



# Movie Dunce

## M A G A Z I N E

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## ALL HALLOWS EVEN

By the Movie Dunce

It's hard to believe that in this age of information processing and retrieval, that there are still those Americans that do not know the origin of Halloween. Taking into account that it is my favorite of the Christian holidays (bear with me here), I find this to be an abomination. So to set the record straight, this is the absolutely 100% true story of the origin of Halloween.

So my face was in her box, and I was lickin' and lickin' when...oh, wait! Wrong story. That's one a friend of mine was telling me at IHOP...at full volume...during rush hour...next to several senior citizens...who were not amused.

Two thousand years ago, Great Britain, Ireland, Northern France and a bunch of other sissy countries were in the hands of the ass-kicking Celts who celebrated their New Year on the first of November. Their festival, like our New Year, began the previous evening, in their case, that was October 31st. The celebration was in honor of Samhain (pronounced Sow-in, f-cking illiterate Gaelics can't spell for sh-t (pronounced

gay-licks)). Samhain was the Celtic lord of death. It was this celebration that marked the beginning of the season of cold, darkness and decay, and therefore it naturally became associated with both human death, and UNICEF.

The Celts believed that during this evening the supernatural walls between the dead and the living were at their thinnest because Samhain allowed the dead to return to their earthly homes and beg for candy. Just to throw them off track and piss them off, the peasants would put out all of the fires in their fireplaces at home (as we would turn off our porchlights) and instead have one great big fire in the middle of the village square, to which the dead would be attracted like moths to a flame.

During the celebration, some people wore animal heads and skins as costumes, unlike comedian Tom Green who often wears them as formal wear. They would also attempt to discern the future by disemboweling things that they sacrifice in their oak tree bonfire. We would probably refer to this nowadays as a good old fashioned barbecue.

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## GREY MATTER



THE BIRDS AND THE BEAST

## THE ZODIAC

**ARIES:** You f-ck like Stephen King writes...alone and often.

**TAURUS:** After having removed gerbils, Coke bottles, and light bulbs from them, I think the real question is how can an alien find our asses *uninteresting?*

**GEMINI:** Your groin is like your cat, small, furry and full of fleas.

**CANCER:** After eating the taco surprise tonight, your ass will speak with authority.

**LEO:** Tonight you will bear witness to an ass that speaks with authority. And by that I mean you will meet a politician.

**VIRGO:** You can take the blame for the downfall of Western Civilization, but the corruption of innocents was all me, baby.

**LIBRA:** All the mountains in all the lands will never compare to the size of your ass.

**SCORPIO:** You are a pimple on the face of humanity.

**SAGITTARIUS:** For your information, when your girlfriend refers to you as the "World's Fastest Lover", it is not a compliment.

**CAPRICORN:** And *you* should stop grinning too, the "World's Slowest Lover" is not much of an improvement.

**AQUARIUS:** What are you looking at, fatty?! Go f-ck yourself!

**PISCES:** You're like a magician the way you pull bullsh-t out of your ass.

## A Movie Dunce Tribute to Donald Pleasence

# Donald Pleasence: The Man, the Myth, The Legend

By the Movie Dunce (with special thanks to IMDb.com and Wikipedia for biographical details)

Only once in a lifetime comes an actor of such great caliber and depth that he changes the direction of his field, the face of his industry and the course of humanity. I am of course talking about the late great Donald Pleasence. Though he was perhaps best known for his role as Dr. Sam Loomis in the beloved series of “Halloween” films, he was once, believe it or not, once a man. This then is the true story of screen icon and legend Donald Pleasence and his rise to stardom.

### EARLY LIFE

Donald Henry Pleasence was born on October 5, 1919 in the town of Worksop in Nottingham, England, the son of Alice and Thomas Pleasence. His father was the railway station manager in the tiny village of Grimoldby, Lincolnshire. And young Donald joined his father on the rails. As a young lad he was given elocution lessons which greatly aided in his future endeavor. He began his acting career in 1939 on the London stage, a career that was cut short with the outbreak of World War Two. Initially a conscientious objector, he soon joined up with the RAF and went on bombing runs over Germany. His Lancaster bomber was shot down in 1944 and he spent the remainder of the war in a German prisoner of war camp, an experience he got to relive when making “The Great Escape.” During his stay there he organized a theater company in order to pass the time.

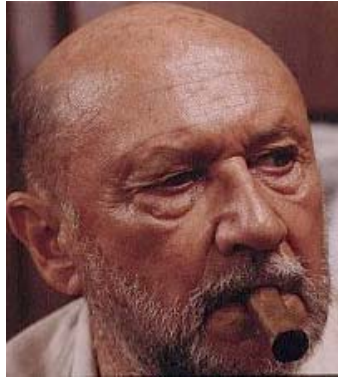


Photo courtesy of Corbis

### 1950's

Pleasence spent the greater part of the 1950's acting in television series and made for TV movies. Early critics called him “the man with the hypnotic eye” because of his trademark penetrating gaze. He often worked with his acting hero, Lawrence Olivier. Pleasence specialized in characters which were evil or downright insane. Commenting on how he chose to play such colorful characters, Pleasence replied, “I treat all film roles one way, very seriously.”

### 1960's

The 1960's were a banner year for Pleasence with three unforgettable roles under his belt. The first came in 1963 when he played the role of the forger in John Sturges' “The Great Escape”. In it he played a photographic expert who was going blind and would soon become a liability to the escapees. One time on the set, Pleasence offered Sturges some friendly advice and was told to keep his opinions to himself. But when the director found out that Pleasence had actually been a POW and knew

his sh-t, he began to come to him for technical advice and historical accuracy of the film.

Three years later he got the role of Dr. Michaels in “Fantastic Voyage”, a quick to panic doctor who would again endanger the entire crew. He followed it up the next year by giving his face to the iconic Bond villain Ernst Stavro Blofeld in the immortal spy thriller, “You Only Live Twice”, a performance whose legacy lives on today in the form of Austin Power's foe, Dr. Evil. On top of all that, he was also nominated for four Tony's for his work on stage, although he never won.

When asked about his theory of acting, and method acting, Pleasence replied, “I'm a professional actor. I get the part. I read the script. If I decide to do it I learn the lines. I have no theory of acting, for me there is no method. I just do it.”

### 1970's

Pleasence began the 1970's with the role of SEN-5241 in George Lucas' “THX-1138”, a man rebelling against the system. In 1977 he embodied the role of Heinrich Himmler in “The Eagle Has Landed”. He would often joke that he was typecast as colorful villains and psychopaths and that he never got a chance to play the hero. One year later, his complaint would be exactly the opposite.

### HALLOWEEN

Director John Carpenter came to producer Moustapha Akkad with an idea for a horror film that would cost only

\$300,000. The idea was only seven words long: Babysitter to be killed by the boogiemán. There was virtually no budget, so they used suspense in lieu of mayhem, and long tracking shots instead of blood, making it essentially a modern German expressionist film.

The villain, Michael Myers, was portrayed as an almost supernatural force of evil, with just enough intelligence to make him extremely dangerous. They wanted him to wear a bleached white human mask, but the only one in the store they went to was a William Shatner mask (yes, Captain Kirk from “Star Trek”). So they whitened its face and widened its eyeholes, and the rest is cinema history.

Donald Pleasence said of “Halloween”, “There are parts of the script which I couldn't accept. I believe people are behaving in a way in which they couldn't possibly in real life behave. And that's always difficult because if you're one of the people, then you are the one who's going to look like you are an idiot.” None the less he took the role of Dr. Loomis for \$20,000, the highest paid member of the cast, and a new form of entertainment was born: Holiday oriented slasher films (“St. Valentine's Day Massacre” doesn't count).

### 1980's

Donald Pleasence joined John Carpenter once again as the President of the United States in 1981's “Escape From New York”, the same year that he

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# Movie Duncce Reviews

## Halloween

By the Movie Duncce

About once every thousand years or so a film will come out that is so great that no mere words can describe it (Shut up. I know film has only been around for a century, so stick it!) A film that mystics and poets incorporate into everyday living, which children can aspire to arise to, I am of course talking about “Halloween”.

And the greatest part about it is that it is not just a single film, but an entire collection (akin to “The Odyssey” by Homer and “The Iliad”) so you can watch the character you love live, expand, grow old and die time and time again. Well maybe just the die part, but still, the point is that you love them no matter how short a time they appear on screen, everyone from the loveable Laurie Strode to the equitable Mr. Phelps.

The film peacefully starts by the simple zooming in upon a Jack-O-Lantern, accompanied by a simple, yet eerie music, giving you plenty of time to get your popcorn, talk about how the concession prices are absurd, asking why in God’s name did they put an “Elmo in Grouchland” trailer before “Halloween” and in general, giving you enough time to plant your ass in the seat and shut the f-ck up.

The story begins on Halloween night way back in 1963, back when Michael Myers was just a wee little psycho. He’s peeping in on his sister Judith and her boyfriend as they’re making out on the couch. They decide to go upstairs for a little sex. The categorical relationship between sex and violence appears to Michael in a brilliant flash of inspiration, and he gets a huge carving knife with

which to kill her with. As he reaches the foot of the stairs, the boyfriend comes walking down, and goes out the front door, fully satiated after a mad session of mind altering sex which apparently took no more than thirty seconds (and to be quite honest, how much more time do we guys really need?).

Michael creeps up to his sister’s room and sees her lying exposed upon the bed. Aroused himself, he whips it out and starts plunging it into his sister repeatedly (the knife I mean). At first she is shocked by the brutality of this act by her younger brother, wishing to think only the best of him and his collection of skinned kittens, but then she too recognizes the connection between sex and violence in a brilliant flash of applied mechanics. Judith begins moaning passionately at her

brothers brilliance, and with her dying breath she, well, she just dies.

Michael walks outside to greet his returning parents and wish them a Happy Halloween, all the while clutching his flesh ridden knife, only to be met by their incredible indifference to his magnificent deed. He then decides to withdraw completely within himself to contemplate the secrets of the universe with the spirits of the late Zen masters for about fifteen years before emerging as the angel of purification sent to cleanse the streets of Haddonfield once again.

Or it could just be the first in a long line of holiday oriented slasher movies. Whichever it is, “Halloween” gets four Duncce Caps in all.



## Halloween II

By the Movie Duncce

The second film of the Halloween series stars, once again, Donald Pleasence and Jamie Lee Curtis in the roles that made them overnight sensations. In this one, which begins immediately where the first one left off, Laurie has been taken to Haddonfield Memorial Hospital where the staff pretend not to notice her god-awful wig. Michael has wandered off to brandish himself with a new knife, while Dr. Loomis, who is searching for Michael once again, learns the super secret

origins of the Myers boy, and just why he’s so hot to kill Laurie Strode.

**SPOILER ALERT!** Apparently Michael had not just one, but two sisters, and after being locked away for fifteen years he decides that the seed has ripened, and that it is now time to kill Laurie Strode, his baby sister.

Michael has also picked up the bad habit of killing indiscriminately, as is often is in the case of sequels, as opposed to his previous motive of killing only those who were unfor-

tunate enough to get in his way. That, and he has some sort of connection to Samhain, the Celtic Lord of the Dead (ah, so there was a reason that he gave us that stupid, long-ass origin of Halloween!).

All in all, this movie really goes for gore over atmosphere, with obscenely close-up shots of razor blades that children have bitten into, needles being stuck into peoples eyes and temples, sluts being boiled alive, and burn victims. EEEW!

**SPOILER ALERT**  
**NUMBER TWO!** Donald

Pleasence actually gets even more maniacal in this one, ranting and raving, and eventually blowing himself up in a fiery blast at the end. He makes the film well worth watching. If you like the original Halloween, then you’ll probably like this one too. Come forth and worship at the altar of Donald Pleasence, the new lord of the dead. Worship at the hands of his tiny British feet! **WORSHIP!**



# Movie Dunce Reviews

## Halloween III: The Season of the Witch

By the Movie Dunce

Ugh. Here we go. I saw this movie on TV once and hated it, but it's kind of a Movie Dunce tradition to review one Halloween film every October and this year I decided to do them all. This one included. I wanted it fresh in my mind for this review, so I rented it. Ugh. I think I'm going to hate myself in the next few minutes. I'm already regretting my decision. To make it more interesting, I'm going to give you a play by play of the film as I'm watching it, so you'll experience it in all its horror along with me Ready? Here we go (ugh)...

Okay, I'm looking at the DVD screensaver now. It has the two key elements of the movie poster, one scary looking demon-witch thing which bears no relation to the movie that I'm aware of, and two trick or treaters in silhouette against a blood red sky. I think this is going to be as good as it's going to get.

Fade in on a cheesy 80's video effect, like you're looking close-up at the pixels on a video monitor. Titles roll: "Moustapha Akkad Presents" an obvious sign of low-budget quality. The graphics are obviously an extreme close-up of a pumpkin ala Atari. The screen begins strobing fast enough for half of the audience at home to go into seizures.

It starts off with this old white guy running away from a car. Evil Corporate Raiders are after him. He takes out one by squishing him between two cars. He runs desperately into a gas station where he scares the crap out of the skinny black owner who has just been

subjected to a news piece on Stonehenge, and the first of many Silver Shamrock Halloween mask commercials. Better get used to that theme song. You're going to be singing it for the next three days. He takes the old geezer to the hospital where the old white guy whispers, "They're gonna kill us, all of us!" Doc takes care of him, but not for long, because a Corporate Raider comes along and gives him a homemade lobotomy...with his fingers, and for good measure give the ocular bone a good yank and nearby rips it out of the old man's forehead, then wipes the blood off on the nearby curtains. Then the Raider sits down on his car, takes a kerosene shower, and sets himself on fire in front of Doc who has chased him down. Being Hollywood, the car, as usual, immediately explodes.

The next day we meet the old man's daughter, a hot young vixen. I'm immediately horny. God I hope she's naked. What am I saying, of course she will be. This is a Moustapha Akkad production. He always gives the audience what they want, but always leaves them wanting more. She's investigating her father's death, and since the Doc is too they form a detective agency (or would if this were TV). So, they go to the Silver Shamrock facilities to investigate. The first thing they investigate is the bed. Several times. In the meantime there is a curfew in the town, and a bum who talks too much gets his head popped off like a fly's wings. In the meantime we are subjected to this damn commercial jingle about a hundred

more times. If there is a TV on screen, nine times out of ten this commercials on it. The one time out of ten is when they are playing clips of the original Halloween.

After investigating each others bodily orifices, they go to the Silver Shamrock production plant where they are given a tour by the Owner, a kindly white haired Irish gentleman, who is known as something of a toy making genius and a prankster (he invented sticky toilet paper, and the soft chainsaw). Like any good James Bond villain, he sloppily leaves out clues to indicate that he is the bad guy, and must capture Doc and the hotty later on that night.

Of course he reveals his evil plan just before he plans to kill them in a slow and torturous way while he leaves them in an unsupervised room. He's going to kill every family who watches their commercial via the mask that has a chip on the back that turns their heads into bugs and snakes. This is because he is also a keeper of ancient technology, and has Stonehenge in his basement. Uh huh, don't we all. I've got a rocket in MY pocket.

So anyways, like MacGyver, Doc escapes and rescues the girl, and destroys all the bad guys, who it turns out are all robots. He and the girl just barely escape their evil clutches and blow up the factory so no more masks can be made. Unfortunately it doesn't matter because all of the masks are already all across America, and about to turn the kids into bugs in the next fifteen minutes.

Suddenly it turns out that the hotty is actually a robot,

and he must battle decapitate her with a tire iron. Then he must battle her individual body parts. If it were me, I would leave behind the arms and legs and biting parts, and just take the big boobed torso. Hey he already had it several times, he liked it, why feel guilty about it? It's just like f-cking a toaster.

He races away and arrives at the gas station where he meets the skinny black guy, who is not a robot. He calls all of the TV stations to pull the commercial, but naturally he can't reach everyone, and just before the kids heads are about to explode into a potato bug fiesta, the credits begin to roll.

Now I don't know about you, but I liked this better on DVD than on TV. Maybe it's because I got to see a little nudity (the bare minimum) or because it was because the profanity and gore was left in, but I didn't hate it as much as I used to. Then as I'm typing this down and realizing just how incredibly stupid and full of wholes the plot is, I'm beginning to hate it all over again.

God, I can't wait until I review Halloween 4. At least THAT was a good sequel. Halloween III: Season of the Witch (I guess the witch was the evil hotty) gets Two Duncencaps.



**COMING SOON TO  
MOVIE DUNCE**

*Movie Dunce*  
**THANKSGIVING  
SPECIAL!**

# Movie Duncce Reviews

## Halloween 4: The Return of Michael Myers

*By the Movie Duncce*

When you write a sequel you can go one of two directions, you can write it so that it echoes the first film(s), using similar themes or motifs without actually being the first film, introducing, and/or developing characters along the way, or you can do what most screenwriters do and write something that is complete and total sh-t! Most people think of "Halloween 4" as the latter, often citing that the first "Halloween" film is the only true and original movie, while I believe that "Halloween 4" harkens back to the original film without desperately trying to be it.

It uses a different opening, a different theme, deals not with the loss of teenage innocence but with the grief of an orphan who also carries around the stigmata of her Uncle Mikey being the town boogeyman in name and deed. The new sheriff, rather than being an obstinate and unyielding stone in the path of justice, fully understands the situation and will be damned if he has a repeat of the first Halloween on his hands. He also has to deal with a town full of drunken hillbillies who have formed a posse to find Myers first. None of the characters is written as complete and total idiots. When they come across a situation where in any other horror film they would split up and get picked off one by one, rather than wading in to the inevitable they say, "F-ck this sh-t! Let the State Troopers have him. That's what they get paid for." That single line best represents what I love about this film. It says "I love "Halloween" too, and I don't want to just write a repeat of the first. I actually care about what happened to the town and the people, and I want to see what would happen if Michael Myers came back, and how they would probably react in reality." As horror sequels go it ranks among my favorites, and I consider it and H20 to be the only legitimate sequels after "Halloween II". Give it another look and see if you agree with me.



## Halloween 5: The Some Damn Thing or Another of Michael Myers

*By the Movie Duncce*

Do you remember how in my review of "Halloween 4" I explained how you could do one of two things with a sequel, and why I thought that part four did it the right way? Well, this one made it the wrong way, and here's why.

They kill off a beloved character in the first twenty minutes of the film for no other reason than to generate shock, and that her boobs are not nearly as big as the new girl who we establish is a bit of a partying slut. But it's not particularly shocking because as beloved as the other character was, Jamie, the little girl, is more beloved still. If you really want to shock the audience, kill *her* off in the first twenty minutes and let Michael spend the rest of the movie wondering what the hell to do now?

They also take the tough-as-nails go-get-him attitude sheriff and turned him into someone who doesn't want to lift a finger. It's as though they said, "Hey, we have a continuous storyline in films one, two and four, let's say 'f-ck it', and kill everyone off and start over! Only this time we'll be original by making it just like every other slasher film."

The movie has moments that are so ridiculous that they should come with it's own laugh track. Michael Myers arrives in his mask at a party with a couple of Keystone Kops watching him. One looks to the other and says, "Does that look like a threatening situation to you?" The other replies, "Nope!" Come on, people! It's Michael freakin' Myers!

As bad as it is, Donald Pleasence and Danielle Harris still kick ass as Halloween's dynamic duo, and the final showdown between the good doctor, the little girl and Michael is actually quite effective, with moments of sheer terror, and one with the little girl that is even a little bit touching. Perhaps I should rephrase that. All that being said, the film is still crap. Check it out.



## Halloween 6: The Jesus Christ, I Can't Believe They Made Another Movie about Michael Myers

*By the Movie Duncce*

Alright, so they took my suggestion and killed off the little girl in the first twenty minutes of this one, and you know what? The film still sucked! You know why? Because the producers didn't give a damn about the movie! All it is with them is the bottom line and how much money they can rape from the American public. You want a bottom line? How about this: Kiss my ass! You start making good movies or I'll stop planting my ass in the theaters! Well, sadly that's not true, and Moustapha Akkad definitely doesn't deserve that since his life was tragically cut short by a suicide bomber in Amman, Jordan in 2005.

I also may have overstated my case with how bad the movie was because I am still a little upset at them killing the little girl, and in a super brutal way after her character was kidnapped and presumably raped in the interim because she is pregnant when you meet up with her. The sucky parts of the film are mostly relegated to the beginning and the the end with a middle that is actually somewhat decent.

It's been six years since the last Halloween film and the holiday has been officially banned. The kids decide to throw a party anyways, and guess who decides to crash it? We are also introduced to newcomer Paul Rudd as Tommy Doyle, who has grown into a world class weirdo after the events in the first film. He is watching Michael Myers' old family haunt who have new tenants, Laurie Strode's embittered alcoholic uncle who has moved his dysfunctional family in because for some odd reason he cannot sell the slaughterhouse.

It's a decent looking film and has a rustic and somewhat creepy small town in autumn vibe going on, and it comes

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# Movie Dunces Reviews

## Halloween: H2O: Try to Live

*By the Movie Dunces*

**H**alloween: H2O" would have been the perfect ending to the "Halloween" series if only they had the courage to stop making sequels. But what's the point in owning a dead horse if you do not intend to flog it?

The movie opens with the song, "Mr. Sandman" from the closing credits of "Halloween II" and we are reintroduced to Nurse Marion from the first two "Halloween's" and who is probably the sole survivor of Haddonfield. Michael Myers comes by to wish her a Happy Halloween and to steal her secret files on the location of the very much alive Laurie Strode, who has gone into witness relocation after the debacle twenty years ago.

We catch up with Laurie in her new town and meet her 17 year old son, played by Josh Hartnett, who looks as though he has been given a haircut by Michael Myers, or possibly a weed whacker. Laurie still hasn't recovered from her ordeal and sees Michael Myers everywhere she goes, and as a consequence is an over the top protective mother. It doesn't help matters that her son is doing everything he can to be Michael Myers next victim.

H2O is less of a sequel than a tribute to all of the "Halloween" films which have gone before, from photos of Dr. Loomis and his accolades to the English class Laurie Strode teaches which mirrors her own experience in the first "Halloween" film as they foreshadow the story by discussing the concept of 'fate'. Appropriately, here they talk about the novel "Frankenstein" and how Victor

Von Frankenstein finally had to confront his monster in order to stop it, as Laurie Strode must also do. Basically it spells out the plot for the intelligence-impaired.

Janet Leigh joins her daughter Jamie Leigh Curtis on film for the second and final time (the first was in 1980's "The Fog") and offers her motherly advice on how to deal with bad guys, which is actually a multi-layered scene because it gives advice from mother to daughter, colleague to colleague, scream queen to scream queen, and harkens back to both "Halloween" and Janet Leigh's magnum opus, "Psycho".

When Michael Myers is done waiting for Strode and company to be left alone...just as an aside, do you ever think about how long Myers spends biding his time in these movies? Fifteen years in the first one, seventeen in this one, and God only knows how much time in between. For a mass murderer the guy has got the patience of a Buddhist monk. I mean, doesn't he ever have to go to the bathroom? Does he ever miss his prey because he's off in the woods with his pants around his ankles taking a dump? Then he looks up to sees couple of horny teenagers go by and says to himself, "Sh-t!" and pulls up his pants and grabs a knife and starts running after them with a little piece of toilet paper hanging off of his shoe? Just a thought. Enjoy the mental image.

When Laurie Strode finally puts two and two together and realizes that her son is the same age that she and her dead sister

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## Halloween: Resurrection

*By the Movie Dunces*

**T**he very first thing you hear is Jamie Leigh Curtis' voice saying, "At the [end of a long tunnel] there's a door, and waiting for you on the other side of that door is either heaven or hell. This is that door" That was about as apt a description that they could come up with for this God awful stink bomb. In it Michael Myers is now officially treated as a joke, and rightly so, for Myers has apparently survived his decapitation in the previous film by trading places with one of the paramedics when nobody was looking. Presumably the same nobodies noticed that "Myers'" lifeless body no longer had a profusely bleeding chest wound, or various scrapes and cuts, that he had just a minute ago. Nor do the police notice that the paramedic (the maskless Myers) looks completely different in that half of his face is burnt off and that he's dripping blood. They don't even bother to take off the mask on the body to make sure that they've got the right guy.

After decapitating the wrong guy, Laurie Strode is now in an insane asylum biding her time waiting for her brother's inevitable return. When he finally does come calling, she traps him with an Acme boobey-trap that she borrowed from Wiley Coyote. Unfortunately Michael Myers is friends with the Road Runner and promptly escapes her foolproof deathtrap, effectively ending the Strode storyline permanently.

Michael Myers no longer has any direct relatives to kill, so he presumably moves on to second cousins twice removed

or just trespassers in general. Enter Katee Sackhoff from the new "Battlestar Galactica" and that guy nobody remembers from "American Pie". Their jobs, and that of the other cannonfodder, is to spend Halloween night in Michael Myers' childhood home for a web-TV special. Let me put it another way, you have six people in a small suburban house with cameras in every room which are being watched by the world and nobody notices Michael Myers wandering the halls. A place where you can hear a person screaming bloody murder from the other side of the house but apparently not the shrieking victim in the next room. And for some odd reason nobody can run away from Micheal Myers even though he moves only slightly faster than the Mummy. Fortunately they all have help via the Internet from ALL-CAPS MAN WHO ALSO ENDS EVERYTHING WITH AN EXCLAMATION POINT! I could not even begin to make this up.

This movie is not just as bad as you think it will be, it is even worse. It is simply laughable. The scariest thing about the film is that it someone ever gave it the greenlight in the first place. In fact the only thing that was good about this festering dung heap was Katee Sackhoff who was both bubbly and funny, and lit up every scene that she was in right up to the point of her inevitable doom. That and Busta Rhymes description of Micheal Myers as "a killer shark in baggy-ass overalls. He then goes on to try to Kung-

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# Movie Duncce Reviews

## Rob Zombie's: Halloween

By the Movie Duncce

Rob Zombie's version of "Halloween" isn't so much a remake as it is a director's love of the horror genre and his attempt to save this series from itself and the direction which it was clearly headed by retelling the story of the first "Halloween" but with the focus now on young Michael Myers and what the forces were that drove him into becoming the ultimate killing machine (wow, can you believe that was just one sentence?).

It begins with young Michael Myers, and angelic-faced boy who is living in his own personal hell. He's getting crap from his mother, his stepfather, his older sister and is being bullied at school to the point where young Michael has begun taking his aggression out on small animals. The principal calls in a specialist to help him, rock star cum psychologist Dr. Sam Loomis, but sadly he arrives too late. Michael Myers eats too much Halloween candy and becomes a cavity mouthed killer, gleefully killing with his polka-dot smile. He's made a mental checklist of all those who have wronged him and he starts scratching them off one by one.

The first half of the film is devoted to Michael's descent into the abyss at home and the asylum, his home away from home. In the asylum you feel bad for poor Michael until he suddenly reminds you of why he was put in there in the first place.

The second half is a Cliff's Notes version of the first "Halloween" with a more in depth background of the killer. It is shocking, brutal, creepy and filled with suspense and a virtual who's who of horror classics. It also has just enough gallows humor to keep it from getting too grim. Even though it retells the first "Halloween", it is just different enough to be an original story and effectively represents everything that a good remake should be, and in that respect it is sadly also an exception to the rule.



## Rob Zombie's: Halloween II

By the Movie Duncce

"I'm Michael Myers sister. I'm so fucked!" -Laurie Strode

As sequels go, Rob Zombie's second "Halloween" is more or less pointless, as it does nothing more than to say 'here's where all the survivors are now, one year later, now let's kill 'em all off again.'

It begins immediately after Zombie's first "Halloween" and has everyone in the hospital being sewn up in excruciating detail, showing in a Zombie-istic style the toll that an attack by a rabid Michael Myers would probably have on the human body, from slashed faces to broken fingers. Myers, of course, gets away after being shot in the head and comes to the hospital like everybody else, unlike them though, he does not come to be patched up, but to continue his rain of death up and down the corridors. Amazingly, he actually looks creepier in full lighting, but now he grunts when he kills people, taking the creep factor right back out again. Of course this all happens to be a bad dream, but it's not, but it IS...but it's not...but it *is*. I think that the writers of the final season of "Dallas" had a hand in this.

We then pick the story up a year later as the survivors essentially mill about town feeling sorry for themselves. Michael Myers, on the other hand, has gone on a walkabout, migrating across the country in order to find his inner psycho. He follows his dead mother's ghost around and takes a victim in each state instead of a postcard. He also eats hot dogs. No, not hotdogs, hot *dogs*. Two words.

Sheri Moon Zombie returns as Myers mother even though she was killed in the first "Halloween" because Rob Zombie is contractually obligated to put his wife in every movie that he makes. But she now returns as an angel with a white horse as

Rob Zombie attempts to bring about the more spiritual side of the Michael, like he's a 'born again'. Reborn into *what*, I'm not still not sure.

Dr. Loomis is on a travelling circuit of his own making the rounds of the late night talk shows and promoting his new book and sparring with guests like 'Weird Al' Yankovich, in possibly the most awesome scene in the entire movie.

It all culminates in a night of bloodletting and a psychic showdown between Michael and his sister while Rob Zombie demonstrates just how much he loves the character of Dr. Loomis and just how much he hates the character of Annie.

When it comes right down to it, Zombie should have quit while he was ahead. It's not that he did a bad job of directing, it's just that storywise he added nothing to the characters other than let us see how they deal with the aftermath, and it was simply not enough. If he wanted to make it a serious hard hitting drama instead of a horror film, that may have been interesting by leaving the killer out of it entirely except as a bad memory that must be dealt with. Or maybe he just set the bar way too high for himself in the first film. I will give him one thing though, for all of its flaws, the film does pretty effectively end the "Halloween" series. I hope.

Rest in peace Michael Myers. For the love of God, and the movie going audience, please, please, *PLEASE* just Rest in Peace.



### **WE NEED FEEDBACK!!!**

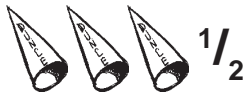
Do you have a suggestion for a review, or would you like to write one? Do you have an idea for a Top Ten, a Zodiac, or do just want to tell us off? Then send us an e-mail at [movieduncce@movieduncce.com](mailto:movieduncce@movieduncce.com). Remember to put your review in the body of the e-mail, since we will not open attachments from you virus sending freaks.

# New On Video

## Key to the Dunces Caps Ratings System (for idiots).



Four Dunces Caps means it's Freakin' Awesome!



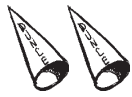
Three and a Half Dunces Caps means that it's Really Good.



Three Dunces Caps means that it's Good.



Two and a Half means it's Pretty Good, it maybe worth watching.



Two means it's Just Okay.



One and a half means it's still crap, but it has a moment of merit.



One means it's just plain crap!!

*By the way, there is no listing for BOMB or just a 1/2 Dunces Cap rating because as bad as the movie may be the people still made a freakin' movie, which is a lot more than I can say about my own accomplishments.*

## THIS MONTH ON VIDEO

### October 4

- Buck
- Fast Five
- Scream 4

### October 11

- Zookeeper
- Tree of Life
- Judy Moody
- Horrible Bosses

### October 14

- Green Lantern

### October 18

- Pirates of the Caribbean 4
- Bad Teacher
- Red State
- Monte Carlo

### October 25

- Winnie the Pooh
- A Little Help

### To Be Determined

- Captain America

## ALREADY IN STORES!

### September 20

**Bridesmaids** (2011), C-125m. [R, p] ÄÄÄ To call this movie the chick version of "The Hangover" would be unfair because it is quite funny in its own right. Kristen Wiig both wrote and starred in this comedy about a woman named Annie (Wiig), who is so continuously put upon and put down that you start to wonder if she'll ever reach her breaking point, and she continually finds new low points in her life. Just when she thinks can't get any worse, life hands her another shovel full of sh-t to eat, and she downs it, though not gladly. The plot is that her best friend (Rudolph) is marrying into

## The Two-Word review

- Big Blue:** Foreign flick  
**Big Chill:** Costner's corpse  
**Big Daddy:** Papa Sandler  
**Big Hit:** Wacky assassins  
**Big Lebowski:** The Dude  
**Big One:** Michael Moore  
**Big Red One:** Where's Yoda?  
**Big Trouble (Tim Allen):** Big flop  
**Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure:** Frightening future  
**Bill Cosby: Himself:** Hilarious stand-up  
**Billy Bathgate:** Kidman's cootch  
**Billy Madison:** O'DOYLE RULES!  
**Biloxi Blues:** G.I. Ferris  
**Birdcage:** Gay Mork  
**Birdman of Alcatraz:** Psycho scholar  
**Bird on a Wire:** Completely forgettable  
**Birds:** Psycho seagulls  
**Birdy:** Nerdy nutjob  
**Black Dog:** Swayze suckfest

### September 13

wealth, and that although Annie is maid of honor and wedding planner, the brides new wealthy friend(Byrne) does all of Annie's matronly duties better than she can, and is prettier to boot (b-tch!). Together, Annie and the other colorful bridesmaids go on a raucous and raunchy ride trying to make the wedding go off without a hitch. I know what you guys are thinking, "A wedding movie? Eew! That's for chicks!" But there are semen jokes a plenty, and one girl even takes a crap in the street. There are many things that are just plain wrong...and just so right. If this doesn't fly in the face of it being a "chick flick", I don't know what does. Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph, Rose Byrne, Ellie Kemper, Wendie McLendon-Covey, Melissa McCarthy, Chris O'Dowd, Jill Clayburgh, Jon Hamm, Matt Lucas, Rebel Wilson, Terry Crews; D: Paul Feig

**Hesher** (2011), C-106m. [R, pv] ÄÄ½ Hesher is a force of nature, a heavy metal spirit guide that forces himself onto a grieving father and son. As black comedies go, "Hesher" like a scab of raw emotion as father and son deal with death in different ways, the father popping pills, and the son fixating upon the wreckage of their car, and upon Natalie Portman who provides for him a surrogate mother figure, or a lover, (I never quite figured out which). Hesher himself provides a catalyst that will either make or break their family unit as the proverbial guest who will not leave. It's not great, but definitely watchable, because you cannot wait to see what Hesher will do next. Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Devin Brochu, Natalie Portman, Rainn Wilson, Piper Laurie, John Carroll Lynch; D: Spencer Susser

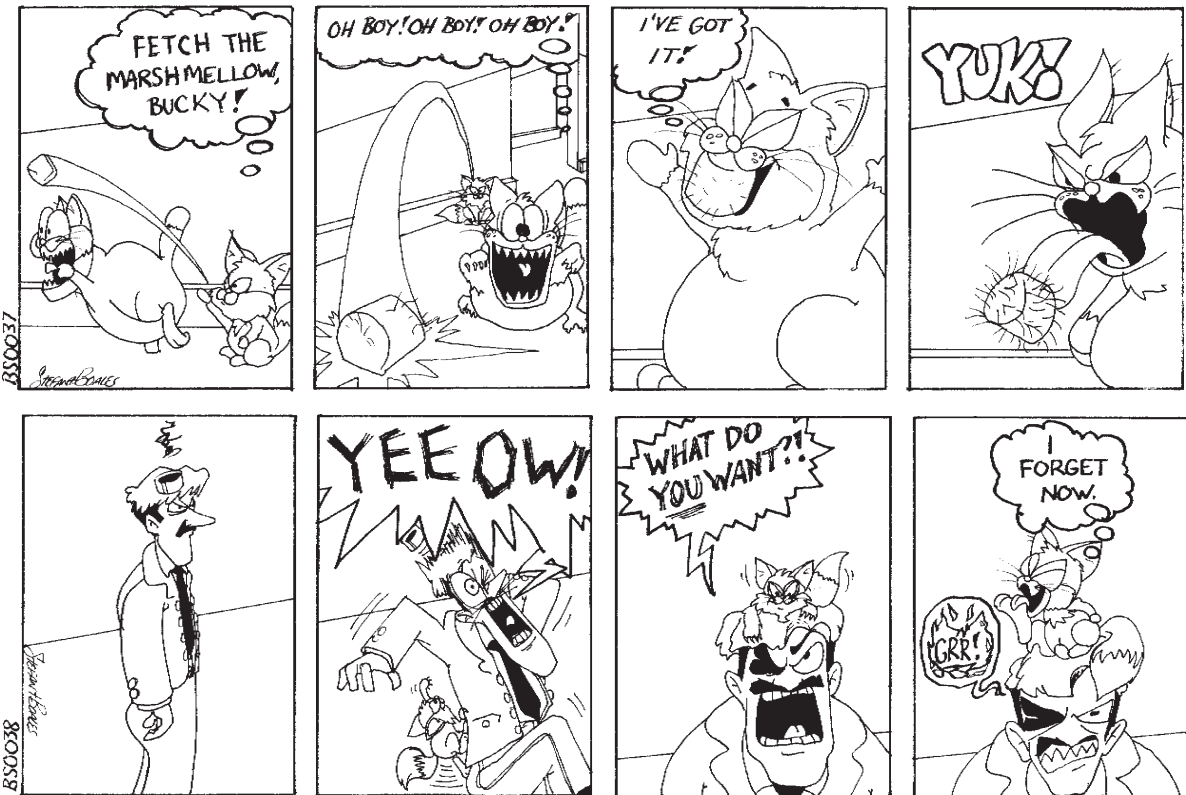
*Continued on page 11*

# COMICS, COMICS, COMICS!

## THE BOOBS



## BUCKY AND SCRAPPY



# Continuations...

## ALL HALLOWS CONT.

Except for the disembowelling part, unless you're Charles Ng.

Then in A.D. 43 (43 AD to you and me) the Romans kicked their collective Celtic asses and added their two autumn festivals to the Celtic New Year. Sort of like spiking the punch bowl with two types of liquor. It only makes it better.

The first Roman holiday was Feralia, which was held in late October and also honored the dead. The other holiday was Pomona, honoring the Roman goddess of trees and fruits, which is why apples and lesbians...I'm sorry, apples and Wiccans, are often associated with Halloween.

Then in the 800's the Christians, as usual, tried to take all of the fun away, by giving the now three-fold holiday a brand new meaning (I guess the Christians were not so fond of the burnings and disembowelings, even though burnings and disembowelings were so fond of them in Roman times. Of course, about six hundred years later, during the Burning Times, the Christian Church perpetrated some of the most hideous acts against people, in which the star attraction were burnings and disembowelings. I am speaking of course about the Inquisition, where hundreds of thousands of people were put to death in most inhumane ways. It was a record of infamy that would last until the twentieth century and the Holocaust. But I digress...).

Anyways, the Christian church changed the Celtic New Year/Roman Festival of Trees and Death into All Saints Day. Often, as is the case of many other converted pagan holidays (such as Easter and Christmas) the church left in many of the customs of the old pagan religion so that the pagans would go to church and not piss and moan about how weird these new guys were, even though the building was nice and it still had that new church smell.

All in all, they still had a big barbecue and a celebration on All Saints Day, which was called back then, All Hallows Mass. So naturally the night before it was referred to as All Hallows Evening (similar to how we have New Year Eve), which got shortened over the centuries into its modern abbreviated form: Halloween.

By the way, Jack-O-Lanterns were originally carved out of beets, turnips and potatoes in England and Ireland, but we Yanks didn't have a great deal of those to spare, so we used pumpkins, and otherwise useless American gourd. Jack-O-Lanterns got their name from an old Irish legend about a man named Jack who was both a miser and a trickster. When he died Heaven didn't want him because he was a miser, but Hell didn't want him either because he played tricks on the devil. So Jack was forced to walk the Earth until Judgment Day with only his lantern carved out of a turnip for a companion.

So now you know the true story of Halloween. Isn't that nice? What do you mean that

was pointless and educational?! Allright, fine! I'll give you the other story instead.

So my face was in her box, and I'm lickin' and lickin' and lickin', when out comes this smell...

Happy Halloween everybody!

## BONUS QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Brought to you by Darin G.

"Hey, all of you!  
Shut up and take  
your clothes off!"

## D. PLEASENCE CONT.

reprised his role of Dr. Loomis in "Halloween II". He was originally asked to play the role of Blair in Carpenter's 1982's remake of "The Thing", but had to back out due to a scheduling conflict, and the role went to Wilford Brimley.

He met up with Carpenter again for his 1987 film, "Prince of Darkness" where he played a heroic priest. In 1988 he returned from the dead, having miraculously survived the inferno of "Halloween II" in order to make "Halloween 4". The next year he donned his iconic trenchcoat again for "Halloween 5". Moustapha Akkad, producer of the "Halloween" series asked him how many more "Halloween" films he was planning to make, to which Pleasence then humorously replied, "I stop at twenty-two."

1990's

Donald Pleasence, now seventy-five years old, only

played the role of Dr. Loomis one more time in 1995's "Halloween 6" far short of the twenty-two films he joked about. When asked why he continued to make so many movies, even at his advanced age, Pleasence jokingly replied, "I have six daughters, and they can be quite expensive." So one has to keep working and be able to pay the bills."

Donald Pleasence died on February 2, 1995 in France of heart failure due to complications from his heart valve replacement. His 5'6" physical body was cremated, but his incredible body of work has survived and will remain with us forever. Shortly before his death he was scheduled to return to the stage in a production of "King Lear". Three of his castmates were his own daughters.

Farewell Donald, "Dr. Sam 'kick-ass' Loomis" Pleasence, and thank you for the gift of your acting. There shall never be another you.

## THIS MONTH IN STAR TREK: THE DARKEST TIME IN THIS PLANET'S HISTORY (FOR NERDS ONLY)

**October 6, 1966**

"The Enemy Within" (TOS) airs.

**October 12, 1974**

Star Trek: The Animated Series is cancelled

**October 13, 1966**

"Mudd's Women" (TOS) airs.

**October 20, 1966**

"What Little Girl's Are Made Of" (TOS) airs.

**October 24, 1991**

Gene Roddenberry dies.

**October 27, 1966**

"Mir" (TOS) airs.

# Back page stuff...

## HALLOWEEN 6 CONT.

close to being a good film, but seriously, the beginning and the ending just blow it for me. I love the line of the kid in costume standing below the freshly killed corpse in a tree, saying, "Mommy, it's raining red!" but they also try to turn Myers into a cult instead of a mysterious figure of the night and that is what ultimately lost me. It's almost worth watching, but doesn't quite make the cut. Pardon the pun.



## HALLOWEEN: H2O CONT.

were when their brother Mikey came calling on Halloween night, and that the phones are dead, Laurie's eyes turn green, her shirt splits open, and she more or less Hulk's out. Her son in a split second realizes that everything that his mother has said is true, and Adam Arkin asks, "What do we do?" Jamie Leigh Curtis replies bleakly, "Try to live." Curtis then completes her transformation into Ripley from "Aliens", grabs an ax and ends the series once and for all. At least until they followed it up with a sequel four years later. Still, this particular movie kicked ass.



## HALLOWEEN: RES CONT.

Fu Michael Myers to death while shouting the immortal line, "Trick or Treat, mother f-cker!" This film was so bad that I just might have to make a yearly tradition of watching it. If it did nothing else, it sure as hell made me appreciate "Halloween's" 5 & 6 more.



## NEW ON VIDEO CONT.

**Thor** (2011), **C-115m**. [PG-13, v] ÅÅÅ Thor, also known as "Goldilocks" is the arrogant beefcake son of Odin. He is about to become king when his shortsighted actions bring Asgard to the brink of war. As punishment, Thor is thrown out of Asgard and sent to Earth without powers (why are we always considered the punishment of the gods?), there he meets the lovely Natalie Portman and her plucky assistants who promptly run him over with their car. Through their help, such as it is, Thor discovers that his exile from Asgard was part of a greater conspiracy, and now he must find a way back to save both his kingdom and his father. As superhero movies go, it is not great, but definitely good, and is worth checking out. Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Tony Hiddleston, Anthony Hopkins, Stellan Skarsgard, Kat Dennings, Idris Elba, Clark Gregg, Colm Feore, Rene Russo; D: Kenneth Branagh

### September 6 Everything Must Go

This is a Will Ferrell drama. I repeat, this is a Will Ferrell drama! It's about a guy who loses everything because of his drinking, and just keeps right on drinking as he lives on his front lawn. This is not "Anchorman", this is not "Talladega Nights", this is not freakin' "Old School" even though this may sound like his character from "Old School". Okay, you've caught me, I've never actually seen "Old School". But the point is this,

it is a drama, not a comedy. That being said, you will still get to see him in his underwear. Based on a Raymond Carver short story. Two and a half Dunces caps.

100% PURE  
SPACE FILLER!

### TOP TEN Best Films You've Probably Never Heard Of

10. Matinee
9. Mindwalk
8. Terror In The Aisles
7. Crumb
6. Mr. Frost
5. The Hidden
4. Killing Time
3. 2010: The Year We Make Contact
2. Quills
1. Manhunter

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Brought to you by

Darin G.

"Stop raping my corpse!"

## TOP TEN

Movie Villains

10. Jack Torrence (The Shining)
9. Clarence Boddiker (Robocop)
8. Roy Batty (Blade Runner)
7. Ed Rooney (Ferris Bueller's Day Off)
6. Darkness (Legend)
5. Khan!!! (Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan!!!)
4. Jaws (Jaws)
3. Heath Ledger's Joker (Dark Knight)
2. Darth Vader (Star Wars)
1. Emperor Palpatine (Return of the Jedi)

# BONUS ZODIAC!

**ARIES:** You should name your dork "The Candy Cane" because it's stiff, sticky and made to be sucked.

**TAURUS:** You should name your vagina "Gretel" because it lives in the Black Forest

**GEMINI:** You should name your dork "The Hotdog" because it slips easily into buns.

**CANCER:** You should name your vagina "Lollipop" because it's sweet and I'd like to suck on it all day long.

**LEO:** You should name your dork "The Politician" because it's as crooked as the day is long.

**VIRGO:** You should name your vagina "Tootsie-Pop" because there's a surprise in the center.

**LIBRA:** You should name your dork "Acorn" because they're

both the same size and peek out of thick shrubbery.

**SCORPIO:** You should name your vagina "Dracula" because that sucker has fangs.

**SAGITTARIUS:** You should name your dork "Patton" for its cute little helmet and its innate ability to stand at attention.

**CAPRICORN:** You should name your vagina "Peanut Butter" because it's brown, it's smooth, and it's easy to spread.

**AQUARIUS:** You should name your dork "The Loch Ness Monster" because it is always plunging into the dark and murky depths.

**PISCES:** You should name your vagina "Loch Ness." Need I say more?