Mourning

ATTACK OF THE KILLER B's

13-hour movie marathon at
the Somerville Theatre,
Monday, October 19th, midnight to 1 pm.

By DAVID SASLAV

H UGH! If you thought the Independent Activities Period Science Fiction Marathon was something, check out the Somerville Theatre next time they have a movie marathon. Their most recent offering was last Monday's "Attack of the Killer B's," and it was grueling. Starting at midnight the morning of Columbus Day, this was 13 hours of the goriest, most sickening cinematography ever to rally a screen - what a nightmare! These movies were so dreadful they had to pass out barf bags to patrons as they entered. The effects of these on my brain weren't temporary either - a turkey sandwich I got a friend to smuggle in somewhere in the middle of Return of the Living Dead is still sitting untouched in my fridge.

And yet, in its own unappetizing way, this was an extremely good time. I mean, how can one sit through 100 minutes of Surf Nazi Must Die and not feel in some way cleansed? How can one resist feeling true pathos for The Toxic Avenger? How can one avoid pining for the hills of Japan who can say only, "Biah! Blah! Blah! Blah!" while watching Rodan, a truly bizarre, feat of special effects (in this case red, not green) we wish we could have seen more of them. During Bela Lugosi's less than memorable performance in The Return of the Living Dead (every bi-week in the summer) one cannot avoid feeling for Christine and Lavinia really do have the pathos lacks a certain sense of tragic destiny - it is not necessary to

"plantepiece" or horror fiction includes an octopus (or something) that devours its victims by inducing them to wrap its tentacles around them, thereby choking them to death. That and some extremely lifeless acting put me right out for a nice, movie-theater nap. But after opening the night with Stuart Gordon's phantasmagoric From Beyond and The Toxic Avenger back to back, I was already fading fast! I did, however, revive myself to time for the last half of the night, then the historical Return of the Living Dead (very bit as much fun as An American Werewolf in London - I mean it). The Re-Animator (another Gordon "thriller"), and Surf Nazi Must Die; a truly bizarre, feature-length length of what might happen to the society in the aftermath of a major California earthquake. This movie takes the concept of "Touchy-Feely" to a strange, new height - I call it "Shifty-Kiley" - and after seeing it you may never take vacations at the beach again.

Equally "worthwhile" (translated: hit and miss) as the films themselves were the shorts and other various filler material inserted in between. These included the classic Foreign Exchange short, Sperm Bank: Hold-Up, Plasma in Pink (a wonderful Pink Panther cartoon featuring a vampire who can say only, "Biah! Blah! Blah!" over and over again), and random fire performances by four men calling themselves "The Maitzer Brotherhood Quartet." Not so high marks go to the Three Stooges short, Pop Goes the Easel, and other asorted movie trailers.

Also adding spice to the night was prize giveaways - the fellow sitting right in front of me won a package of ripe (not kidding!) and the guy sitting next to him won two tickets to see the Second City improv troupe on their upcoming trip to Boston. Other prizes included turkey dinners, gizzards, and free Somerville Theatre passes.

There's a whole lot more I could say about this evening of schlock, but I really gotta get something to eat. That turkey sandwich looks a whole lot better right about now than it did a while ago. And man, I need some sleep!

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