were made in China. One of the things I liked about this book was the list of top ten martial art films listed at the end of the book. In conclusion, if you are a martial arts

movie fan, this is a must book to have as a reference source. Rating: 4 Stars. Joseph J. Truncale (Author: Predator Hunter: A warrior's memoir) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By George Hernandez Great book

Dynamic and entertaining, this movie guide brings depth to the martial arts films of the 1970s, with more than 2,000 titles from 14 countries broken down into lively reviews, detailed discussions, and meticulous references. With an engaging introduction to kung-fu cinema, this examination then launches into a collection of more than 500 martial arts reviews that include the movie name, time, and place of theatrical release, director name, list of principal actors, fight instructors, and interesting tidbits about the film. Each entry also includes statistics such as the number and length of training and fight sequences. Complete indexes are also featured, listing actors and movies by their English variations as well as countries of origin. Both a fun read and an accurate resource, this handbook is a must-have for movie fans and martial artists alike.

About the Author Dr. Craig D. Reid