



## Blood and Thunder: The Life and Art of Robert E. Howard

*By Mark Finn*

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Robert E. Howard, creator of Conan, King Kull, and others that defined heroic fantasy, lived and died in the small town of Cross Plains, Texas. While his books remain in print, Howard himself has fallen into obscurity, his life mired in speculation and half-truth. This engaging biography traces the roots of his writings, correcting long-standing misconceptions, and offers a tour of Howard's world as he saw it: through his own incomparable imagination.

This is the updated and expanded second edition of the Monkeybrain Books 2006 edition. This is the author's "director's cut" of his popular biography of Texas writer and creator of Conan the Cimmerian, Robert E. Howard and includes new information and facts that were not known during the writing of the first edition, an expanded chapter on Conan, a total of 35,000 more words, and expanded and corrected chapters on Howard's boxing stories, his westerns, both humorous and serious, and the events leading up to Howard's death as well as what happened afterward. Also included are an expanded and corrected index and bibliography, and author's notes on each chapter. This is Finn's definitive version of his biography, and one that any fan of Robert E. Howard will want to own.

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### **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Conan the Barbarian is an internationally known icon. His creator, Robert E. Howard, remains to most an Oedipal figure who created the Cimmerian swordsman as a wish-fulfillment fantasy. Finn quietly and expertly demolishes these and other misconceptions about Howard. Rather than use Conan as the yardstick to measure his creator's life, he discusses Howard in the context of a populist writer whose dyspeptic view of civilization was forged in the corrupt Texas oil boomtowns in which he grew up. Howard was a natural storyteller who used the techniques of folklore to create his own "tall tales" in an economical yet poetic style. Finn handles his charged subject in a straightforward, even-handed manner. This is a worthy addition to the 100th anniversary of Howard's birth that all readers of fantasy and regional fiction will enjoy. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

### **About the Author**

Mark Finn is an author, actor, essayist, and playwright. His biography, *Blood and Thunder: The Life and Art of Robert E. Howard*, was nominated for a World Fantasy award in 2007. His articles, essays, and introductions about Robert E. Howard and his works have appeared in publications for the Robert E. Howard Foundation, Dark Horse Comics, Boom! Comics, The Cimmerian, REH: Two-Gun Raconteur, The Howard Review, Wildside Press, and he has twice presented papers about Robert E. Howard to the PCA/ACA National conference, the AWC, and lectures and performs readings regularly.

### **Users Review**

#### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Jeffrey Lockwood:**

Nowadays reading books become more and more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The data you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want feel happy read one along with theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. The actual Blood and Thunder: The Life and Art of Robert E. Howard is kind of book which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

#### **Donna Wood:**

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**Margaret Gray:**

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**Violet Shook:**

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