

RICK TREMBLES' MOTION PICTURE LABYRINTH MY BLOODY VALENTINE (1981)

MY BLOODY VALENTINE, ACCORDING TO CAELUM VATNSDAL'S EXCELLENT BOOK THEY CAME FROM WITHIN: A HISTORY OF CANADIAN HORROR CINEMA, "STANDS ALMOST WITHOUT RIVAL AS THE MOST CANADIAN HORROR FILM EVER MADE." SHOT AT THE SIDNEY MINES IN NOVA SCOTIA, "THE STUBBIES-&-BACK-BACON ACCENTS ARE THICKER THAN THIRTY-WEIGHT MOTOR OIL ON A COLD MORNING," HE WRITES, " & THE CHARACTERS ARE THOROUGHLY CONVINCING & REFRESHINGLY PROVINCIAL, AT NO TIME DOES THE CAST SEEM LIKE A BUNCH OF TORONTO OR MONTREAL ACTORS IN RURAL DRAG EVEN THOUGH THAT'S WHAT THEY WERE." ONE OF THE BETTER OUTCOMES OF THE CANADIAN TAX SHELTER HORROR BOOM, THE FILMMAKERS HAD STRUCK A DEAL WITH PARAMOUNT PICTURES WHO WERE LOOKING TOWARDS RAKING IN BUCKET-LOADS MORE CASH FROM THE GENRE AFTER THE HIT FRIDAY THE 13TH (1980), APPARENTLY ASKING FOR A FILM SO BLOODY IT'D MAKE THAT ONE LOOK LIKE "A SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC," SPECIFICALLY REQUESTING MORE "CREATIVE KILLS" BUT UNFORTUNATELY, HARDLY ANY EXPLICIT GORE GOT LEFT INTACT AFTER THE STUDIO BOWED DOWN TO PRESSURE FROM THE LIKES OF FAMOUS "THUMBS UP, THUMBS DOWN" MOVIE CRITIC ROGER EBERT'S FORMER CO-HOST, THE LATE GENE SISSEL WHO SPEARHEADED A LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN TO HEAD HONCHOS DEMANDING THEY STOP MAKING THESE KINDS OF OFFENSIVE MOVIES!

Actual VALENTINES DAY CARDS ...

"FROM THE HEART COMES A WARNING FILLED WITH BLOODY REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED AS 14th DRAWS NEAR"

"ROSES ARE RED, VIOLETS ARE BLUE, ONE IS DEAD, AND SO ARE YOU!"

MEANWHILE, ELDERS START RECEIVING BODY-PARTS IN HEART-SHAPED CANDY BOXES WITH OMINOUS LETTERS! SEE, 20 YEARS PREVIOUS A MINER LOST HIS MIND & WENT ON A MURDER SPREE AFTER BEING TRAPPED IN A CAVE IN EXPLOSION WHEN CO-WORKERS CHOSE TO GO OUT DANCING AT THE VALENTINES PARTY INSTEAD OF CHECKING METHANE LEVELS IN THE TUNNELS!

1 AFTER STRIKING OUT ON THE WEST COAST, A HOSER ENDS UP BACK IN THE MINES OF HIS MARITIME HOMETOWN "VALENTINES BLUFF" ALONGSIDE HIS OLD HOSER PALS, PERMANENT BOTTLE OF MOOSEHEAD BEER IN THEIR HANDS THROUGHOUT/ DRUNKEN RUCKUSES CONSTANTLY ERUPT BETWEEN HIM & HIS BEST PAL FOR TAKING OVER HIS MAIN SQUEEZE IN HIS ABSENCE!

2 PRINCIPAL KIDS BITE THE DUST ONE BY ONE TRAPPED INSIDE MINESHAFT WITH THE MURDERER! THERE'S DISPUTE OVER WHO EXACTLY THE KILLER IS SINCE HIS WHEREABOUTS FROM 20 YRS AGO ARE SKETCHY SO IT BUILDS TO AN EFFECTIVE ALBERT GOOFY TWIST, BUT THIS PRETTY-TO-LOOK-AT, NEUTERED, COOKIE-CUTTER SLASHER IS NOTHING GROUNDBREAKING! RENT IT FOR THE

3 VALENTINES DANCES HAVE BEEN BANNED EVER SINCE, BUT THIS YEAR KIDS ARE DETERMINED TO PARTY-HARDY DESPITE WARNINGS & YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS! MURDERER LUMBERS AROUND ANONYMOUSLY WITH LAMP ATTACHED TO HEAD GEAR PROVIDING AMPLE GROAN-INDUCING FALSE SCARES, LIKE GIRLS GETTING STALKED BY LIGHT-INFUSED POV CAMERA ANGLES ONLY TO REVEAL IT WAS JUST SOME CONCERNED AUTHORITY FIGURE WITH A FLASHLIGHT!