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Eyes of the Woods (Unrated Special Edition)

2009

Central Films
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I do not know where to even begin with this sloppy low budget mess, the moment you turn this film on you are going to realize it is nothing but a downhill ride with a painful ending. It is plain and simple as that, all I can really detail in this review is just how bad this film is and why you should stay the hell away from this. The box art advertises that this film is in the tradition of *Evil Dead* and *Jeepers Creepers*, I can safely say that is very inaccurate as the only thing in common these films bear is there are Trees in the films and I guess you can say some kind of creature that torments a group of kids.

The start of the film just looks horrifically atrocious and about as low budget as it gets, I feel that one of my crappy camcorders would look crisper than what this footage is offering currently. We start out by seeing a little girl dying in a village and of course the father decides to go off and be crazy because religion failed to save his daughter so he turns to the dark side and strikes a deal with some kind of demon to get his revenge and surely enough that man comes back as the Wicker Demon. The deaths come fairly rapid and are almost yawn inducing as very little gore is shown, the actual demon though is actually good quality considering how bad this film already looks, the demon almost makes you think most of the budget went to that which made the film quality suffer, guess in this case you can have one but not the other!

After the really meaningless slaughtering of the people in the town we for some strange reason skip to present day and get acquainted to a group of dumb teenagers, again I want to stress that this is a leap from the 1600s to present day. The dumb kids are on a road trip to go the a lake but little do they know they will all sooner or later some how wake this long dormant evil demon that will of course pick them off one by one in the most bland ways possible with some special effects that are just brain numbing. One prime example

There is a scene where a girl gets lured into a coffin where the ghost of the wicker demon's daughter resides, instead of maybe taking two fake skeleton arms to pop out of the coffin which would have been very cheap and effective and a proper

throw back to *Evil Dead*, is instead done by two hideously created CGI arms the lethargically pop out of the coffin at a laughable speed that completely obliterates any shock factor.

When it comes to just a handful left of survivors I believe some one gets smart and actually does away with the Demon some how in a very unexciting way that provides no climax to this film, it just goes demon is dead and everything is pretty much ok until they try and provide some really cheesy twist at the end

Clearly after you read through that this makes this film absolutely undesirable to watch, this film must be so bad that I noticed one of the directors was credited with completion footage? Did the film suck so bad the other directors left and said here just finish this garbage up, because that feels the appropriate way to state it. The acting in the film just makes the story further confusing and hard to follow, I have watching this film four times and it still just fails to have a smooth story that is enjoyable it's just a bad imitation of films that achieve excellence and this one just flops horribly. I think the only notable thing about this film which could have been a decent selling point is the actor who played the Wicker Demon also played Dr. Satan in *House of 1000 Corpses*.

One final thing to also point out about the lack of completion is the DVD art advertises 3 special features, writer and producer commentary, a making of photo journal, and behind the scenes, when you go to the main menu it only has chapters. None of these special features made it on the finished DVD disc. I honestly can't say I have seen a film so poorly executed like this; it really is a shame that a very decent demon had to be wasted on such a film. *Eyes of the Woods* is a film destined for a bargain bin near you that is all I can even really say about this release in closing.

-Derek-

Directed by:
Darrin Reed
Aspect Ratio: 1.78:1

F. Miguel Valenti Audio: English Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo

Mark Villalobos (completion footage)

Written by: Michael R. Ferraro Oren Kamara

Cast: Walter Phelan Elizabeth O'Brick Lira Kellerman Johnny Moreno Alissa Koenig Eric M. Wolfson Ed Pope

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