

Horror and Thrillers **Movie Reviews**

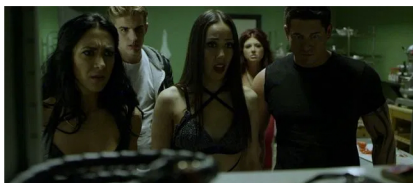
Peelers review

March 10, 2017 Jeffrey Lyles 0 Comments Peelers, Wren Walker

Strippers and zombies are always an entertaining combination, but Peelers goes the extra lap(dance) to create some absurd B-movie fun.

Blue Jean (Wren Walker) is bracing for a wild final night after agreeing to sell her strip club. This is an eccentric strip club with dancers like Baby (Nikki Wallin), who closes her act showing why she needs a diaper. It's a toss-up whether viewers will find the strippers' antics more disgusting than the infected.

The wild night gets crazier when a group of patrons come in thrilled after discovering oil in a mine shaft. Only problem: it wasn't oil, but a mysterious substance that infects them with an insatiable urge to kill.



In an inspired bit, the infected are more versatile with their killings. Sure, they don't have a problem with the good 'ol standby of biting and munching on victims, but they're happy to use whatever weapon is nearby. It's those death scenes that help Peelers stand out from its zombie movie brethren. A chainsaw wielding zombie is infinitely more terrifying than one just trying to get a bite.

There's no point in taking Peelers seriously. Not when Blue Jean occasionally flashes back to her baseball glory days complete with overblown sports analogies. Or when the pregnant stripper (Kirsty Peters) discovers the secret to killing the infected — hint, it's not a head shot. And most definitely not at the way the final infected gets finished off.



If you're expecting quality acting, it's time to start developing more realistic expectations. While the cast might only be at the Oscars if they get lucky with the right Star Bus tour, they handle their characters adequately. The hammy acting is part of Peelers' charm. Wren fares the best as the no-nonsense, decisive boss and makes for a respectable kick-tail protagonist.

Lisa DeVita's script has some likely intentional groaners and pun-filled dialogue, but it's right in line with the film's tone. Whether it has you laughing or thoroughly grossed out, Peelers stirs up intense emotions. The filmmakers have a commendable awareness and don't try to make Peelers into anything more than what's presented.



Director Seve Schelenz doesn't have a massive budget so a lot of the action occurs in darkened areas with lousy lighting. In that sense, a strip club was the ideal setting. Schelenz navigates through the sketchy lighting fine, but jump scares are negated since it's difficult to make out much of anything on screen at times.

Peelers isn't a zombie/infection game-changer, but it's an entertaining entry in the genre. You could do a lot worse than stumbling onto Peelers for some late night cable/VOD viewing.

Rating: 8 out of 10

Photo Credit: Pounds (Lbs) Productions



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