

"Chucky" grows up

ANGIE DASCHEL
Staff Writer

Sex, drugs and rock & roll are the key elements in the fourth installment of the "Child's Play" horror movies, "Bride of Chucky." The film is more of a comedy rather than a slasher, in that while a few people get killed, the plot centers more around Chucky getting lucky.

For those who have never seen the "Child's Play" series, Chucky is a doll who has been inhabited by the spirit of a serial killer. The killer was named Charles Lee Ray, and in the first movie he was shot by a cop in a toy store, where he used voodoo to transport himself into the Chucky doll. In the other movies he was always "killed" (in horror movie land, that means that he was disposed of in such a way that he could easily be brought back for a sequel).

In "Bride Of Chucky," Jennifer Tilly ("Liar Liar") plays Tiffany, who was the girlfriend of Charles Lee Ray before he was shot and turned into a doll. Like Chucky, Tiffany has homicidal tendencies. Tiffany gets a cop to retrieve Chucky's mangled body from the police station. She sews him up, then uses a voodoo incantation to bring him back to life. Tiffany realizes soon after

Chucky is alive that he is not exactly the best boyfriend, so she shuts him up in a baby crib. To torture him, Tiffany buys a doll in a wedding gown to be his girlfriend. Chucky escapes and kills Tiffany, only to use voodoo to bring the bride doll to life with Tiffany's spirit. Now that they are on the same level, the real fun begins.

Chucky and Tiffany set out on a road trip with some teenagers who are getting married and escaping from their restrictive families. John Ritter ("Slingblade") plays the girl's uncle, whom Chucky quickly disposes of. Their stop at a honeymooner's hotel delivers the biggest laughs of the film because the dolls consummate their relationship. The soundtrack is mostly contributed by buttrocker Rob Zombie (White Zombie) and gives the moviegoers the feel of being in a biker bar.

If the film was trying to be horror, then it failed miserably because not enough people were killed, the death scenes were funny, not scary, and last but not least, the dolls *get it on*. But if "Bride of Chucky" was striving for comedy, they got it right. The dolls crack wise about everything and seem to kill only to turn each other on. This is a film for people wanting to laugh, and also for those who don't mind watching dolls turn into porn stars.



Film Festival comes to Portland

Event features a plethora of Northwest talent

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The 25th Northwest Film and Video Festival is a showcase of independent films and shorts from five Northwest states and British Columbia.

Over 300 works were submitted to festival judge Christine Vachon; only 28 were selected. Two of the films being shown are "Carried Away" and "Kitchen Party."

"Carried Away" is about a man named Les Martin who finds himself sitting at a museum staring at Vermeer painting entitled "Girl Standing at an Open Window."

He is so taken with the painting that before he even realizes what he is doing, he grabs the masterpiece and flees the museum. He doesn't get caught, and the media blames the theft on a

terrorist group. Les wants recognition for the deed, but he also wants to get away with it.

When his aloof wife asks why he did it, he has no answer. Les cannot explain his actions to her because he has no idea why he did it. He spends the entire movie trying to decide what to do with the painting and whether to keep it or not.

"Kitchen Party" is a "Dazed and Confused" type of movie set in the 90's. Scott Smith decides to throw a party while his parents are away having dinner at a friend's house. The party has got to be confined to the kitchen, however, because Scott's mom doesn't allow anyone, not even Scott or his pot-head brother Steve, to be in

the upstairs living room when they aren't home.

How could she tell if someone was in the living room? She vacuums the carpet in a diagonal pattern so that even the slightest disturbance would be detected. When the liquor starts to flow at both the parents' and the kids' parties, so do the problems.

"Kitchen Party" is an honest look at suburban life and how kids and parents today handle common predicaments. The

movie is funny and the dialogue is true to life.

What makes "Kitchen Party" so absorbing is that it accurately depicts the way kids act in social situations.

“
[“Kitchen Party” is] an open-ended narrative of observations that doesn’t provide answers.”

Gary Burns
Film Director

The director, Gary Burns, said he was "interested in showing awkwardness, naivete, mean-spiritedness, callousness, follower mentality, but also the possibility of empathy and insight. It's an open-ended narrative of observations that doesn't provide answers."

The two films will be shown during the festival, which is held at the Guild Theater, located at S.W. 9th and Taylor.

The festival runs November 5-12 and admission is \$6 general, \$5 members, students, and seniors, and \$30 for a festival pass (valid for all Festival programs except opening night).

There is a full schedule and more information about the festival and the Northwest Film Center at www.nwfilm.org.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday!

Reviews in Brief

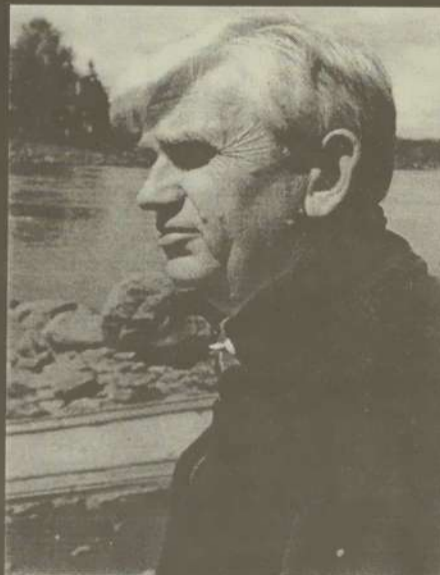
"Urban Legend"

This "Scream" clone is full of blood and guts but doesn't really scare.

"A Night at the Roxbury"

A funny adaptation of the "Saturday Night Live" skit that doesn't require the viewer to think, but works anyway.

State Senator Verne Duncan.



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