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Bath Salt Zombies DVD Review

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So you knew it was coming as soon as the news story broke about the addict who allegedly overdosed on “Bath Salts” and then went berserk, resulting in a rather grotesque face chomping murder. This time it isn’t The Asylum cranking out a movie based on a recent news story though, it is MVD Releasing.

The movie Bath Salt Zombies is a rather strange hybrid of movie styles that opens with an animated old school public education short about the dangers of bath salts. This cartoon portion has a unique look to it and it serves to pique the interest of horror fans that are looking for something to differentiate BSZ from the masses of other low budget/no budget horror movies. After this short

sequence the movie rolls onto the real storyline, which is a live action look at an addict named Ritchie, who experiments with the new Bath Salt laced cigarettes his dealer offers him. While sparking up with his girlfriend, Ritchie soon loses his mind and kills her while munching on her face.

From this point on it is a collection of scenes of addicts rolling on bath salts and killing everyone in sight while the police attempt to track down the supplier and spend a lot of time on the phone talking to headquarters. Sprinkle in ample full nudity, gore both practical and cgi and set it all to a punk rock soundtrack featuring the likes of The Dwarves, The Meatmen and Murder Junkies and you have a rather fun, absurd horror romp.

The previously mentioned effects are truly a mixed bag. The practical effects are all over the place, with some looking visceral and realistic, while others are exaggerated versions of 80s practical effects, with face peels, eye popping and the likes. The CG moments are just painful to the point of being laughable, which I am fairly certain was the intent.

I have to say, the cover art drew me to this title as it is a nicely done exploitative illustration that reminds me of the old EC comics covers and of 80s Italian horror posters. I really like the art and am glad they commissioned the piece instead of just going with a darkly lit shot from the film.

I managed to burn myself out on low budget horror last year and I found myself taking a break from the genre, especially from any movie with the word Zombie in the title. Well, Bath Salt Zombies intrigued me and reminded me of the fun these sorts of movies can be to watch. No, it's not deep or life changing and the effects are never scary but sometimes you don't need that to enjoy a film. This one is definitely a renter as I don't see myself rewatching the whole movie again (in all fairness, I might watch the opening animated sequence in the future) but it did give me a solid hour and change of enjoyment on the initial viewing.

Recommended Rental

Special Features:

- None

Bath Salt Zombies is available on DVD as of February 19, 2013, courtesy of MVD Releasing.



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