

THE CIRCUIT

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PHOTO | JACK FIGGE

MORE THAN THE SPOOKY STORIES AND CREEPY CREATURES

As Halloween approaches, critical lessons are to be learned from Church's understanding of ghosts and demons

JACK FIGGE
THE CIRCUIT

From the spirit of deceased monks lurking throughout the Abbey to spirits haunting the inhabitants of dorm rooms, Benedictine College hosts its share of ghost stories. Atchison Kan. and has been deemed as one of the most haunted towns in America. The discussion of the supernatural becomes ever more present as Halloween approaches, leaving the question: what does the Catholic Church teach about ghosts and spirits?

Discussions concerning the haunted side of Benedictine flow freely throughout the year, but the month leading up to Halloween accentuates the supernatural conversations. For freshmen, such as Gabriel Jones, the newfound stories of ghosts and exorcisms come as an interesting surprise, provoking one to discern fact from fiction.

"Hauntings on campus is something known, but not always talked about, the supernatural is always an interesting point of conversation," Jones said. "It is a balancing act between finding truth and just

telling stories."

Throughout the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the magisterium refrains from using the term ghosts and remain silent on the issue of the supernatural. Saints and theologians have addressed this issue of the supernatural drawing distinction between demons and spirits of deceased people.

After purchasing a building in Atchison where previous owners conducted satanic rituals, Benedictine professor of Theology Dr. Mark Zia utilized his knowledge of the Catholic faith to determine how to rid his property of evil spirits, one of the supernatural distinctions that he draws.

"There are demons, there are angels and then there are the souls of people who've died," Zia said. "The way we sometimes use the word ghost, I think it could refer to a demon, but I think it could also refer to maybe the soul of a tormented person who's dead."

Demons are fallen angels that seek to bring ruin to souls. The souls of the deceased are human souls trapped in Purgatory seeking to enter the Kingdom

of God after a period of purification. These souls peacefully wander the earth causing slight disruptions to seek prayers petitioning for their release from Purgatory.

For generations, American culture has glorified this supernatural culture encouraging contacting deceased or evil spirits through Ouija boards and other methods. The Catholic Church states that intentionally contacting deceased souls or evil spirits is the sin of necromancy.

"The Catholic Church very clearly and forcefully teaches that instances of contacting evil spirits or deceased souls are all violations against the love that we give to God alone, that these are all violations of what it means to pursue love of God," Zia said. "We are taught that we are to avoid all these things (Ouija boards, tarot card readings etc.) like the plague because they are like the plague."

Committing the sin of necromancy is a serious offense and can lead to grave consequences. Contacting evil spirits is often done out of a desire for knowledge that human beings do not

have a right to know. When humans seek out this knowledge of the supernatural, they are breaking a barrier that God created for the benefit of humans. If this barrier is broken, it results in a separation from God and opens one to the potential of being possessed by a demonic spirit.

College chaplain Fr. Matthew Nathan has encountered the sin of necromancy many times throughout his ministry. The advice he gives to one who has committed this sin is simple: confession and prayer.

"Confess, confess, confess and then say prayers that invoke the presence of good spirits in one's life," Nathan said. "Pray for saint's intercessions and pray to your good old guardian angel to help you out in combating against these evil spirits."

Atchison is steeped in supernatural culture, boasting many houses advertised as haunted, and offering a variety of activities such as trolley tours that seek to profit from Atchison's claim of being one of the most haunted towns in America. Creating commerce driven by the supernatural leads to evil spirits and an aura of darkness

descending upon the town.

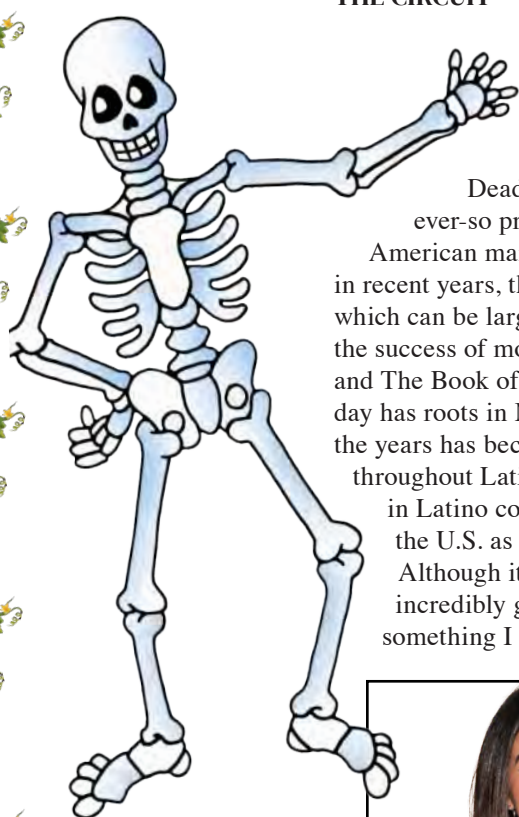
"One of Atchison's biggest problems is that it supports this haunted Atchison endeavor every year," Zia said. "The city pours a lot of money into this haunted Atchison theme. The problem with this is the city is going out of its way and using money to bring evil and darkness into the town of Atchison and it needs to stop."

As Halloween draws near and the town of Atchison embraces its so-called haunted roots, Nathan believes there is a responsible way students can embrace the spooky spirit of Halloween without putting their soul at risk.

"On one hand, there's the haunted house that people make for entertainment purposes, and I don't see any problem with going to those. If somebody wants to dress up as a "Friday the 13th" character, whatever," Nathan said. "But then in terms of places that have the reputation of demonic activity going on there, I wouldn't recommend dealing with those sorts of things. Even for the novelty of it, one should not deal with the demonic."

Sacred or scary? Day of the Dead roots run deeper than Halloween

LEILA ALMANZA
THE CIRCUIT



Día de Los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, has become ever-so prevalent in

American mainstream media in recent years, the popularity of which can be largely attributed to the success of movies like Coco and The Book of Life. The holiday has roots in Mexico but over the years has become celebrated throughout Latin America and in Latino communities in the U.S. as well.

Although it makes me incredibly grateful to see something I have celebrat-

ed my whole life receive the recognition it deserves, a part of me still feels like the hundreds of years of cultural and religious importance of this holiday can get lost in the mix of the Halloween season.

Día de Los Muertos is largely associated with Halloween because of its artistic depictions of calaveras and calacas (skulls and skeletons) and the idea of connecting with people who have passed into the afterlife.

To me, the difference between the two celebrations is that unlike Halloween, which is meant to be scary, Día de Los Muertos is meant to be sacred. During this time, we not only remember and reflect on the lives of our family members who have passed but to also connect with

them in a supernatural way.

Traditionally, those who observe this celebration build an ofrenda, or altar, where we place pictures and belongings of our deceased loved ones and lay out their favorite foods which we also eat as a family. The ofrenda is built to encourage spirits to return to us as to hear our prayers for their journey in the afterlife and spend time with them even if they cannot be there physically.

The celebration, which officially takes place on November 1 and 2, also coincides with the Catholic observation of All Saints' Day and All Souls Day. These two celebrations encourage people to pray for the souls of saints and the faithfully departed alike. Similar to Day of the Dead, all of these holidays help us to

not only commemorate the dead but also celebrate their living memory as well.

Growing up, I always found it amazing that my culture and faith could come together in this unique way where instead of mourning the death of my loved ones I could instead celebrate and find solace in their well being even after death. It also gave me a new outlook on life and death and made me realize that just like in life, I can count on my family and God to care for me in death too.

Día de Los Muertos is more than another Halloween festivity, it is a celebration where the past meets the present. It is at this junction between life and death where we can find joy in mourning and hope for eternal life.



Leila Almanza

"I am a 2nd generation Mexican-American. My grandparents immigrated in their childhood from Mexico to San Antonio, Texas, where I was born and raised. My hometown is majority Latino, so a lot of what I grew up around was a fully immersive experience. San Antonio has tons of Latino culture and traditions, from the food, to our city festivals, like our annual Fiesta. I am extremely proud of my heritage and my family's culture. I love that I can share it with others."

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Fall word
Scramble page 3

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COMMUNITY

Learn the spooky thrills of Atchison's Haunted Trolley Tours

JOE MCCUBBIN
THE CIRCUIT

In the streets of Atchison, Kan., we see cold foggy nights and fall leaves brushing along the outskirts of the small mysterious town. The month of October is a spooky time for the town, as the haunted attractions become very popular.

According to Projects coordinator Mary Jane Sowers, Haunted Trolley rides have been happening for the past 12 years.

"The Haunted Trolley rides sell out every season and tickets go fast. Tickets also start selling in early August. Halloween is another busy sold-out event," Sowers said.

The guides take their guests all over Atchison. They begin the tour at the Oak Hill Cemetery. The main narrators tell ghost stories along with the history of Atchison.

The main attractions are Jackson Park and the Sallie and Gargoyle House; it ends at Block 56. The Trolley changes locations by actively exploring different mysterious locations for haunted and thriller enthusiasts.

Ninety percent of out-of-town visitors come for the fun haunted tours Atchison presents. Many visitors come from all over including Kansas City, Weston, Topeka, and Nebraska.

The other 10 percent are the local citizens of Atchison who enjoy taking their family and friends on the Trolley Tours, making memories to remember forever.

The Haunted Trolley Tours take place every year from September through October.



The haunted trolley parked outside the Visitor Information Center Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce.

PHOTO | JOE MCCUBBIN

The projects coordinator for the Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce has mentioned the Trolley as a popular tourist attraction.

"Atchison is the most haunted town in Kansas; it's a friendly haunted town," Sowers said.

The Haunted Trolley Tours provide a valued friendly atmosphere for the trolley guests. Sowers also booked tours for family reunions for those who have never been to Atchison.

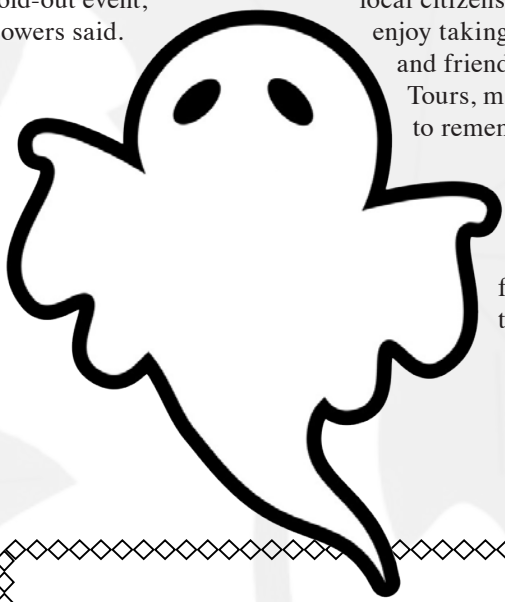
Assistant Director for Chamber of Commerce and

Benedictine alumni, Sterling Folk mentioned a new haunted house attraction that was bought recently.

"Bill Delfs just purchased a house called the Raven Hearse and that will be a new Manor added to the tour," Folk said. The one hour ghost tours

will be offered Thursday, Friday & Saturday afternoons for the remainder of October.

The tours run from 5-8 p.m. in the evening and leave from the Visitor Information Center Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce 200 S. 10th St. Atchison, KS 66002.



Caramel Morsel Bars

MARY KATE ROCHE
THE CIRCUIT

This recipe has been handed down from Great Grandma Hardie who originally found the recipe in a fall issue of a magazine. She first made them in the fall, and it has since become a family tradition that has been passed down for four generations.

Among all her other treats, my Uncle Mike has proclaimed these caramel morsel bars to be his favorite. Great Grandma Hardie would make these every time Uncle Mike would visit and even once sent him some when he was later in the Army.

These sweet treats eventually became a family favorite, and we still make them to this day in memory of both Great Grandma Hardie and Uncle Mike who have both since passed.

Ingredients:

- 14-oz. bag KRAFT Caramels
- 3 TBSP water
- 5 cups crisp rice cereal or toasted oat cereal (I use crisp rice)
- 1 cup peanuts, optional
- 1, 6-oz. pkg. (1 cup) semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1, 6-oz. pkg. (1 cup) butter-scotch chipsew

Directions:

Melt caramels with water in saucepan (or double boiler) over low heat. Stir frequently until sauce is smooth. Pour over cereal and nuts; toss until well coated. With greased fingers, press mixture into greased 9" x 13" pan. Sprinkle morsels on top; place in 200 degree oven for 7 minutes, or until morsels softened. Spread softened morsels until blended to form a frosting. Cool, cut into bars.

The Hauntings of Benedictine

JESSIE SONNEN
THE CIRCUIT

From lights flickering in Memorial Hall, to ghost-sightings in McDonald to the creepy corridors of Cray Seaberg's basement. Benedictine College can seem spooky as the October leaves scurry along the sidewalks and the days get shorter and colder. You might see a deranged figure ambling along the main drive in the wee hours of the morning, but

that's just an architecture student returning home for the night. Yes, there might be hot dogs in bushes and on the steps and bread stapled to trees, but let's be honest, that's more weird than creepy.

While there may be frights around every corner here at BC, here are some practical tips to keep your heart rate at a normal level this spooky season:

1. Replace your light bulbs often and before they get flickery.

2. Take a buddy with you when strolling the streets of Atchison at night.

3. Double check behind the shower curtain.

4. Enroll in a karate class.

5. Keep your contact prescription up to date.

6. Always carry a phone or flashlight or a rosary.

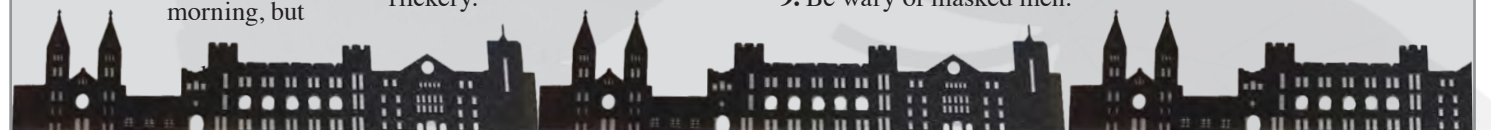
7. Sleep under your bed, so as to surprise the monster that lives there.

8. Keep 3 a.m. adventures to a minimum.

9. Be wary of masked men.

10. Listen to true crime podcasts on your daily run to build up your terror tolerance.

Campus may have some 'haunted' places, but perhaps what will haunt us years from now is the memories of laughter and light that graced every walkway, hallway, sidewalk, and yes, even the creepy corridor. So fear not during this spooky month of October; instead let's make the most of our time here.



RAVEN CHAT

What's your favorite fall movie?



"I really love Halloween Movies so it's hard to choose! I would probably have to say my favorite one would be Hocus Pocus!"

-Emma Hahn, Senior



"I like horror movies, especially classic slashers, so some of my favorites are The Texas Chain Saw Massacre, Scream and Freddy Krueger... I mean A Nightmare on Elm Street."

-LJ Olivarez, senior



"I am not super into scary movies, so I would say my favorite Halloween movie is Charlie Brown Halloween."

-Molly Dietz, Junior

THE CIRCUIT

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SCAN ME

Traditions

The Circuit staff reminisces on their favorite fall traditions



DELANEY GREIM
MANAGING EDITOR

This is the time of year that makes me miss being home the most. As the oldest of ten children my

family is so important to me. One of my favorite things about fall is spending time with my little siblings.

Every Sunday, after mass, we have a big brunch. During the fall season it's full of pumpkin muffins, cinnamon rolls, and apple cider donuts. My mom is the head chef, but we all enjoy baking in the kitchen. Especially when we can taste-test first.

I couldn't be happier to visit home for the holidays.



CHRISTINA SCHIEMAN
MANAGING EDITOR

My favorite season has always been fall, and this is partly because of how special and fun my parents made it growing up.

When the weather started to cool we would bring out all our fall decorations for the inside of our house and a basket full of fall-themed books. My favorite was *The Littlest Pumpkin* by Ronnie Ann Herman. I would read it all throughout fall. Last year my parents sent me a 3D model of one of the illustrations in the book that they crafted together. I still read the book every year and can't wait to pass on the tradition to my kids someday.



LEILA ALMANZA
THE CIRCUIT

Halloween is a family favorite holiday (tied with Christmas) so we have plenty of things we do

every year. It's obligatory that we go to a pumpkin patch with the whole family where everyone gets to pick their own small pumpkin and we choose a few large ones to carve. We have always watched the 31 Nights of Halloween on TV and movie marathons are a must. My grandma loves to bake so she is always finding cute little Halloween themed sweets and my sister and I help her make them. We also help my grandpa decorate the house with lights, and we've used the same lights ever since I was a little kid.



REGAN GETMAN
THE CIRCUIT

Fall has always been my favorite season, because of the weather and the changing colors. Growing up my

family has always made the season special, craving jack-o-lanterns, watching Halloween movies, participating in trunk or treats, and baking fall treat. As well as having a Halloween party each year, bringing all our friends and family together, dressing up, going trick-or-treating, and passing out candy. As I've gotten older it is important to me to continue these traditions for my younger cousins, making their Halloweens as special as mine were growing up.



CATHERINE HALBMAIER
THE CIRCUIT

Traditional trick-or-treating was not a priority for most of my childhood. Instead, my school put on a yearly All Saints Day

party. Every kid dressed up as a saint. One year, Mom sewed individual golden stars onto a veil, creating an award-winning *Our Lady of Guadalupe* costume for me.

As a teen my job was to help out with the carnival games, and I loved seeing kid's faces light up when they won some candy or a prize. Texas fall may not have been full of color, but it holds a fond place in my memory.



AARON LEWIS
THE CIRCUIT

Fall is a very cool time of year. The leaves are changing, the weather is getting colder and I get a year older. My family's big

tradition when it comes to fall is to watch football every week. Saturday's and Sunday's roll around and everyone in the family wears the jersey of their respective favorite team. I guess you could say it's a divided household. Football, football, football it's not just a game for us it's a way of life. If you are ever looking for me or wondering what I'm doing on a Saturday or Sunday just check the time to see if there is a football game on.



JAMES LIEBLANG
THE CIRCUIT

The end of October was a special time to save money. We never bought costumes. In-

stead we fitted ourselves into beautiful outfits my grandmother had sown years ago for my family and our cousins. After finishing our schoolwork for the day, we began the inevitably slow process of preparing ourselves to receive candy from neighbors. There was of course external pressure, psychological not physical obviously, from various quarters of the family, to hurry up and get going early so we could bring back the lousy candy for redistribution to the lucky kids who came knocking at our door.



WILL PROSOKI
THE CIRCUIT

When I was young, . Mid-October, my parents, siblings, and I would go to our school for "trunk or treat." The night before

Halloween, we would all carve jack-o-lanterns while listening to Halloween-themed records that my dad had. On Halloween night, my siblings and I, usually in thematically linked costumes, would go trick or treating with whichever parent was unlucky enough to go with us instead of staying at home and giving out treats. As we grew up and out of trick or treating, I tried to keep the Halloween spirit alive by forcing my family members to watch horror movies with me, usually to much protest on my family's part.



MARY KATE ROCHE
THE CIRCUIT

Fall has always been my favorite season because of the colors, coziness,

and traditions. I have learned to appreciate it more and more the past few years. Growing up In Texas, there was not much change in the season when fall rolled around. The day temperatures stay around the 80's (sometimes even higher) and the colors of the cedar and live oak trees stay the same. Once I came to Benedictine College and experienced my first real fall, I had a much greater appreciation for the change in seasons.



JESSIE SONNEN
THE CIRCUIT

Growing up in a rural community means that Halloween looks a little different. Our closest neighbor was a half mile down the gravel road, so

walking to houses for trick-or-treating wasn't really an option. Instead, my entire family loaded up in our white minivan to cruise around the various farmhouses in the community. Fairy wings were smashed into car seats and Halloween buckets of candy were stashed beneath the seats.

Whether success was measured by the fullness of our buckets or the width of our smiles, Halloween was always a good time and a much anticipated holiday within my family.



DOMINIK SUSANKA
THE CIRCUIT

Halloween was one of the days that 10-year old me waited for all year and it could not come soon enough. In my

home town we had this great tradition on the weekend before Halloween. The companies and businesses on Main Street would open their doors for several hours in the early afternoon, and all the local kids and families would go trick or treating up and down Main Street.

This was always one of my favorite activities, seeing all my friends, going in all the stores and buildings and of course, all the candy.



BROOKLYNNE WOZNY
THE CIRCUIT

One of my favorite traditions to do in the fall is gathering with my family for Thanksgiving. We have many traditions that we do that make this holiday so special to me.

Every year we host Thanksgiving at my house in Carrollton, Missouri with all my cousins on my mom's side of the family. There are a total of 32 people crammed into our house when we're all there.

We always start our

Thanksgiving mornings off with the Turkey Trot 5k run. I hate that we are one of those families that run on Thanksgiving, but it just wouldn't be the same without it! After the 5k we all go together and get coffee from Casey's General Store and go back to the house to start cooking. Because I grew up in a family of dancers, all the girls in the family turn on the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and watch the Rockett's performance as well as the rest of the parade while we cook.

We have the typical Thanksgiving meal, then we always go outside for a family football game to end the evening and work off the food. I always love Thanksgiving because it is one of the few times a year when the whole family is together. Even though we have all grown older now, we still manage to keep the traditions we have created alive.

Fall word Scramble

1. NUKIPPM _____
2. SABT _____
3. ASTESRWE _____
4. LPAPE REDIC _____
5. AHY IRDE _____
6. RTIKC RO ETART _____
7. NUIMKP CEPSEI _____
8. RPTSISI _____
9. DCNAY RONC _____
10. MRLCAE SALPE _____

First 5 people to successfully complete the word scramble win a prize!

Send a screenshot to @bc_circuit on Instagram.

Fall Fun

SNAPSHOTS OF FALL FEST 2022



Leah Sattler poses with painted pumpkin at Fall Fest on Turner Lawn.

Joe O'Keefe pouring beer at the Beer Garden.



Will Humburg, emcee of Fall Fest karaoke.



Abby Garretson sings "Feathered Indians" on stage.

Benedictine student dresses up for the Fall Fest costume contest.



PHOTOS | DELANEY GREIM

Halloween reboot trilogy review: Spoilers for *Halloween Ends*

WILL PROSOKI
THE CIRCUIT

Halloween

Forty years after the original film, Danny McBride and David Gordon Green's 2018 Halloween reboot/legacy-sequel wipes the slate clean, wisely ignoring the timeline of events from Halloween II to Halloween: Resurrection. Despite its many flaws, I really enjoy Green's Halloween. While the plot is standard and the directing a step-down from John Carpenter's, I think it excels in the aspects necessary to make a Halloween sequel work: it's simple, atmospheric and has plenty of brutal deaths. It's a very enjoyable and exciting horror movie, especially in a crowd setting. It's the closest a sequel has come to recapturing the unnerving tone of the first film, thanks in large part to John Carpenter's score. His remastering of classic tracks as well as brand new ones is nothing short of astonishing, each track bringing the appropriate, Halloween-y punch to every scene in the movie.

Michael Myers is an effectively intimidating and threatening antagonist for the first time since the original film from 1978. He feels genuinely inescapable; his violent actions are blunt and disturbing, his mannerisms and body language are perfect in the stiff way he walks and looks around, and how within seconds he shifts from motionless to agile movements is all weird and off-putting, making him feel appropriately inhuman. For decades, doctors have been attempting to figure out Michael Myers, mirroring how audiences and pop culture have been fascinated by him for almost half a century. However, life in Haddonfield has moved on, and the

only person who still cares about Michael Myers, aside from medical professionals and true crime enthusiasts, is Laurie, whose entire life was derailed by the traumatic events of the 1978 film, and has consumed her entire life.

The writing is mostly just serviceable, but I think the movie does a solid job of conveying the loneliness that Laurie has suffered due to Michael's actions and the ripple effects of generational trauma that it has caused her daughter and granddaughter. While the writers do not delve into terribly deeply, it does enough to let the viewer know that the creators have at least put thought into the backstory for the characters they are telling a story about. I particularly like how the climax of the movie is the inverse of the ending of the original Halloween, making it a great companion-piece to bookend the 1978 film. Halloween is one of the handful of legacy-sequels that I really enjoy.

Halloween Kills

Where the 2018 movie had me convinced that the franchise was finally in the hands of creators who understood what worked about the story, Halloween Kills goes back on all of it in such a blatant way that it genuinely makes me wonder what Green and McBride were even attempting to show with Halloween. The town has moved on from what Michael Myers did and Laurie is completely alone in her trauma? Nope! Suddenly, everyone in Haddonfield simply cannot stop talking about how much Michael Myers has terrorized and traumatized them all, forming a Simpsons-esque angry mob to hunt him down. Laurie must learn that Michael Myers' attack on her was completely random and lingering on it for her whole life has

led to nothing but misery for her whole family? Nope! Laurie and her family vow to keep hunting Michael Myers despite being safe from him in a hospital surrounded by cops and security, going so far as to reinforce the notion that there is some spiritual connection between the two of them. Keeping in line with the simple story and tone that the original movie established? Nope! Now there's an extra dozen or so characters all going on separate side-quests that make the movie so all over the place that it has no sense of plot progression from beginning to end.

The town-wide scope of chaos and crowds of townsfolk being driven to madness makes the movie feel more akin to Titanic than it does a Halloween movie. I don't blame them for trying to do something a bit more ambitious with the second installment, but it feels like a plot line that could have worked if it had been the culmination of events in the final installment of the trilogy. Here, it's pulled off in such a clunky and self-important way that it makes the movie feel structureless, and more like a waste of time than an escalation of tension.

Where the fan-service in Halloween was mostly respectful and reserved, Kills cranks up the references in a desperate attempt to drum-up unearned nostalgic emotion. The movie digs up side-characters and actors from the 1978 movie and awkwardly crams them into the movie only to repeat their iconic lines and then be dispatched without any characterization. There is no reason for those characters to be those characters aside from an unnecessary amount of reverence for every minute detail of the 1978 movie.

Even though this movie is terrible, I would be lying if I said there was absolutely nothing redeemable about it. The movie begins with a 70s recreation scene about how Michael Myers got captured in 1978. I really like this scene, but it is the only part of the movie that feels in line with its predecessor, along with John Carpenter's score, which is always fantastic, as well as the opening credit scene. It feels like a delightful Halloween fan-film that was stapled onto a really bad Halloween sequel. Michael Myers is still an effective villain, and there are some memorable kill sequences but there are so many of them that after the seventh of almost 30 deaths, it starts to get monotonous and boring. Aside from a handful of memorable kills and a well-done opening scene, Kills is a pretentious, repetitive, amorphous blob of a movie.

Halloween Ends

I thought that there was no way the trilogy could redeem itself after the second installment, but it turned itself around in a pretty big way. Instead of keeping with the single-night gimmick that the first two had set up, Halloween Ends takes place four years after Michael's rampage through Haddonfield. After completing his goal at the end of Kills, Michael Myers vanished off the face of the Earth. Laurie has been living with her granddaughter, both now in a place of healing and contentment after the years of trauma. Where Laurie first embodied the negative energy and trauma that had been afflicted by Michael Myers, in Ends, that energy has crept out and infected the entire town after the events of Kills. When Allyson, Laurie's granddaughter, befriends Corey Cunningham, a

babysitter who accidentally killed the young boy he was watching, she and Laurie attempt to help him process his trauma in a healthy way. Corey becomes more unhinged as the town rejects his attempts to reintegrate into society, and he finds a kinship with Michael Myers instead of Laurie and Allyson. The lack of Michael Myers in the final installment in the franchise is bound to annoy a lot of viewers, but it was a welcome surprise for me. After two kill-fests where a borderline comically overpowered Michael Myers butchers 40 to 50 people, a more slowly paced, moody movie where the primary antagonist is just some guy named Corey, and Michael Myers kills a total of three or four people is just what I needed to send off this trilogy and franchise overall. This was an appropriate send-off to Jamie Lee Curtis and her character, as well as a satisfying end for Michael Myers.

Overall, I really enjoy David Gordon Green's Halloween trilogy. The mythology that Kills sets up with Michael Myers is more satisfying with the added hindsight that Ends offers. If there is one thing I can say about Ends that I was not expecting, it is that it would give me a somewhat positive new perspective on the overall purpose of Halloween Kills. While the first reboot felt like a modern update of the same story and the 2021 film an excessive extension of that movie, the pacing and style of the 2022 film is the most in line with Carpenter's original Halloween movie. The direction Ends took worked for me to the point where I wish the entire trilogy were more like this. The longer it sits with me, the more I like it and look forward to rewatching it next October.