



Race War: The Remake

Not having seen the original “Race War,” if such a movie even exists, I couldn’t possibly comment on the similarities and disparities between the original and “**Race War: The Remake.**” It wouldn’t matter, anyway. No DIY, no-budget, exploitation flick I’ve seen since I figured out what DIY means comes close to Tom Martino’s debut effort. That includes the thoroughly beyond-the-pale Troma/Astron-6 collaboration, “Father’s Day.” As the story goes, crack dealers Baking Soda and G.E.D. are shocked to learn that a rival gang of white hoodlums has begun selling drugs on their turf and they intend to eliminate them. Soda, G.E.D. and their buddy Kreech – half Creature From the Black Lagoon” and half blaxploitation-era superhero —are at a distinct disadvantage because the drugs the honkies sell have the power to turn dope fiends into zombie slaves. Even if the Grand Wizard of the KKK had been hired as a consultant on the screenplay, “Race War” couldn’t possibly have turned out more gratuitously racist, violent and stupid. I don’t know if “nigga” qualifies as an n-word, but it and “bitch” represent every other word out of the mouths of Soda and G.E.D. Because the Creature speaks in a language only Soda understands, subtitles are necessary. If the subtitles added to a conversation between the dealers and an Arab tavern owner – played by a Lamp Chop sock puppet—weren’t written in Arabic script, we might have been able to understand him, too.

Other outrages include hyper-offensive wall-to-wall gore, flatulence, ethnic stereotypes and weak parodies of conventional movie tropes. In fact, though, Martino knows exactly what he’s doing in “Race War” and invites the audience get on board, even as the opening credits roll. How much one enjoys “Race War” depends entirely on how much sophomoric humor he – no woman would waste more than 10 minutes watching it – can absorb and not want to take a shower. If the answer is, “a lot,” the movie should prove to be a true hoot. If not, it will resemble something swept off Rob Zombie’s floor. The DVD adds a gag reel, a demented commentary, a behind-the-scenes “gore reel” and similarly scandalous trailers from DWN Productions and Wild Eye Releasing. – Gary Drezka.