



Hollywood Monster: A Walk Down Elm Street with the Man of Your Dreams

By Robert Englund, Alan Goldsher

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ONE...TWO...FREDDY'S COMING FOR YOU....

You've seen him in the "A Nightmare on Elm Street" series -- and in your darkest dreams. The sadistic killer with the flame-charred face. The knife-blade claws. The razor-sharp wit. "Freddy."..But you've never seen him like this. Unflinching. Uncensored. Un"masked."

Meet Robert Englund, the award-winning actor best known for his role as Freddy Krueger -- the legendary horror icon featured on the American Film Institute's "100 Greatest Heroes and Villains" roster -- a character as unforgettable and enduring as Bela Lugosi's Dracula and Boris Karloff's Frankenstein. Now, for the first time, the man behind the latex mask tells his story in this captivating new memoir, published to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first "A Nightmare on Elm Street" film.

You see, Robert Englund is no monster at all, but a deeply funny, charming Hollywood veteran. Packed with Robert's hilarious stories, playful self-deprecation, and a generous helping of never-before-revealed "A Nightmare on Elm Street" trivia, "Hollywood Monster" offers an unparalleled look at the beloved film icon. With insider savvy and gallows humor, Robert recounts his audition for Wes Craven, the inspiration for Freddy's character, the grueling makeup sessions, his soon-to-be-famous costars, the often disastrous on-set blunders, and the wave of popularity that propelled this humble California surfer kid all the way to the top.

Of course, fame and fortune as Freddy came years after the young actor shared a trailer with screen legend Henry Fonda, was punched in the face by Richard Gere, took down Burt Reynolds, and muscled his way between Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sally Field, and Jeff Bridges.

But soon after his high-profile stint in the groundbreaking TV miniseries V, Robert Englund took on the most celebrated role of his career -- the macabre and wisecracking killer who quickly became a household name. From the moment Freddy Krueger dragged his claws across a rusty pipe in the opening dream sequence, a legend had been unleashed -- and a star was born. This is his story.

""Welcome to prime time, bitch."

" -- Frederick Charles Krueger, bastard son of a hundred maniacs

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The actor behind *A Nightmare on Elm Street*'s Freddy Krueger recounts his early years in theater and Hollywood before hitting it big as the razor-fingered killer. Intent on pursuing a stage career, California native Englund went to Cal State and Michigan's Academy of Dramatic Arts, where he studied classical theater. After being inspired by Martin Scorsese's debut film, *Boxcar Bertha*, Englund headed to Hollywood and soon landed small roles alongside stars like Henry Fonda, Burt Reynolds and Sally Field. But it wasn't until Wes Craven offered the role of Freddy Krueger, a sadistic murderer who haunted victims' dreams, that Englund broke into cult stardom. He recalls in vivid detail the hundreds of hours spent in the makeup chair for the film and its six sequels, most recently 2004's hit *Freddy vs. Jason*, where Krueger is resurrected from hell and battles Jason Voorhees from the Friday the 13th franchise. Englund also appeared in the acclaimed 1984 miniseries *V* and 1995's *The Mangler*, from Tobe Hooper, director of *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*. While readers who didn't grow up with the Elm Street films may be a bit lost, Englund's memoir will appeal to those who still can't shake Freddy from their nightmares.

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Review

"Monstrously entertaining! Robert proves as gifted and versatile on the page as on the screen. Irreverent, uproarious, revealing!" -- Mark Hamill, star of the original "Star Wars" trilogy

"If you've ever wondered what goes into the creation of a screen icon like Freddy, you should read this book. With wit and candor, Robert Englund gives you the recipe: talent mixed with life lived to the full, served up with boundless energy and a rich imagination seasoned with unswerving respect for his audience, and a passionate dedication to his craft as an actor." -- Doug Bradley, star of Clive Barker's "Hellraiser" movies

"'Six degrees of Kevin Bacon?' Ha! Try 'Three Degrees of Robert Englund!' The Boris Karloff of our generation has worked with just about everybody and lived to tell the "nightmare"! Great read!" -- Dee Snider, host of Fangoria Radio on Sirius/XM, front man for Twisted Sister

"Reading Robert Englund's journey through the ups and downs of a Hollywood career is a fun, funny, and eye-opening blast. His life has been no 'nightmare,' but rather an entertaining romp! Take a read...if you dare!" -- Star Price, award-winning producer of "Penn & Teller: Bullshit!"

About the Author

Robert Englund gained international cult stardom as the razor-fingered horror villain Freddy Krueger in Wes Craven's 1984 classic, *A Nightmare on Elm Street*--a role he reprised in six sequels, including the 2003 smash, *Freddy vs. Jason*. Englund has also directed and starred in many films and TV shows, including the beloved science fiction series, *V*. Robert lives in Laguna Beach with his wife, Nancy.

Novelist/ghostwriter/journalist **Alan Goldsher** is the author of the forthcoming Beatles/horror/humor mash-up *Paul is Undead: The British Zombie Invasion* (Gallery Books, June 22, 2010), as well as *Hard Bop Academy: The Sidemen of Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers*, *Modest Mouse: A Pretty Good Read*, and the novel *Jam. Midnight Movie*, the novel he co-wrote with director Tobe Hooper ("The Texas Chainsaw Massacre") will be published in 2011. Written as A.M. Goldsher, his chicklit novels *The True Naomi Story*, *Reality Check*, and *Today's Special* were released in the U.K. and Marabout in France in 2008, with *No*

Ordinary Girl to come in 2011.

As a ghostwriter, Alan has collaborated on projects with comedians Bernie Mac and Fred Willard; actor Robert Englund, Ironman triathlete Sarah Reinertsen, and "American Idol" contestant Sanjaya Malakar, among other notable celebrities and public figures.

Alan's sportswriting has been seen in ESPN The Magazine, ESPN.com, NBA.com, and ChicagoBulls.com, and he reviews books for Kirkus.

During his 10-plus years as a professional bassist, Goldsher recorded with Janet Jackson, Cypress Hill, and Naughty by Nature; toured the world with Dignable Planets; and performed at the 1994 Grammy Awards.

Alan lives and writes in Chicago.

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