

A Scary Spring 2004: Thrillers, Killers and More Spice up Movie Theaters

If you religiously watched Scooby Doo as a child and Matlock; Murder She Wrote or Unsolved Mysteries as an adult, then you'll love these killer movies. These films aren't for the little ones, so send them to Grandma's and head out to your favorite theater for some gripping paranormal, cops and robbers, and psychologically-stimulating big screen flicks.

Dawn of the Dead

This classic horror movie, which will be released on March 26, is a remake of George Romero's deadly thriller of 1979 with the same name. Set in a shopping mall with people trapped inside thinking they were safe, Romero's classic involved people-chomping zombies seeking murder and mayhem. The remake stars Ving Rhames (Undisputed, Pulp Fiction, Bringing Out the Dead).

Walking Tall

This movie begins playing in theaters on April 9, starring the muscle-bound superstar wrestler known simply as The Rock. The flick is a remake of the 1973 classic of the same name, Walking Tall. Naturally filled with action (The Rock's known acting genre), this crime thriller is sure to draw your attention. Chris Vaughn (The Rock) returns to his previously serene hometown to find it filled with crime. Many are blaming a casino where Vaughn's ex-girlfriend works as a dancer. Vaughn seeks revenge with his skills as a former member of the U.S. Special Forces.

Never Die Alone

This thriller hits theaters on March 19 and stars the popular rapper DMX and David Arquette (husband to Courtney Cox Arquette). The movie is based on the 1974 book Never Die Alone by Donald Goines. Arquette plays an aspiring journalist who witnesses a gangster's murder, played by DMX. Arquette's character studies the gangster's life through his journal leading up to his murder, which the viewer is shown through flashbacks. Paul Pawlowski (Arquette), by reading his journal, understands why he was killed and enables him to tell his story.

Hellboy

Go see this supernatural suspense flick on April 2, starring the towering Ron Perlman and the super-cute Selma Blair. This flick is about a boy born in hell, as the title implies. He was taken from his home by a Nazi wizard's spell, but intercepted by American Agents and raised in a paranormal research and defense center to be "good".

Hellboy teams up with an FBI agent, Liz Sherman, a pyrokinetic (Blair), and Abe Sapien (Doug Jones), a strange amphibious creature. They become a team who discovers their powers greatly benefit mankind, but ironically will keep them secluded from mankind forever. Meanwhile, Hellboy is taking a romantic interest in Liz.

This flick has a cool superhero feel to it, so if you love Superman, go see this drama-packed suspense. There are no blue tights, but Hellboy's look is intensely with a

massive stature, blazing red skin and two identical chunks on his head where his horns used to be.

Twisted

Twisted opens in theaters April 2. The main character, Jessica, is a police officer investigating a murder. Former lovers increasingly begin to drop dead around her, and she soon finds herself at the center of the investigation. The cop murder-mystery stars the beautiful Ashley Judd as Jessica and Samuel L. Jackson as Mills, a reputable cop and Jessica's mentor. Andy Garcia is also featured, playing a cop who Jessica seems to adore.

Man on Fire

Man on Fire stars not one, but two Oscar winners: the legendary Denzel Washington and the versatile Christopher Walken. The movie debuts in theaters on April 23 and also stars the adorable, 9-year-old Dakota Fanning. An American ex-soldier (Washington) moves to Mexico when an old friend (Walken) convinces him to look after a child (Fanning) whose parents are being threatened by kidnappers. The affluent family's daughter, Pinta (Fanning), is inevitably kidnapped and murdered. The ex-soldier spends his days on the hunt for vengeance on the killers. This thriller is sure to keep you on the edge of your seats.

Actor Bytes

Brush up on your celebrity knowledge with these quick facts on the stars:

Ving Rhames

This intimidating, but respectable, man won a Golden Globe Award in 1998 for the cable movie Don King: Only in America. Instead of accepting, Rhames passed off his award to Jack Lemmon, who also was nominated.

Selma Blair

The beautiful Blair steamed up the big screen with Sarah Michelle Gellar in Cruel Intentions, for which she won an MTV Movie Award for Best Kiss. She also appeared in Legally Blonde.

Samuel L. Jackson

This legendary actor was nominated for an Oscar for his performance in Pulp Fiction and is known for his penetrating roles in Unbreakable, Changing Lanes and XXX.

Denzel Washington

Washington received an Oscar for Best Actor in Training Day and is recognized for superior work in the films Malcolm X, The Bone Collector and Remember the Titans

Dakota Fanning

The adorable Fanning is the youngest actor ever nominated for a Screen Actor's Guild Award and has appeared in I am Sam, Uptown Girls, The Cat in the Hat and Sweet

Home Alabama.

Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson

This superstar wrestler became the youngest intercontinental Champion of the WWF at the age of 24. The Rock flexed his acting muscles as The Scorpion King in the flick *The Mummy Returns* and subsequently *The Scorpion King* a year later.

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