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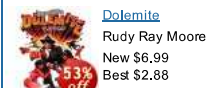
Weekend Box Office, Jul. 5-7

1. Despicable Me 2	\$83.5 M
2. The Lone Ranger	\$29.2 M
3. The Heat	\$24.8 M
4. Monsters University	\$19.7 M
5. World War Z	\$18.4 M

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BLOODY CHRISTMAS (2012)

Published by [David Carter](#) on 2013/6/25 (63 reads)

Directed by Michael Shershenovich
Review by David Carter



Released by Planetworks Entertainment
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: Deleted Scenes, Cast interviews
Trailer Online: [Yes](#)



Short Version: A different kind of Christmas nightmare

Horror cinema induces fear by taking the familiar and making it threatening. This was most evident in the 1980s, when the genre was typified by films that turned mundane places, things, or events menacing; such as summer camps, children's toys, and holidays. Regarding the latter, Christmas is the most popular holiday in the western world both for religious and secular reasons, therefore horror films based around macabre reimagings of the day have become a subgenre unto themselves. SILENT NIGHT, BLOODY NIGHT, BLACK CHRISTMAS, and a segment in the original TALES FROM THE CRYPT film got the ball rolling in the seventies, but the Christmas horror genre was redefined by 1984's SILENT NIGHT, DEADLY NIGHT.

SNDN remade the genre into primarily a slasher based one, and Christmas horror flicks that buck this trend post-1984 are rare. Several members of the crew of Frank Henenlotter's BAD BIOLOGY have reunited to bring you just such a film: BLOODY CHRISTMAS. A mixture of horror and drama, BLOODY CHRISTMAS is the story of Rich Tague, a former B-movie star whose career has been on a permanent downward slide since the 1980s. We are first introduced to him as he's reduced to playing Santa for a public access show, all the while dreaming of violently taking his frustrations out on the cast and crew. Rich is a nice guy at heart, however, so he resists the urge and instead continues on with his dismal day of unpaid bills and car trouble.



Tague isn't the only one in his small town having a bad day. Two detectives are hunting for a child killer and have to break the news to Gaylen (FilmFanaddict friend and DEMONS star Geretta Geretta) that her son may be the latest victim. Father Michael is having difficulty getting volunteers to help at the church this Christmas, and he's beginning to take his parishioners' lack of faith personally. Father Michael's downward spiral coincides with Rich hitting rock bottom, taking the men down two very different paths that will lead them to a bloody collision on Christmas Eve.

BLOODY CHRISTMAS spends most of its first half as a character study of Rich and Father Michael, with occasional asides to the police investigation. The technique is employed nicely and does a good job of laying a solid foundation for the remainder of the film. As you'd expect from the title, things do take a turn for the horrific in the film's second half, but I won't spoil who does what to whom for you. The surprise adds an extra dimension to some impressive scare scenes, which are brutal in the tradition established by SILENT NIGHT, DEADLY NIGHT. On the downside, the police subplot is underdeveloped and ultimately feels unresolved. Apart from that, it was nice to see a horror/thriller with characters that were fully fleshed-out and not simply bodies to be killed.



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MVD Visual has released BLOODY CHRISTMAS for Planetworks Entertainment. This is a good looking disc with a few extras; a good value for a decent film. BLOODY CHRISTMAS distinguishes itself by emphasizing the characters over the murders, and then delivering on that front as well. Few films manage to get both right, making this a good watch at Christmas or any time of the year.



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