

Review

Child's Play is Chucky's Game — You Can't Beat'em

by David Miller

That's right! He's back. The pint-sized Toys R' Us terror, a.k.a. "Chucky" is still looking for a human body to help him conquer the world. For those of you not familiar with the *Child's Play* saga, this is the story. Years ago, a convicted serial killer by the name of Charles Lee Ray was hunted down by federal agents and cornered in a city toy store. In order to evade arrest, Charles used a voodoo technique taught to him by an old man to transfer his soul from one body to another. Unfortunately, the closest body during the final moments of the arrest was a two foot high, plastic Good Guy doll. Voila, Chucky was born!

Thus, the hunt begins. Charles must seek a new body to continue his world conquest. In *Child's Play 1 and 2*, Chucky chases after a young boy by the name of Andy Barkley. Not surprisingly, this cute little doll is rude, obnoxious, foul-mouthed, and *extremely* violent. But this adds a great deal of humor to the otherwise gory plot and separates Chucky from the rather quiet Michael Myers and the very ugly Freddy Kreuger.

Chucky goes on a killing spree and eventually at the end of both movies he is supposedly terminated beyond a doubt. But were we wrong! Rising from the messy pile of goop he once was, Chucky re-forms at the abandoned toy factory with no apparent reason.

During a corporate meeting, it is decided that after an eight year respite, Good Guys dolls will be back in the making; the first doll being Chucky. Chucky is given as a gift to the corporate president. Unfortunately, it will be his last gift.

Chucky sends himself UPS to Kent Military Academy where he finds the now-grown-up Andy Barkley. However, a young boy by the name of Tyler intercepts Chucky's delivery and makes Chucky his new best friend.

Meanwhile, Andy is being whipped into shape by an anal retentive drill sergeant named Sheldon. Memories of *Full Metal Jacket* come flooding back as the jokes are made and the punishment is dealt.

Andy's new friend, Whiteherst, the school nerd, is harshly exploited by Sheldon, even as far as to make Whiteherst his slave. Sheldon is fun to hate and gets his in the end.

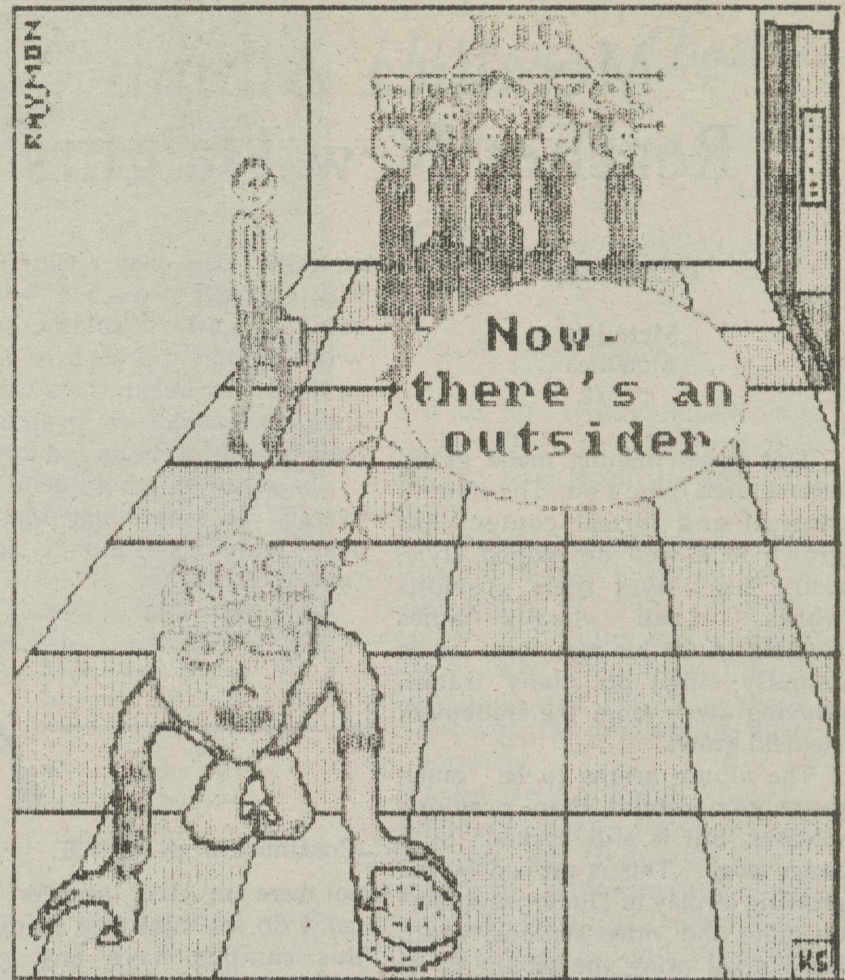
A brazen woman by the name of DaSilva, finds Andy attractive and this results in a rather underdeveloped love twist. This does not matter, however, because Andy looks ten years too young for her anyway.

Upon initial sight of Chucky, Andy freaks and attempts to warn the entire platoon of the doll's deadly intentions for the duration of the film. He also warns Tyler against Chucky's kind words and his ever-famous game, "Hide the Soul," but to no avail. Tyler falls into

Chucky's trap and is taken hostage during the Kent Military War Games (Chucky secretly replaces the painted pellets with live ammunition in hopes of adding a little "spice" to the game).

Chucky's plans are predictably thwarted and the scene moves to a nearby carnival (a horror flick favorite!). Following a typical shootout, Chucky repossesses Tyler and attempts to finally perform the incantations needed to switch souls. Just as you think he's going to succeed, the predictable and rather gory ending prevails.

Overall, if you're looking to be scared, don't bother. But, if you're looking for some good obnoxious humor, then Chucky's right up your alley. To grade this movie as we are graded here at Penn State, I would give *Child's Play 3* a "B".



ASK ? ORLOV

Dear Dr. Orlov,

I have heard a rumor that there are AIDS carriers on this campus. That scares me! Do you think members of the campus have the right to know who these people are?

Distressed at Delco

Dear Distressed,

You're asking a very important and troubling question, which I feel compelled to respond to in a blunt, complex way.

First, I have no idea how anyone could know, or why anyone would wish to claim, that there are AIDS carriers on this campus. Rumors, as a rule, feed on suspicions and untruths, with little or no basis in fact, and become exaggerated. Yet, sadly, they are increasingly believed by those who are fearful, ignorant, foolish, or all of these, as they circulate among more and more people, who contribute to them. And rumors usually injure the innocent and start needless trouble. Be wary of them.

The specific rumor you mentioned has peculiarly dangerous potential to cause needless hysteria and to lead to sinister suspicions about various

individuals, simply because AIDS is, obviously, a truly grave matter and a growing epidemic in our time.

Next, even if there were any factual basis for the rumor (as unlikely as that seems), the nature of our activities at Penn State should prevent "the rest of us" from being in any danger.

Keep in mind what the Surgeon General of the U.S. and other responsible sources have taught us about AIDS. It is *not* transmitted by casual contact or spread by mere proximity, as a cold might be. It results from sexually intimate behavior, from a sharing of "dirty" needles by drug users, or by the absorption (as in a transfusion) of contaminated blood.

To be blunt, the proper purposes and activities of this campus mean that none of us should face *any* risk of getting AIDS from others *on* this campus. If anyone became vulnerable to a carrier while spending time on our campus, they would clearly have to be engaging in illegal or immoral activities that have nothing to do with higher education. And that would pose dangers unrelated to disease for our campus community!

Finally, in view of the suspect

nature of all rumors and the essential safety involved in our various activities at Penn State (whether or

Achievement and Mastery: Petty's Album

by Jamie Wismer

Tom Petty's ninth album with his band the Heartbreakers' has finally achieved the sound Tom Petty was trying to get when he was making his solo album, *Full Moon Fever*. While the latter was a major breakthrough for Petty, the former has achieved the simple sounding yet complex album he was trying to make with *Full Moon Fever*.

Petty's lyrics have improved greatly on this new album. His ability to tell a story with a simple, yet important moral has always been a Tom Petty trademark. On this album he has mastered that ability. Songs such as "Learning to Fly," a song about drug addiction, and "Into the Great Wide Open" about the hard truths and realities of living in the Rock n' Roll world, are far superior to any of Petty's past works.

The Heartbreakers' guitarist, Mike Campbell, has mastered his style and contributes greatly to the somewhat dreamy sound on this album. Other major contributors on the album are Tom Petty's mentor, Roger McGuinn, formerly of The Byrds, and the slick producing of Pettys' fellow Traveling Wilbury, Jeff Lynne.

But Tom Petty's long time fans should not fret; Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers' haven't forgotten how to Rock n' Roll. Just listen to songs such as "Makin' Some Noise" and "Out in the Cold" and you will hear why they are famous.****



Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers