



Slaughter Tales

USA 2012

produced by

**Johnny Dickie for Briarwood**

directed by Johnny Dickie

starring Johnny Dickie, Joe Davalos, Joe Ankenbrand, Katrina Basilio, Matt Desiderio, Lloyd Kaufman, Molly Russakoff, Josh Schafer, Jason Wolf

written by Johnny Dickie, music by Matt Desiderio, Johnny Dickie, special effects by Johnny Dickie

review by

**Mike Haberfelner**

A teenage boy (Johnny Dickie) watches a horror videotape he has just stolen from a local videostore, even if a zombie has warned him not to - and as weird as it sounds, the zombie was right, because the videotape is horrible, just a collection of horror mainstays, badly acted and garnered with cheap but bloody special effects. But it's just like with a car wreck, our teen just can't stop watching - and thus he fails to notice the real horror that unfolds in his apartment until it's almost too late. Because you know, the tape is cursed, and by playing it, the ghost of a masked serialkiller is summoned to our hero's home and slashes everybody in sight - and it takes all of our teen's experience with horror films to not become the killer's next victim ...

A movie that looks exactly like what it is: An homage to the good old days of low budget indie straight-to-video horror from yesteryear (roughly the 1980's) brought to you by a dedicated VHS collector - and thus the film enjoys its own cheesiness, its over-the-top effects work, its crazy ideas, the relative predictability of some of its plot ... which is exactly why the film works and is fun at least to those who have seen more than their fair share of low budget indie straight-to-video horror from yesteryear.

What's interesting about this film though is that when making it, director Johnny Dickie himself was in his early-to-mid teens - thus VHS as such was already on the fade-out when he was born even ...

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