New on DVD!

ZOMBIE UNDEAD (2010)

Directed by Rhys Davies Written by Kris Tearse

Starring Ruth King, Kris Tearse, Barry Thomas, Christopher J. Herbert, Steven Dolton, Sandra Wildbore

Find out more about this film here!

Reviewed by Ambush Bug

I can appreciate what director Rhys Davies is going for with ZOMBIE UNDEAD. Instead of the world spanning zombie epics which seem to be all the rage today, Davies keeps things on a smaller scale and the film is much more closer in tone to

Romero's original NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD than anything else with its singular locale and focus on character rather than over the top gore or action. This is a nice move and despite it's similarity to other more influential zombie lore, the tendency of recent zombie films to redundantly focus on outbreak or live well beyond their means by trying to illustrate a global outbreak makes ZOMBIE UNDEAD feel like a breath of fresh air in the graveyard glut that is recent zombie cinema.

That said, there is a lot of spit and polish needed for this film. Edits are sloppy with weird pauses in between lines and lingering cameras from time to time. On top of that

www.aintitcool.com/node/58211#6 10/29

a lot of the actors in this one are unable to reach the emotional complexity the script demands. And while the story does often go there in meaty material, the actors spouting out the lines are doing just that with not a whole lot of emotion conveyed.

Davies does show promise in his directing style as the ultra-slow moving zombies are made more deadly with quick cuts which make a zombie attack which appears can be avoided with a brisk run appear more deadly. Though other films are able to convey the danger of the slow moving zombie, here one has to be pretty dumb to actually fall prey to the zombies in this film as they move more sluggish here than I've seen in any other zeek film. Because of the turtle like pace of the zombies, it makes one feel more ire towards cast members who actually fall to the dead because they have to be pretty damn stupid or slow to do so.



But like I said, I have to give this one credit. Despite some editing and pacing problems, ZOMBIE UNDEAD boldly goes where other zombie films fear to tread as the cast confront inner demons as well as massive survivor guilt throughout. For some reason there is an overabundance of someone sitting out frozen in shock while letting another person be eaten by zombies and that gets redundant after it happens for the third or fourth time.

Still the fact that this is not just one of your typical zombie

gross out fests or action heavy testosterone laden yawners makes ZOMBIE UNDEAD stand slightly higher than the rest of the zombie herd.

www.aintitcool.com/node/58211#6 11/29