



## DVD: Gothkill

### Our Take

When you think of movies that are considered cult classics, particularly in the horror genre, chances are that they are fairly low budget and completely ridiculous in every way. This is true of Gothkill, which was released on DVD earlier this year and is the first film from new director JJ Connelly. And like many of the cult horror movies, Gothkill is very low budget, equal parts comedy and horror, and has plenty of nudity. It is certainly an acquired taste, but the 75 minutes for which this film lasts will be an absolute blast if you fit into the target market that it is intended for.

Gothkill tells the story of Catholic priest and inquisitor Nicholas Dread who discovers the church's real reason for persecuting women as witches and is burned at the stake for it. When this happens Dread makes a pact with Satan and is promised a kingdom in Hell with followers provided that he kills them himself. Over the centuries he goes on to kill thousands of people, and the film opens with his latest group of victims. As it turns out, after Dread is killed and goes to Hell he is stuck to his own corner with no followers but as fate would have it he is brought back in the body of a young, innocent girl in a Goth club and gets his revenge on the Goths. I don't want to spoil any more (other than to say that half of the movie is split between Dread and the other half follows the aforementioned girl) but the overall story is as ridiculous as this little snippet sounds. The plot does have a lot of wholes and some of the dialogue is hilarious and downright bad at times, but that often seems to be the entire point and it is enjoyable. And provided that you don't necessarily try to follow the story too closely, you will likely find that Gothkill offers its fair share of over the top blood and nudity which is more than enough to make it a fun watch.

Though you wouldn't necessarily expect a low budget flick such as this one to have a wealth of bonus features this DVD does contain a few. There is the usual commentary from the director but viewers will also find two other bonuses. The first of this is essentially a musical performance from the opening of the movie that contains a lot more nudity, but the second bonus is a short question and answer session with the director that viewers should find interesting. These aren't major bonuses but they are nice inclusions and will give most a better insight into what kind of work went into the movie which is nice to see.

This is exactly the kind of cheesy, tongue in cheek low budget horror film that fans of this genre live for. It may be short, but Gothkill has its moments and despite some questionable plot points and ridiculously over the top dialogue it is a genuinely fun movie. It is mentioned in the question and answer bonus feature that the director hopes to do something else with the character of Nicholas Dread, and I hope he does as there is potential to expand. As I mentioned before, this is certainly not a movie for everyone but if you've read this short description and it sounds totally awesome then chances are you will want to check it out for yourself.

<http://www.gothkill.com>

*Chris Dahlberg*

September 16, 2009

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