Written by Samuel Zimmerman
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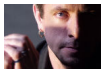

Amazon is launching into film development with the legendary Clive Barker and a tale of swords, sandals and the undead.

Amazon.com, who recently started up Amazon Studios, is teaming with HELLBOUND HEART and BOOKS OF BLOOD author and HELLRAISER director Clive Barker on ZOMBIES VS. GLADIATORS.

Barker is currently rewriting the tale—with intent to direct—of a gladiator in the Coliseum, faced with his deadliest opponents yet when a Shaman unleashes zombies on the ancient civilization. “I’m excited by the opportunity to interweave two very rich narrative threads,” the author said. “One of them concerns itself with the reality of the decadence of Rome and its rise and fall. The other is a fantastical narrative element - the living dead. My brief to myself on this project is to give the audience not only zombies they have never seen before but also a Rome they have never seen before.”

“Amazon Studios offered up the dream ticket with this project. In twenty-five years of working in this town, I've rarely had people listen to what I had to say as closely and as carefully as they did and then simply give me the freedom to go do it. Amazon Studios is an innovative creative concept. I am looking forward to providing my own perspective to make ZOMBIES VS. GLADIATORS a highly commercial and entertaining movie.”

No word on the timeline for ZOMBIES VS. GLADIATORS, but the prospect of Barker behind the camera again is a rousing one. Amazon Studios director Roy Price agrees, adding, “ZOMBIES VS. GLADIATORS is now in the hands of someone who has written genre-defining material throughout his career. We are excited to see how Clive will add his unique narrative to capture the essence of this story and propel the project into something unique and original that could one day be enjoyed by all audiences.”