

= Michael Myers (Halloween) =

Michael Myers is a character from the Halloween series of slasher films . He first appears in John Carpenter 's Halloween (1978) as a young boy who murders his older sister , then fifteen years later returns home to murder more teenagers . In the original Halloween , the adult Michael Myers , referred to as The Shape in the closing credits , was portrayed by Nick Castle for most of the film , with Tony Moran and Tommy Lee Wallace substituting in during the final scenes . The character was created by Debra Hill and John Carpenter and has appeared in nine films , as well as novels , a video game , and several comic books .

The character is the primary antagonist in the Halloween film series , except Halloween III : Season of the Witch , which is not connected in continuity to the rest of the films . Since Castle , Moran , and Wallace put on the mask in the original film , six people have stepped into the role . Tyler Mane is the only actor to have portrayed Michael Myers in consecutive films , and one of only two actors to portray the character more than once . Michael Myers is characterized as pure evil , both directly in the films , by the filmmakers who created and developed the character over nine films , as well as by random participants in a survey .

= = Appearances = =

Michael Myers is the primary antagonist in all of the Halloween films except Halloween III : Season of the Witch , which does not feature any of the characters from the preceding two films and had nothing to do with Michael Myers . Michael returned following Halloween III , in the aptly titled Halloween 4 : The Return of Michael Myers . The silver screen is not the only place Michael Myers has appeared : there have been literary sources that have created an expanded universe for Michael Myers .

= = = Films = = =

Michael Myers made his first appearance in the original 1978 film , Halloween , although the masked character is credited as " The Shape " in the first two films . In the beginning of Halloween , a six @-@ year @-@ old Michael (Will Sandin) murders his teenage sister Judith (Sandy Johnson) on Halloween , 1963 . Fifteen years later , Michael (Nick Castle) escapes Smith 's Grove Sanitarium and returns to his hometown of Haddonfield , Illinois . He stalks teenage babysitter Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis) on Halloween , while his psychiatrist Dr. Sam Loomis (Donald Pleasence) attempts to track him down . Murdering her friends , Michael finally attacks Laurie , but she manages to fend him off long enough for Loomis to save her . Loomis shoots Michael six times , before Michael falls over the house 's second @-@ story balcony ledge ; when Loomis goes to check Michael 's body , he finds it missing . Michael returns in the sequel , Halloween II (1981) . The film picks up directly where the original ends , with Dr. Loomis still looking for Michael . Michael (Dick Warlock) follows Laurie Strode (Curtis) to the local hospital , where he wanders the halls in search of her , killing security guards , doctors , and nurses that get in his way . Loomis learns that Laurie Strode is Michael 's younger sister , and rushes to the hospital to find them . He causes an explosion in the operating theater , allowing Laurie to escape as he and Michael are engulfed by the flames .

Michael Myers does not appear in Halloween III : Season of the Witch , which does not include any story elements from the first two installments . Halloween 4 : The Return of Michael Myers (1988) picks the story up ten years after the events of Halloween II . Michael (George P. Wilbur) and Dr. Loomis are revealed to have survived the explosion , although Michael has been in a coma at the Ridgemont Federal Sanitarium for a decade . Michael wakes from his coma when he learns Laurie Strode has died , but also learns that she has a seven @-@ year @-@ old daughter , Jamie Lloyd (Danielle Harris) . Returning to Haddonfield , he causes a city @-@ wide blackout and massacres the town 's police force , before being shot down a mine shaft by the state police . Halloween 5 : The Revenge of Michael Myers (1989) begins immediately after the fourth film ends , with Michael

Myers (Donald L. Shanks) escaping the mine shaft and being nursed back to health by a local hermit . The next year , Michael kills the hermit and returns to Haddonfield to find Jamie (Harris) again , chasing her through his childhood home in a trap set up by Loomis (Pleasence) . Michael is eventually captured and taken to the local police station , but an unseen figure kills the officers and frees him . Halloween : The Curse of Michael Myers (1995) takes place six years after the events of The Revenge of Michael Myers ; both Jamie (J. C. Brandy) and Michael (Wilbur) have disappeared from Haddonfield . Jamie has been kidnapped and impregnated by the Cult of Thorn , led by Dr. Terence Wynn (Mitchell Ryan) , Loomis ' friend and colleague from Smith 's Grove . Wynn is revealed to have been manipulating Michael Myers all along , and was his mysterious savior in Halloween 5 . Michael kills Jamie , but not before she hides her infant , who is discovered and taken in by Tommy Doyle (Paul Rudd) . While trying to protect the baby from Michael and Wynn , Tommy learns that the cult may be the cause of Michael 's obsession with killing his entire family , in addition to his seemingly supernatural abilities .

Ignoring the events of the previous three films , Halloween H20 : 20 Years Later (1998) establishes that Michael Myers (Chris Durand) has been missing since the explosion in 1978 . Laurie Strode (Curtis) has faked her death to escape her brother , and is now living in California under an assumed name with her teenage son John (Josh Hartnett) . On the twentieth anniversary of their last meeting , Michael tracks Laurie and her son to the private boarding school where she is headmistress , and murders John 's friends . Getting her son to safety , Laurie willingly goes back to face Michael , and succeeds in decapitating him . Halloween : Resurrection (2002) , which picks up three years after H20 , retcons Michael 's death , establishing that the man Laurie decapitated was a paramedic whom Michael had attacked and swapped clothes with . Michael (Brad Loree) tracks down an institutionalized Laurie (Curtis) and kills her . Returning to Haddonfield , he finds and kills a group of college students filming an internet reality show inside his childhood home . Contestant Sara Moyer (Bianca Kajlich) and show producer Freddie Harris (Busta Rhymes) escape by trapping Michael in a burning garage .

A new version of Michael Myers appears in Rob Zombie 's Halloween (2007) , a reboot of the franchise . The film follows the basic premise of the original film , with an increased focus on Michael 's childhood : ten @-@ year @-@ old Michael (Daeg Faerch) is shown killing animals and suffering verbal abuse from Judith (Hanna R. Hall) and his mother 's boyfriend Ronnie (William Forsythe) , both of whom he later murders . During his time in Smith 's Grove , Michael takes up the hobby of creating papier @-@ mâché masks and receives unsuccessful therapy from Dr. Sam Loomis (Malcolm McDowell) . As an adult , Michael (Tyler Mane) returns to Haddonfield to reunite with his beloved younger sister Laurie (Scout Taylor @-@ Compton) . Laurie , however , is terrified of him and ends up shooting him in self @-@ defense . Zombie 's story is continued in the sequel , Halloween II (2009) , which picks up right where the remake leaves off and then jumps ahead one year . Here , Michael (Mane) is presumed dead , but resurfaces after a vision of his deceased mother Deborah (Sheri Moon Zombie) informs him that he must track Laurie (Taylor @-@ Compton) down so that they can " come home " . In the film , Michael and Laurie have a mental link , with the two sharing visions of their mother . During the film 's climax , Laurie apparently kills Michael by stabbing him repeatedly in the chest and face with his own knife .

= = = Literature = = =

Michael Myers made his literary debut in October 1979 when Curtis Richards released a novelization of the film . The book follows the events of the film , but includes references to the festival of Samhain . A prologue provides a possible explanation for Michael 's murderous impulses , telling the story of Enda , a disfigured Celtic teenager who butchers the Druid princess Deirdre and her lover as revenge for rejecting him ; the king subsequently has his shaman curse Enda 's soul to walk the earth reliving his crime for eternity . It is later revealed that Michael Myers suffers nightmares about Enda and Deirdre , as did Michael 's great @-@ grandfather before shooting to death two people at a Halloween harvest dance in the 1890s . The novel shows Michael 's childhood in more detail ; his mother voices concern over her son 's anti @-@ social behavior shortly before

he murders Judith , and Dr. Loomis notices the boy 's effortless control and manipulation of the staff and patients at Smith 's Grove during his incarceration . Later in the story , Michael 's stalking of Laurie and her friends is depicted as more explicitly sexual than was apparent in the film , with several references to him having an erection . Michael returned to the world of literature with the 1981 adaptation of Halloween II written by Jack Martin ; it was published alongside the first film sequel , with the novel following the film events , with an additional victim , a reporter , added to the novel . The final novelization to feature Michael was Halloween IV , released October 1988 . The novel was written by Nicholas Grabowsky , and like the previous adaptations , follows the events of Halloween 4 : The Return of Michael Myers .

Over a four @-@ month period , Berkley Books published three young adult novels written by Kelly O 'Rourke ; the novels are original stories created by O 'Rourke , with no direct continuity with the films . The first , released on 1 October 1997 , titled The Scream Factory , follows a group of friends who set up a haunted house attraction in the basement of Haddonfield City Hall , only to be stalked and killed by Michael Myers while they are there . The Old Myers Place is the second novel , released 1 December 1997 , and focuses on Mary White , who moves into the Myers house with her family and takes up residence in Judith Myers ' former bedroom . Michael returns home and begins stalking and attacking Mary and her friends . O 'Rourke 's final novel , The Mad House , was released on 1 February 1998 . The Mad House features a young girl , Christine Ray , who joins a documentary film crew that travels to haunted locations ; they are currently headed to Smith Grove Mental Hospital . The crew is quickly confronted by Michael Myers .

The character 's first break into comics came with a series of comics published by Brian Pulido 's Chaos ! Comics . The first , simply titled Halloween , was intended to be a one @-@ issue special , but eventually two sequels spawned : Halloween II : The Blackest Eyes and Halloween III : The Devil 's Eyes . All of the stories were written by Phil Nutman , with Daniel Farrands ? writer for Halloween : The Curse of Michael Myers ? assisting on the first issue ; David Brewer and Justiniano worked on the illustrations . Tommy Doyle is the main protagonist in each of the issues , focusing on his attempts to kill Michael Myers . The first issue includes backstory on Michael 's childhood , while the third picks up after the events of the film Halloween H20 .

In 2003 , Michael appeared in the self @-@ published comic One Good Scare , written by Stefan Hutchinson and illustrated by Peter Fielding . The main character in the comic is Lindsey Wallace , the young girl who first saw Michael Myers alongside Tommy Doyle in the original 1978 film . Hutchinson wanted to bring the character back to his roots , and away from the " lumbering Jason @-@ clone " the film sequels had made him . On 25 July 2006 , as an insert inside the DVD release of Halloween : 25 Years of Terror , the comic book Halloween : Autopsis was released . Written by Stefan Hutchinson and artwork by Marcus Smith and Nick Dismas , the story is about a photographer assigned to take pictures of Michael Myers . As the photographer , Carter , follows Dr. Loomis ; he begins to take on Loomis 's obsession himself , until finally meeting Michael Myers in person , which results in his death .

In 2008 , Devil 's Due Publishing began releasing more Halloween comic books , starting with a four issue mini series , titled Halloween : Nightdance . Written by Stefan Hutchinson , Nightdance takes place in Russellville , and follows Michael 's obsession with Lisa Thomas , a girl who reminds him of his sister Judith . Lisa is afraid of the dark after Michael trapped her in a basement for days , and years later , he starts sending her disturbing , childlike drawings and murdering those around her on Halloween . Meanwhile , Ryan Nichols is hunting Michael down after seeing him attack and kidnap his wife . In the end , Michael frames Ryan for the murders and buries Lisa alive . Hutchinson explains that Nightdance was an attempt to escape the dense continuity of the film series and recreate the tone of the 1978 film ; Michael becomes inexplicably fixated on Lisa , just as he did with Laurie in the original Halloween , before the sequels established that a sibling bond was actually his motivation for stalking her . Included in the Nightdance trade paperback is the short prose story Charlie , which features Charlie Bowles , a Russellville serial killer who taps into the same evil force which motivates Michael Myers . To celebrate the anniversary of the Halloween series , Devil 's Due released a one @-@ shot comic entitled Halloween : 30 Years of Terror in August 2008 , written by Hutchinson . An anthology collection inspired by John Carpenter 's original film , Michael appears in

various stories , tampering with Halloween candy , decapitating a beauty queen , tormenting Laurie Strode , and killing a school teacher .

= = Characterization = =

A common characterization is that Michael Myers is evil . John Carpenter has described the character as " almost a supernatural force - a force of nature . An evil force that 's loose , " a force that is " unkillable " . Professor Nicholas Rogers elaborates , " Myers is depicted as a mythic , elusive bogeyman , one of superhuman strength who cannot be killed by bullets , stab wounds , or fire . " Carpenter 's inspiration for the " evil " that Michael would embody came when he was in college . While on a class trip at a mental institution in Kentucky , Carpenter visited " the most serious , mentally ill patients " . Among those patients was a young boy around twelve to thirteen years @-@ old . The boy gave this " schizophrenic stare " , " a real evil stare " , which Carpenter found " unsettling " , " creepy " , and " completely insane " . Carpenter 's experience would inspire the characterization that Loomis would give of Michael to Sheriff Brackett in the original film . Debra Hill has stated the scene where Michael kills the Wallaces ' German Shepherd was done to illustrate how he is " really evil and deadly " .

The ending scene of Michael being shot six times , and then disappearing from the ground outside the house , was meant to terrify the imagination of the audience . Carpenter tried to keep the audience guessing as to who Michael Myers really is ? he is gone , and everywhere at the same time ; he is more than human ; he may be supernatural , and no one knows how he got that way . To Carpenter , keeping the audience guessing was better than explaining away the character with " he 's cursed by some ... " For Josh Hartnett , who portrayed John Tate in Halloween H20 , " it 's that abstract , it 's easier for me to be afraid of it . You know , someone who just kind of appears and , you know [mimics stabbing noise from Psycho] instead of an actual human who you think you can talk to . And no remorse , it 's got no feelings , that 's the most frightening , definitely . " Richard Schickel , film critic for TIME , felt Michael was " irrational " and " really angry about something " , having what Schickel referred to as " a kind of primitive , obsessed intelligence " . Schickel considered this the " definition of a good monster " , by making the character appear " less than human " , but having enough intelligence " to be dangerous " .

Dominique Othenin @-@ Girard attempted to have audiences " relate to ' Evil ' , to Michael Myers 's ' ill ' side " . Girard wanted Michael to appear " more human [...] even vulnerable , with contradicting feelings inside of him " . He illustrated these feelings with a scene where Michael removes his mask and sheds a tear . Girard explains , " Again , to humanize him , to give him a tear . If Evil or in this case our boogeyman knows pain , or love or demonstrate a feeling of regrets ; he becomes even more scary to me if he pursues his malefic action . He shows an evil determination beyond his feelings . Dr. Loomis tries to reach his emotional side several times in [Halloween 5] . He thinks he could cure Michael through his feelings . "

Daniel Farrands , writer of The Curse of Michael Myers , describes the character as a " sexual deviant " . According to him , the way Michael follows girls around and watches them contains a subtext of repressed sexuality . Farrands theorizes that , as a child , Michael became fixated on the murder of his sister Judith , and for his own twisted reasons felt the need to repeat that action over and over again , finding a sister @-@ like figure in Laurie who excited him sexually . He also believes that by making Laurie , Michael 's literal sister , the sequels took away from the simplicity and relatability of the original Halloween . Nevertheless , when writing Curse , Farrands was tasked with creating a mythology for Michael which defined his motives and why he could not be killed . He says , " He can 't just be a man anymore , he 's gone beyond that . He 's mythical . He 's supernatural . So , I took it from that standpoint that there 's something else driving him . A force that goes beyond that five senses that has infected this boy 's soul and now is driving him . " As the script developed and more people became involved , Farrands admits that the film went too far in explaining Michael Myers and that he himself was not completely satisfied with the finished product .

Michael does not speak in the films ; the first time audiences ever hear his voice is in the 2007 Rob

Zombie reboot . Michael speaks as a child during the beginning of the film , but while in Smith 's Grove he stops talking completely . Rob Zombie originally planned to have the adult Michael speak to Laurie in the film 's finale , simply saying his childhood nickname for her , " Boo " . Zombie explained that this version was not used because he was afraid having the character talk at that point would demystify him too much , and because the act of Michael handing Laurie the photograph of them together was enough .

Describing aspects of Michael Myers which he wanted to explore in the comic book Halloween : Nightdance , writer Stefan Hutchinson mentions the character 's " bizarre and dark sense of humor " , as seen when he wore a sheet over his head to trick a girl into thinking he was her boyfriend , and the satisfaction he gets from scaring the characters before he murders them , such as letting Laurie know he is stalking her . Hutchinson feels there is a perverse nature to Michael 's actions : " see the difference between how he watches and pursues women to men " . He also suggests that Michael Myers ' hometown of Haddonfield is the cause of his behavior , likening his situation to that of Jack the Ripper , citing Myers as a " product of normal suburbia - all the repressed emotion of fake Norman Rockwell smiles " . Hutchinson describes Michael as a " monster of abjection " . When asked his opinion of Rob Zombie 's expansion on Michael 's family life , Hutchinson says that explaining why Michael does what he does " [reduces] the character " . That being said , Hutchinson explores the nature of evil in the short story Charlie ? included in the Halloween Nightdance trade paperback ? and says that Michael Myers spent fifteen years " attuning himself to this force to the point where he is , as Loomis says , ' pure evil ' " . Nightdance artist Tim Seeley describes the character 's personality in John Carpenter 's 1978 film as " a void " , which allows the character to be more open to interpretation than the later sequels allowed him . He surmises that Michael embodies a part of everyone ; a part people are afraid will one day " snap and knife someone " , which lends to the fear that Michael creates on screen .

In 2005 , a study was conducted by the Media Psychology Lab of California State University , Los Angeles on the psychological appeal of movie monsters ? Vampires , Freddy Krueger , Frankenstein 's monster , Jason Voorhees , Godzilla , Chucky , Hannibal Lecter , King Kong , The Alien , and the shark from Jaws ? which surveyed 1 @@ 166 people nationwide (United States) , with ages ranging from 16 to 91 . It was published in the Journal of Media Psychology . In the survey , Michael was considered to be the " embodiment of pure evil " ; when compared to the other characters , Michael Myers was rated the highest . Michael was characterized lending to the understanding of insanity , being ranked second to Hannibal Lecter in this category ; he also placed first as the character who shows audiences the " dark side of human nature " . He was rated second in the category " monster enjoys killing " by the participants , and believed to have " superhuman strength " . Michael was rated highest among the characters in the " monster is an outcast " category .

= = In popular culture = =

In Robot Chicken 's nineteenth episode , " That Hurts Me " , Michael Myers (voiced by Seth Green) appears as a housemate of " Horror Movie Big Brother " , alongside fellow horror movie killers Jason Voorhees , Ghostface , Freddy Krueger , Pinhead , and Leatherface . Myers is evicted from the house , and takes off his mask to reveal himself to be the comedian Mike Myers , and utters his Austin Powers catchphrase , " I feel randy , baby , yeah ! " He then proceeds to kill the host . Michael appeared on 25 April 2008 episode of Ghost Whisperer , starring Jennifer Love Hewitt , titled " Horror Show " . Here , a spirit communicates with Hewitt 's character by placing her in scenes from the deceased 's favorite horror movies , and one of the scenes involved Michael Myers . The Cold Case episode " Bad Night " has the main characters reopening a 1978 murder case after new evidence indicates the victim was not killed by a mentally disturbed man who , after seeing Halloween in theatres , went on a killing spree dressed as Michael . Michael Myers makes a cameo appearance in Rob Zombie 's The Haunted World of El Superbeasto , released on 22 September 2009 . Michael Myers also makes an appearance in the DLC pack for the video game Call of Duty : Ghosts , Onslaught , as a playable character .

In one of the various merchandises to feature the character , Michael Myers made his video game

debut with the 1983 Atari video game Halloween . The game is rare to find , often being played on emulators . No characters from the films are specifically named , with the goal of the game focusing on the player , who is a babysitter , protecting children from a " homicidal maniac [who] has escaped from a mental institution " . Michael was one of several horror icons to be included in the 2009 version of Universal Studios Hollywood 's Halloween Horror Nights event , as a part of a maze entitled Halloween : The Life and Crimes of Michael Myers . Pop artist Eric Millikin created a large mosaic portrait of Michael Myers out of Halloween candy and spiders as part of his " Totally Sweet " series in 2013 .