

## OffBeats - Blog Article Sample - Film and Entertainment

"Happy Halloween Ladies" .... - The Kurgan, "Highlander" - 20th Century Fox, 1986

It's Halloween week, and Samhain (pronounced sow-en) and The Day of the Dead. All things supernatural, spooky, or downright frightening are being celebrated by those of us who enjoy it all over the world. Which got me thinking about scary films to watch, both conventional and unconventional.

I thought about some funny yet gory ones such as "Shaun of the Dead", "Zombieland" and "What We Do In The Shadows". My favourite scary ones, "Ring", "Alien", "The Thing" (the one with Kurt Russell, damn it!) and some slightly off-beat spooky ones like "Under The Skin", "Let the Right One In" and "A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night".

Ah, a joyous Halloween of entertainment, I rubbed my hands together in gleeful anticipation...until I was struck by the thought that actually, I was quite bored by "A Girl Walks Home Alone At Night". Hmm...



*Scary or Captivating?*

It was critically acclaimed by many, but I just couldn't get into it. I love "What We Do In The Shadows", but one of my relatives thought it was awful! "Too juvenile, we turned in off" he said. I thought "Under The Skin" was unique and daring, an alien having an existential crisis, wow! A colleague wasn't so sure, maybe an existential crisis, maybe it's just a director trying to be avant garde. It didn't really do much for him.

That is what I enjoy about film, it can provoke strong emotions unique to each viewer. Some people will view the same film and love it, others will hate it. "Valhalla Rising" had that affect on myself and a friend. I liked it, he hated it, and many other people felt the same way.

Did one movie make you weep with utter abandon while someone sitting next to you was dry eyed or aloof? I have yet to meet someone who can watch the film "Room" and not cry but I'm sure there are a few that did not. We are all unique, so relating to same story will be equally varied at times.

I think I will watch "It Follows" or "Get Out" for sheer creepiness factor (from my point of view anyway).

What films will you be scaring yourself with this week?

*By Leah Waldron, updated 2024*