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I AM VIRGIN: UNRATED DIRECTOR'S CUT (2010)

Published by [David Carter](#) on 2010/3/30 (407 reads)

Directed by Sean Skolding
Review by David Carter



Released by Cheezy Flicks
Running Time: 90 minutes
Rating: Not Rated
Color format: Color
Audio/Subtitles: 2.0 Stereo English
Region Code: 1, NTSC
Aspect Ratio: Widescreen
16:9 Enhanced: Yes
Special Features: Commentary track, behind-the-scenes
Trailer Online: [Yes](#)



Short Version: A pro-abstinence sexploitation film. Really.

When I'm asked to explain to someone what "exploitation cinema" is, I'm often hard-pressed to give them a satisfactory answer. The truth is the term encompasses such a wide array of genres and styles that exploitation cinema is less about the type of film and more about how it is marketed. That being said, there is no better example of true exploitation (if such as thing exists) than the knock-off film. Knock-off films were huge business in the seventies heyday of exploitation - there were dozens of JAWS knock-offs using everything from bears to alligators to mosquitoes. Therefore Cheezy Flicks is continuing a proud, sleazy tradition with their newest DVD, the I AM LEGEND spoof I AM VIRGIN.

I AM VIRGIN sets up its plot in exactly the same manner as the original, with the one significant change being that the world-wide virus turned the survivors into sex-crazed vampires instead of the regular non-sex-crazed variety. The one person not affected is Robby, a twenty-something guy who is convinced that his virginity is the only reason he's immune. Years of brow-beating by overprotective parents caused him to believe that sex was evil and would ruin his life, giving Robby some horrible hang ups but inadvertently saving his life in the process. Robby and his dog Billy roam the abandoned streets in search of others like him - not for companionship or mutual survival, but so that Robby can find a human girl and lose his virginity. He only finds more sex vampires at every turn, however; not such a bad thing, since Robby isn't above a bit of voyeurism before running for his life.



Robby eventually tires of hiding and his dangerous Peeping Tom routine and decides to simply give in and allow himself to become a vampire. Luckily for him, in his darkest hour he meets a friendly vampire named Paul (Ron Jeremy), who shares with him two very important pieces of information. First, sex isn't what causes vampirism, guilt does, so Robby is free to sleep with as many vampires as he likes as long as he doesn't feel guilty about it. Secondly, there is a group of uninfected survivors a few hundred miles north of his location. Now Robby is faced with a tough decision: finding the normal life he's longed for or giving in to the temptation of eternal casual sex.

Viewers may debate about whether or not Robby makes the "right" choice, but he certainly makes it for the right reasons and remains true to his character. Adam Davis as Robby is infinitely likable and believable and the film would fall apart without him. It's very easy to sympathize with him because his plight works on many levels other than just simply sex. Robby is trapped in world where is constantly being confronted by the one thing he desires but cannot have and the film makes it clear that he has been so messed up by his parents that he likely wouldn't be able to have sex, plague or no plague. Davis is charismatic enough to be the film's central focus by himself, something you really don't see that often in actors working in low budget comedies like this.

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As much fun as Robby and Billy are, you must keep in mind that I AM VIRGIN is still a sexploitation film and about an hour of its 90 minute running time is taken up by sex. I'll give the film credit, though, for at least incorporating the sex into the plot rather than just having everything come to a dead-stop for a nudity break. I gleaned from the special features that the legions of sexy vampires were recruited from the ranks of Portland, OR's finest exotic dancers and the handful that have speaking roles do a good job. Porn legend Ron Jeremy does well also but is only featured briefly, meaning the best supporting actor nod for the film goes to Billy the Basset Hound.

Cheezy Flicks has put out I AM VIRGIN on an "unrated director's cut" DVD and it looks surprisingly good having come from a company that is primarily known for rereleasing older properties. Director Sean Skelding used digital effects to turn Portland into a post-apocalyptic wasteland and it is so effective that I'd recommend that anyone interested in making their own low-budget zombie/apocalypse/zombie-apocalypse film check this film out for pointers. I AM VIRGIN ends on a sweet note but one that doesn't ring as contrived or overly moralistic. The film's ultimate message is to do what makes YOU happy, rather than being forced into adhering to what society or authority figures want you to do. It's a great message and when you add to it Davis' performance, a bevy of sexy ladies, and some laughs, you really can't miss with I AM VIRGIN.



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[HARD LOVE \(2008\)](#)

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- Fraternity Massacre at Hell Island
- Knife Edge
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April 27, 2010

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- Dark Nature
- Descent 2
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- The Fugitive Kind
- Hong Kong Godfather
- Megapiranha
- Opium and the Kung-Fu Master
- Ride With The Devil
- Spirit
- Sweet Teen
- Tales From the Darkside: Season Three
- The Voyeur
- Why We Laugh

May 4, 2010

- Cold Storage
- Edgar Allan Poe's: House of Usher
- The Facts of Life - Season 4
- Hellbinders
- Little Bear And The Master
- Matinee
- Mother's Day Massacre
- Rock 'N' Roll High School
- Sanctuary
- Slasher
- Suburbia
- Vampeggeddon

May 11, 2010

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- Confessions of a Porn Addict
- Disappeared
- Eclipse Series 21-Oshimas Outlaw Sixties
- Gamera: The Giant Monster
- Greatest American Hero: The Complete Series
- Mutant Vampire

Zombies From the Hood

- Night Dragon
- Southern Gothic
- The Spy Next Door
- Walkabout

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- City of the Living Dead
- Minnesota Clay
- New Town Killers
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