

Bath Salt Zombies (2013)



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Genres:
Horror, Horror Comedy, Zombie Film
Director:
Dustin Mills
Starring:
Josh Eal
Ethan Holey
Jackie McKown
Dave Parker
Brandon Salkil

Well, I just got done having a hell of a good time in front of the television set. I wish I could have gone to Pennsylvania for the world premiere because I can just imagine the great time it was inside that theater. Bath Salt Zombies is done by the people who originally impressed me with Puppet Monster Massacre, and continue to do so with this film. Shot on a shoestring budget, and looking like a million bucks anyway, this flick is a joy from beginning to end.



Review by Bill Wolford Added: February 19, 2013

We start out with a hilarious cartoon, warning us all of the dangers of bath salts, and what they can do to you. This whole film stems from last year's Florida story about a man who was supposedly high on bath salts, and proceeded to eat the face of a homeless man on the side of the road. Truth is indeed stranger than fiction. In the film, bath salts have been driven underground, and the most hardcore of sellers and buyers have migrated east into New York City. Using as an ingredient a banned military substance that causes the user to feel no pain, and revert to a zombie-like state, the new type of bath salt being sold is killer for the user and whoever he comes across.

For a movie on a small budget, the special effects come across great. Sometimes cheesy looking, and sometimes cartoon-like, both styles are equally well used and convincing. I was hooked from the opening cartoon until the last, surprising scene (you'll enjoy it too). The back of the case says that the movie runs ninety minutes. Not true. The movie runs 65 minutes, and that includes the cartoon introduction. I'm not complaining at all, I just want to inform you so you don't get upset when the movie abruptly ends, because you will be wishing for more.

There is also some pretty inventive camera work. Sometimes you will be seeing things from the point of view of the protagonist, and at other points in the film there are filters and color schemes used to help you along with the transformation of the people into zombies. Very trippy, but it's cool, and you'll see what I mean. The writing is sharp for the most part as well, garnering a few laughs from me in unexpected places. I do believe he (Clint Weiler) is a first time writer, and has a very good looking future in the business if he decides to continue on that path.

The soundtrack for the film is awesome. It's filled with punk music, and some of it actually leans toward hard rock and metal. I hope someday that the soundtrack could be released on CD, or as a second disc in a deluxe DVD set. That would probably be my only major complaint about the package. There should have been an isolated film score in the bonus features. As far as bonus features, you get the movie trailer, and a running commentary. I would have liked to have seen a making of (obviously), and isolated music tracks. But we don't always get what we want. So what we have here is pretty damn good, and I can't wait for the next project these gentlemen attempt. Go out and get yourself a copy of Bath Salt Zombies now. You'll be surprised at how much fun you have in front of the T.V. 8/10.

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#1: Jack Desmond - added 02/21/2013, 12:54 PM I dunno. I hope the actual movie was better than the trailer. I am all for low budget, innovative filmmaking, but am frankly getting tired of these no-budget camcorder quickies that don't even bother to hire professional actors. Evil Dead (yes I know I'm going a ways back) did and it had a VERY low budget.

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