

# On the Set of Director Tobe Hooper: Spontaneous Combustion

Tobe Hooper's 1990 film, *Spontaneous Combustion*, is a classic of the horror genre. The film tells the story of a group of people who are spontaneously combusting for no apparent reason. Hooper's signature style of suspense and gore is on full display in *Spontaneous Combustion*, and the film has become a cult favorite among horror fans.



## Smoldering Embers: On the Set of Director Tobe Hooper's *Spontaneous Combustion* by Sanyika Shakur

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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In this behind-the-scenes article, we take a look at the making of *Spontaneous Combustion*. We'll talk to Hooper and other members of the cast and crew about the film's development, production, and release. We'll also take a look at some of the special effects and gore that made *Spontaneous Combustion* such a memorable film.

## Development and Production

Spontaneous Combustion was originally conceived by Hooper as a sequel to his 1974 film, *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*. However, Hooper eventually decided to make the film a standalone story. The screenplay was written by Hooper and Kim Henkel, who also co-wrote *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*.

The film was shot on a budget of \$3 million. Principal photography took place in Los Angeles, California. Hooper assembled a cast of veteran horror actors, including Brad Dourif, Meredith Salenger, and John Turturro. Dourif plays Sammi Curr, a man who is being investigated for the spontaneous combustion of his wife. Salenger plays Kim, Sammi's daughter, who is also being investigated for the spontaneous combustion of her boyfriend. Turturro plays John, a police detective who is investigating the case.

The film's special effects were created by Tom Savini, who also worked on *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*. Savini's effects are some of the most realistic and gruesome ever seen in a horror film. The film's gore is used to great effect, and it helps to create a sense of suspense and dread.

## **Release and Reception**

*Spontaneous Combustion* was released in theaters on August 31, 1990. The film received mixed reviews from critics, but it was a commercial success, grossing over \$10 million at the box office.

The film has since become a cult classic among horror fans. It is praised for its suspenseful atmosphere, gruesome special effects, and strong performances from the cast. *Spontaneous Combustion* is a must-see for fans of horror films.

## **Interviews**

### **Tobe Hooper (Director)**

#### **Q: What was the inspiration for Spontaneous Combustion?**

**A:** I was originally thinking about doing a sequel to The Texas Chain Saw Massacre, but I eventually decided to make a standalone story. I wanted to do a film about people who were spontaneously combusting for no apparent reason. I thought it would be a really suspenseful and scary concept.

#### **Q: What were some of the challenges you faced in making Spontaneous Combustion?**

**A:** One of the biggest challenges was creating the special effects. I wanted the effects to be as realistic and gruesome as possible, and that was a difficult task. We spent a lot of time working on the effects, and I'm really happy with how they turned out.

### **Brad Dourif (Sammi Curr)**

#### **Q: What was it like working with Tobe Hooper?**

**A:** Tobe is a great director. He's very creative and he has a real vision for his films. He's also very supportive of his actors, and he gives them the freedom to explore their characters.

#### **Q: What was your favorite scene to film?**

**A:** I really enjoyed filming the scene where Sammi is spontaneously combusting. It was a very challenging scene to film, but it was also a lot of fun. I think it's one of the most memorable scenes in the film.

### **Meredith Salenger (Kim)**

**Q: What was it like working on Spontaneous Combustion?**

**A:** It was an amazing experience. Tobe is a really talented director, and he created a great atmosphere on set. The cast and crew were also great to work with.

**Q: What was your favorite scene to film?**

**A:** I really enjoyed filming the scene where Kim is being investigated by the police. It was a very intense scene, but it was also a lot of fun to film. I think it's one of the most powerful scenes in the film.

### **John Turturro (John)**

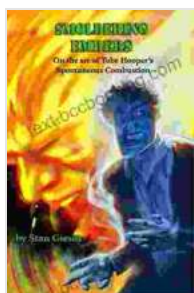
**Q: What was it like working with Tobe Hooper?**

**A:** Tobe is a really passionate director. He's very enthusiastic about his work, and he's always looking for ways to make his films better. He's also very supportive of his actors, and he gives them the freedom to explore their characters.

**Q: What was your favorite scene to film?**

**A:** I really enjoyed filming the scene where John is interviewing Sammi. It was a very intense scene, but it was also a lot of fun to film. I think it's one of the most important scenes in the film, because it really shows the relationship between John and Sammi.

Spontaneous Combustion is a classic horror film that has stood the test of time. The film's suspenseful atmosphere, gruesome special effects, and strong performances from the cast make it a must-see for fans of the genre. If you haven't seen Spontaneous Combustion, I highly recommend checking it out.



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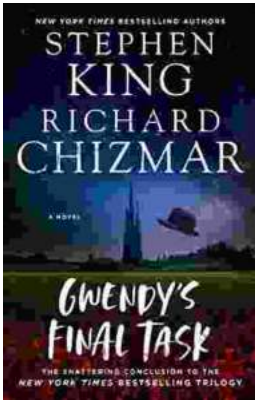
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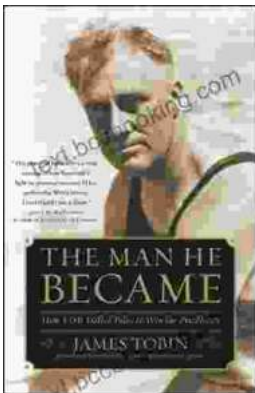
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