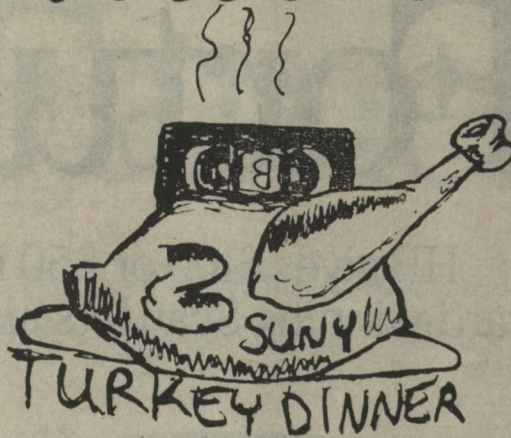


# Entertainment



This Week: The Hallowe'en Edition

There's something in the air tonight... something that chills the blood and turns the bowels to water... something evil and dark... something so vile it should not exist in a rational universe...

It's the smell of hundreds of rotting pumpkins roasting gently over hundreds of candles. It's Hallowe'en, and it's time for evil to have a party! And what better way to celebrate all that is gross and ugly than by watching some really bad horror movies?

This week I'm reviewing four of 'em. They're all pretty bad, but each has its own strange charm. You know, like you can't help but stare at a gory accident?

First in line is a charming piece of stupidity called *Death Ship*. It's the horrific tale of a bunch of mismatched personalities who get thrown together in a lifeboat when a mysterious black boat rams and sinks their cruise ship. They all get picked up by a mysteriously abandoned black ship, and it's quite awhile before any of them makes the connection. In the meantime, the survivors start getting killed off in increasingly interesting and creative ways, the most frightening and disgusting of which you might want to fast forward past. Watch for the woman going into the shower, and if you're the least bit squeamish or claustrophobic, hit that button!!!!.

The geniuses from the lifeboat eventually figure out that the ship is a haunted Nazi death ship and that the ghosts are responsible for all the murders. The hero, played by George

Kennedy, heroically loads the last of his survivors into a lifeboat and they triumphantly float away.

Judgement: Gross in places, spooky in others, but usually just dumb. The ludicrous storyline, coupled with some really bad dialogue and special effects, make it really laughable. Just watch out for that shower scene. It's enough to make you opt for dry-cleaning.

Ever wonder how they make that disgusting marshmallow fluff you loved as a kid? Well, according to *The Stuff* (New World Pictures, 1985), it's really just pumped up from the centre of the earth and bottled.

Two old guys find some white gunk bubbling up through the snow and taste it (no, I don't know why.) It tastes so great they decide to market it as a dessert. Before long, the fantastically tasty and addictive Stuff is everywhere.

But a few people don't like the Stuff. They include: Jason, a kid who finds the Stuff running around inside his fridge; Moe, a spy hired by ice cream moguls to sabotage the company; and the woman who designed the marketing campaign for the Stuff.

Guess what? The Stuff is actually a living organism that turns its victims into zombies. And the Stuff is so popular that Moe, Jason and what's her name are so set upon by lots of Stuffies and giant globs of Stuff.

They infiltrate the company, blow up the pit, steal a tanker full of Stuff and bug out. Then they call upon a retired superpatriot and rich army colonel to help blow up the whole company.

"Two guys find some white gunk bubbling up through the snow and taste it."