Innocent Blood Sucks!

by Dak Jiordani

Innocent Blood is a stupid movie.

This movie is so stupid that it gives greater definition, depth and range to the term "stupid movie" than previously thought possible. In fact, stupidity is the highest of the driving forces. The story is stupid, the characters are stupid, the action scenes are stupid, the violence is stupid the dialogue is stupid, the sex is... well, you get the idea. It's stupid.

It's bad, too.

Want to know how bad this movie is? No? Well, I'm gonna tell you anyway. This movie is so bad that it gives "bad" a bad name. It's bad in the most infinitely pure sense of badness. Bad story, bad characters, bad action scenes, bad violence, bad dialogue, bad sex... well, you get the idea. It's bad.

However...it's funny...what?

I said... it's funny.

ALRIGHT! I admit it! I thought it was funny!

Well, maybe not funny in the sense that "seeing your grandmother walking around with her underwear on the outside of her clothes while wearing a herring on her head" is funny, but funny in the "it was so stupid and bad that I just had to laugh" sense.

"How shall I compare thee to another film? Thou art stupider and badder in the worst way." Let's see...

Innocent Blood is a warped and twisted look at the old idea of vampires living in modern times. How would they look? How would they live? How would they feed? How would they act if they got involved with an undercover cop while simultaneously waging a food war on the local mob? Well kiddies, this movie answers all of these questions.

Now, I should mention the actors. As far as I could tell their performances made the most of the material

" thou art stupider and badder in the worst way"

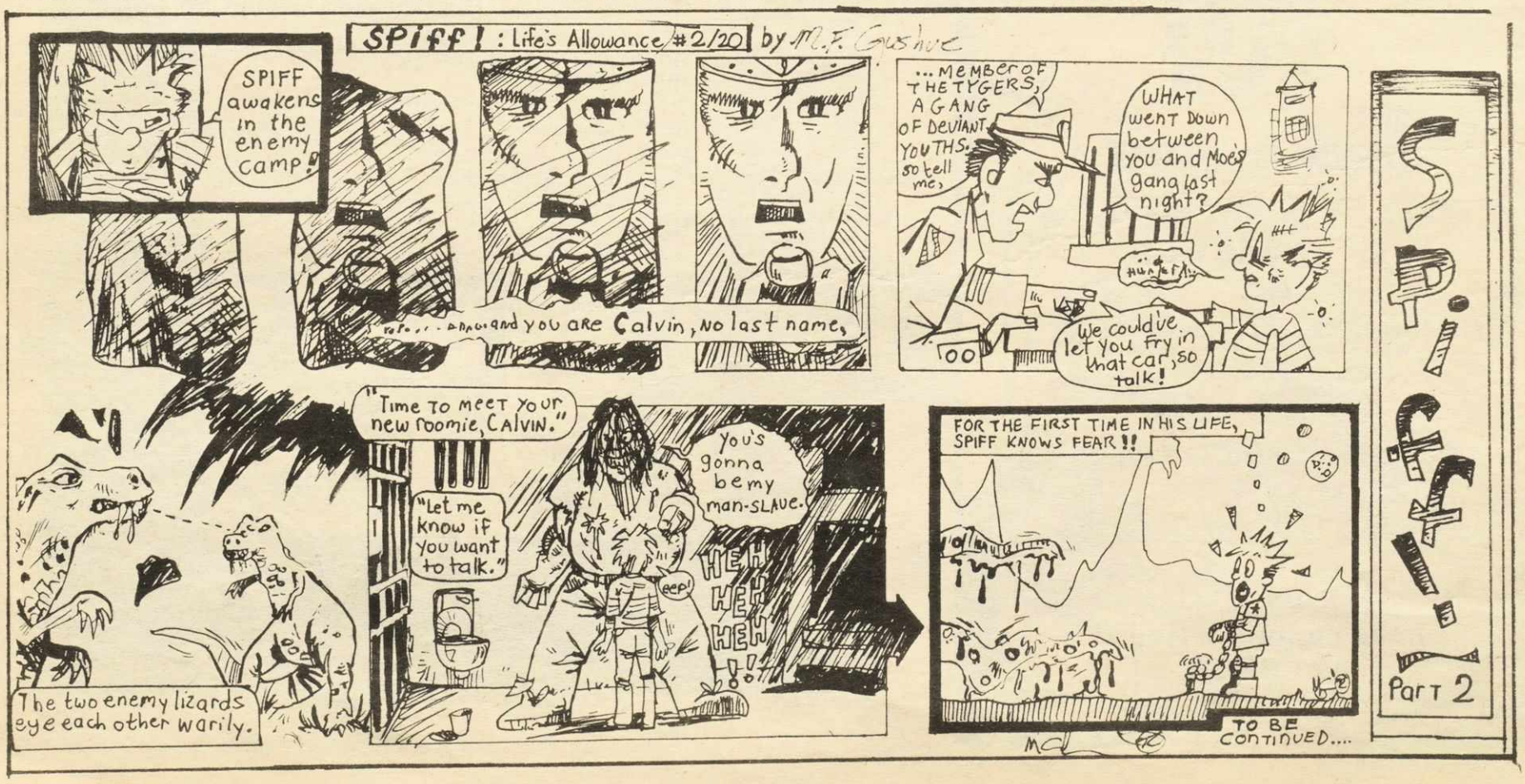
they were given; the only thing I could blame them for is bad judgement in picking this movie to appear in.

The film stars Anne Parrilaud as Marie, the bloodsucker who preys on bad guys, even garlic-laced pseudo-Italian mobsters (but she doesn't "inhale"). The movie also features Robert Loggia as Sal "The Shark" Macelli, a Mafioso type with a rabid libido and a brain the size of a walnut. Anthony LaPaglia (the guy who does those stupid cereal commercials – "which is good") plays Joe, the undercover cop with a hatred for the mob and a marginal tolerance for vampires. And verteran comedian Don Rickles plays Bergman, the mob lawyer with a paranoid streak a mile wide.

Directed by John Landis, the man behind the much better movie "An American Werewolf in London", *Innocent Blood* is just the kind of movie he would do. It's not a horror film per se, although the morgue scene with the eviscerated cadaver did make me hungry for a tomato and hamburger pizza. It's not a traditional vampire flick because some of the scenes were in total conflict with traditional vampire lore. In one scene Marie breaks in and flies around the *inside* of a church. And although it's outrageously funny at times, it's not a comedy. So what kind of film is *Innocent Blood*?

It's a John Landis film.

What kind of label can be stuck on this movie so that the general public will understand it? Answer: none. This movie does not easily fit into any category. It's loaded with dark humour that is as hilariously funny as incredibly stupid. It's filled with gory violence that is as repulsive as insipid. It has sex scenes that are as gratuitous as erotic. Overall, this movie is as weird and humorous as it is stupid and bad. But as stupid and bad as it is, it's still enjoyable.

Those eyes — O those bloodshot eyes

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