

Dropping Evil

USA 2012

produced by

Louis Doerge, Adam Protextor, Eliza Ahrens (executive), Peggy Doerge (executive), Ted Pacha (executive), Terry J.Protextor (executive), Max Radl (executive), Anne Sullivan (executive) for Roklaf Studios

directed by Adam Protextor

starring Zachary Eli Lint, Tom Taylor, Rachel Howell, Cassandra Powell, Armin Shimerman, Tiffany Shepis, Devin Smith, Kerry Lane, Edwin Neal, Alex Milton, Esack Grueskin, Kristy Hartsgrove, Lou McKinley, Paetra Ruddy, Kate Thompson, Angie Toomsen, Chris Burns, Molly Freeman, Jessie Witherel, Fred Williamson, Felissa Rose, Rachel Feldmann, Luke Ferguson, Kate Kane, Timothy Krein, Scarlet Salem (= Sarah French), Kristin Owens, Ezekiel Ayers, Sarah Killion

written by Louis Doerge, music by Ian McKinney

Nancy (Zachary Eli Lint) is the typicaly guy with no friends: He's a bible-thumping nerd with a girl's name, he's obnoxious, and in his core, he's boring as hell ... and yet, Samantha (Rachel Howell) persuades her boyfriend Mike (Tom Taylor) to invite him to a roadtrip so they can hook him up with her best friend, nerdy Becky (Cassandra Powell) - but Nancy proves too much even for Becky, so the girls decide to slip LSD into his drink to make him chill a bit ... which works fine until he begins seeing things, believes everyone to be a demon, and starts killing the others. The girls are soon dead, but Mike manages to put up a fight ... that ends in a totally unexpected way.

There's more to this story though than meets the eye, because the mothers of Nancy, Mike, Samantha and Becky all were part of an experiment conducted by the church backed organisation ValYouCorp led by the sinister Boss Man (Armin Shimerman), which has actually implanted a camera into one of Becky's eyes to watch what's going on live from afar.

But what are the motives of the organisation? To what extent is the church really involved? What about the sinister businessman Mr H (Devin Smith)? And the organisation's half human assassin Dionysia (Tiffany Shepis)? And will there ever be a sequel to this starring Fred Williamson and Felissa Rose? And will any of these questions ever be answered?

This film in fact starts out less than promising, just like your typical slasher movie with characters that are just a bit too over-the-top to properly work ... and then it gets mighty interesting, when the subplot about ValYouCorp, turns everything onto its head, and camps things up considerably, with the tongue always firmly in cheek. Sure, none of the ValYouCorps story makes terribly much sense, and several narrative threads go missing as the story unfolds or are promised to be resolved in the (as of yet) imaginary sequel - but hey, it's fun while you watch it for its mad accumulation of genre clichées, some very humourous performances (Armin Shimerman and Tiffany Shepis take top honours here) and its self-consciously camp style!

review © by Mike Haberfelner

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