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Dropping Evil (Wild Eye)

By [Upchuck Undergrind](#)
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DROPPING EVIL is a puzzling movie. It's a hybrid of styles and ideas that don't entirely come together, but it's peculiar enough to be engaging throughout and to leave the viewer pondering the movie after it's done. In short: Four teens head off into the woods for some fun. That's about as far as this movie goes toward resembling traditional genre fare. Once they get in the woods, some of the kids take some LSD, including the teenage boy Nancy (yep), an ultra-in-your-face fundy Christian, whose LSD visions induce him to see horns coming out of the head of a pal and cause auditory hallucinations telling him God is lost, etc. Nancy's reaction is to kill the "demons." But there's a lot more going on. This is just a central core. There's also a strange, unidentified, underground group monitoring the kids by way of one of the kids, who has a camera implanted in her eye (but who seemingly doesn't know it). And if the LSD bad trip gone killer seems overwrought and downright Reefer Madness in its seeming reactionary attitude toward LSD, there's actually a reason for the unbelievably gone-south trip for Nancy, and, there's also more than hallucination to his seeing horns. I'm not going to say much more because (a) I'm getting dangerously close to spoilerizing, anyway, and (b) in the end, you're left to interpret this movie how you want. I can't decide if DROPPING EVIL is deliberately ambiguous and trusts its viewer to interpret events or if the movie simply didn't convey its (really bizarre and sincerely surprising) twists in less-than-coherent fashion. I also wonder what the vampire (?) lady had to do with anything. DROPPING EVIL is an exceedingly odd movie, whose plot components and style are both a weirdly entertaining combination and a jarring collision of flavors. The wild revelations at the end are just fucking beyond; you'll be left scratching your head, but for all its flaws, if they are flaws, DROPPING EVIL is well-acted, creative, stylish and compelling, all while being intriguingly head-scratching.

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