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Chapter 7 Essay

Possessive

I have a thing for cautionary tales. This idea for genre-mashing is one of them. It’s a romance/horror story based on the Biblical concept of a demon and a woman actually marrying one another. The tale is about a girl named Anna Carver who is raised in a normal suburbia rich town and goes to an all-girls Catholic School. Her parents are in an open relationship and everyone knows about it, many questioning as she got older whether or not her dad is her biological father. Getting constantly bullied and teased, her main bully, Michelle, gets chosen as the “May Queen” representing all that is pure and good. Anna vows that if people like her are going to heaven, she would rather be in hell. Enter Alastor, a demon who is bored with his life of temptation because people are far too easy in the modern age. Easily entering the Catholic School, Alastor enters her dorm and is surprised that she can hear him. She asks him if he’s going to take her to hell. He says no, and she starts weeping in sadness. The demon finally finds something to entertain him and becomes her best friend. He encourages her to do vile acts so that when she goes to hell that she’ll be able to hear the screams of her enemies forever. Anna goes on a killing spree, setting fire to Michelle’s house and killing everyone inside. She appears truly happy to commit these acts, and is finally taken in after killing eleven people. Not remorseful or sad, it was the best day of her life. She truly falls in love with Alastor, which catches him off guard. He promises to stay with her so she won’t be alone. Telling her parents that she’s found a new boyfriend who is a demon, they throw her into the asylum.

Ten years pass, and what the doctors have dubbed multiple personality disorder is actually times when Alastor has been possessing her. She has five people since her incarceration and is set to be placed on death row. Alastor, however, feels as if he has fallen for Anna himself. It feels good to be worshipped and adored. The other demons chide him for “fusing” with a mortal. Back in the day before the flood, a demon could have 500 years or so of fun before being sent to hell with their connected mortal. Alastor says that she’s the only thing that keeps his life interesting anymore and offers to wed himself to Anna (in turn giving her superhuman powers). They have sex in the padded cell and right before Anna is set to be injected, she busts through the straps and kills everyone in the room with her bare hands. Escaping from prison, she is let loose in the world as a wanderer and a serial killer.

The government wants to capture her alive, seeing the raw power that demon possession can give. Ironicly, the agent chasing her was the female bully of her youth who survived the fire and actually changed her outlook on life since the tragedy. Her fiancée is a chaplain named Cody, and the two of them do their best to capture Anna one more time. The longer Anna and Alastor are wed, the more power he is able to manifest outside of her body. All Anna wants is to live the rest of her life with Alastor, but people keep trying to apprehend her… of course, she delights in killing all who try to take her in. After a small S.W.A.T. team is taken out, Michelle and her group are called in to confront Anna herself. Banking that Anna would go through hell to hurt her like she hurt Anna, Michelle calls out to Anna in her hiding place, begging forgiveness for what she did to her. Of course, Anna declines and Alastor possesses one of Michelle’s team members, using his gun to kill several of them before going back to Anna who stalks Michelle. Seeing that Anna’s no longer human, Michelle runs back to her fiancée, Cody. While he was never trained as an exorcist, he blesses his house before Anna arrives. Hoping to finish the job that she started when she was younger, she lights Cody’s house on fire since she can’t enter it. The two are saved by the FBI, and Michelle is given strict orders to take Anna alive. Cody protests, wondering why they would let a serial killer like that live after what she has done. It doesn’t take Cody long to figure out they want Anna for research and begs Michelle to go after her on their own before the government starts using demons. They get geared up for the final showdown.

The FBI is shown going to a church demanding all of their holy water. They place it in a vat, and try to set a trap up for Anna. The FBI captures Cody and Michelle, ordering the two to cooperate in Anna’s capture. While Cody isn’t a priest, he knows how to pray and is forced to use Michelle as bait as he exorcises the demon from Anna’s body. Anna confronts Michelle, and she actually knows how to fight. Cody comes up from behind Anna, exorcising Alastor from her, and the FBI shoots multiple tranquilizers into Anna’s body. Determined not to let her live so that the government can’t use demons for their purposes, Michelle throws Anna into the vat of holy water to drown. Cody and Michelle run, but Alastor possesses the chopper pilot flying overhead and crashes the chopper on the building as they escape.

Cody and Michelle decide to lay low, retreating to the Rocky Mountains to get information on what really happened to Anna and stop the government from using her demonic power for their own agenda. The last scene is shown as a sedated Anna in a laboratory with a pregnant belly.

1. Commonality in the face of diversity. Taking two distinctly different genres and marrying them for the relatability to the audience made the movie magic. Science has a fun way of evolving just about any genre into something cool, but often times a balance isn't struck between the human nature and the scientific. Being able to put a new spin on an old song with the tropes involved makes gold.
2. The Thing, the Maltese Falcon, and Scarface.
3. I think part of the genre-mashing art is finding genres that balance one another out. The tropes surrounding Kill Bill were very similar and easy to put together because they were all agressive and based off of action. Too many mash together fantasy and sci-fi in the video game industry. Now, when you get something like WWII and zombies, then you have some nice original stuff to work with!
4. \*See above\*