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2. Muppets Most Wanted	\$17.0 M
3. Mr. Peabody & Sherman	\$11.8 M
4. God's Not Dead	\$9.2 M
5. 300: Rise of an Empire	\$8.5 M

Source: Box Office Mojo  
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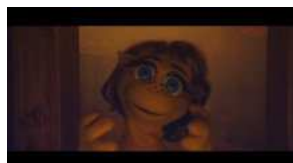
THANKSKILLING 3 (2013)

Published by [David Carter](#) on 2014/2/9 (129 reads)

Directed by Jordan Downey  
Review by David Carter

**BUY IT**

Released by MVD Visual  
Running Time: 99 minutes  
Rating: Not Rated  
Color format: Color  
Audio/Subtitles: 5.1 Dolby Digital English Stereo  
Region Code: 1, NTSC  
Aspect Ratio: Widescreen 1.33:1  
16:9 Enhanced: Yes  
Special Features: Behind the scenes, audio commentaries, Music video, "Pluckmaster" infomercial, still galleries, "drinking game"  
Trailer Online: [Yes](#)



Short Version: The mind-boggling return of Turkey

Jordan Downey's 2009 film THANKSKILLING was an amusing homage to the horror cinema of the eighties and nineties. Reportedly made for a budget of less than four thousand dollars, THANKSKILLING was a surprisingly well-crafted film that displayed some impressive puppetry skills through Turkey, the homicidal fowl. Horror, and especially low-budget horror, has always been a mercenary genre, so the success of the film ensured that a sequel would be forthcoming. Traditionally, horror filmmakers work under the motto "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" but Downey – given over \$100,000 via a Kickstarter campaign – returned with a film that was nothing like the original cult hit. You can see the bizarre results for yourself in THANKSKILLING 3, now available on DVD from MVD Visual.



Attempting to describe what happens in THANKSKILLING 3 is no easy task. Bordering on surrealism, the film consciously avoids any semblance of realism, opting instead for outlandish non-sequiturs and a style that alternates between dreamlike and nightmarish. The main plot revolves around the fictional THANKSKILLING 2: TURKIE IN SPACE, dubbed the "worst movie ever made" and of which all copies have been destroyed by the studio. This enrages Turkey, who embedded a curse in the big-budget, family-friendly flick in order to destroy the world. Turkey learns that one copy of the film may have survived the purge, and he sets out on a killing spree with his son Nibla in tow to obtain it.

Meanwhile – gentle creature Yomi has lost her mind. She's defenseless and alone on the streets of the city, so infomercial-king Uncle Donny takes her in to show her the meaning of life through his favorite holiday, Thanksgiving. Donny and his partner Jefferson are obsessed with Thanksgiving, and plan on opening up "ThanksgivingLand" – a holiday-themed amusement park. Yomi unknowingly has the final copy of THANKSKILLING 2 in her backpack, so Turkey arrives to terrorize Yomi, Donny, Jefferson, and their rapping grandmother, Flowis. Yomi and Donny get help from an ancient "Wise Turkey," a worm from outer space, and a host of other bizarre creatures in their battle against Turkey for the fate of the world.



I can't stress enough how radically different THANKSKILLING 3 is from the original film. This is the main point of criticism I've seen in fan reactions to the film, but I don't necessarily see this as a bad thing. Trying something new should never be punished, and THANKSKILLING 3 is essentially an

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exercise in "trying something new" as each scene appears to have been calculated to defy the audience's expectations. Strange is the order of the day, and as the film progresses it becomes increasingly detached from reality. The climax features Yomi and the space worm fighting a FrankenTurkey in Turkey-Hell, and I don't think this even qualifies as the most bizarre moment in the film.

That isn't to say that the film is difficult to follow or doesn't contain its own internal logic. To my surprise, Downey has crafted this insanity very well; uniting all of these crazy ideas in such a way that the film remains watchable and (almost) makes sense. I'll admit that on paper, THANKSKILLING 3 sounds a bit like one of those disjointed, faux-Troma films that were all the rage for early 2000s low-budget horror/comedies. On the contrary - Downey is a talented filmmaker, but, admittedly, your own personal tastes for comedy will dictate your enjoyment of the film.

THANKSKILLING 3 comes on a robust disc with several bonus features. In addition to the audio commentary tracks, the film's subtitle presentation is a drinking game based on events in the film. FilmFanaddict advises you to enjoy this responsibly because by my count alcohol poisoning is a distinct possibility by the end of the film. Uncle Donny's complete "PluckMaster" infomercial and Flowis' rap video round out a group of special features that are as odd as the film itself. THANKSKILLING 3 may disappoint those of you looking for another slasher homage, but its demented brand of humor could possibly find an even larger cult audience.



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