

AMC brings another classic to TV

Zombies come to the small screen with extra graphic material.

By Ryan Laskodi
Hornet Staff

What show can you add to a network that has one about meth dealers (*Breaking Bad*) and another about the world of 60s advertising? A show about a group of survivors in a zombie outbreak.

AMC's newest series is called "The Walking Dead." While it doesn't do anything new to reinvent the zombie genre, it is a great looking, well-acted and well-written show that is a welcome addition to that scene.

The story of *The Walking Dead* revolves around police officer Rick Grimes (Andrew Lincoln).

He goes into a coma after a police shootout in which he is gravely injured. When he wakes up from the coma he finds himself in an abandoned hospital.

He is rescued by two survivors and they inform him of the zombies. They also tell him that Atlanta is a safe place to go.

After taking some time to recover, he decided to head to Atlanta and try

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to find his wife and son.

One of the most important elements is the zombies, and in this series they look great. The makeup effects are so well done that they really do look like re-animated corpses.

The flesh falling off of their bodies, the emotionless expressions and the scary noises all come together and make for some of the best zombies in any medium.

The show also has a very dark, apocalyptic feel.

In the opening scene of the show we see a lone car driving down the highway. Grimes then gets out of the car and heads toward a gas station. As he approaches the gas station he sees that there are abandoned cars all over the place as well as children's toys.

There are plenty of other iconic scenes that add to the tone, such as when Grimes walks out of the hospital and there are dozens of dead bodies scattered all over the parking lot.

Another is when Grimes first wakes up from in the hospital and finds the place completely abandoned.

When entering Atlanta, there is a scene where Grimes and the horse he is riding are on one side of the highway all by themselves and on the other side there is a complete mess of cars.

One of the best scenes in the show is when there are literally thousands of zombies.

The characters that have been introduced in the show so far are strong. While not much is known about them at this point they are generally likeable and have goals that they need to accomplish that make them feel human.

They also have to make choices which test their humanity. In one scene Grimes sees half of a zombie trying to pathetically crawl around. He leans down next to the zombie and simply tells it he is sorry for what happened to it. He then puts the zombie out of its misery.

In another scene, the other survivor Morgan Jones (wonderfully played by Lennie James) attempts to shoot his wife who has been turned into the zombie. He cannot bring himself to do it and then breaks down in tears.

The show may be too graphic for some viewers. There was even a disclaimer in the beginning that warned viewers of the violence in the show.

Five minutes into the show we see the first zombie, a little girl, she is shot in the head. There also a few other zombies who get shot in the head.

The blood effects aren't that extreme, however. There is also a scene where the zombies eat a horse and in classic zombie fashion you can see all of the blood and guts.

The dead bodies sometimes have flies hanging around them and there are also buzzards that pick at the flesh of the dead.

"The Walking Dead" is a high quality series that fits perfectly with the AMC lineup. It is a wonderfully done show that takes itself seriously and works very well. Everything comes together in a great blend that works fantastically.

The Walking Dead

AMC
4 out of 5

