The Wasps: 2024 Movie Review



Guillem Morales *director*

Morgan Lloyd Malcolm *screenplay writer*

(based on his play)

Primary Characters:

Natalie Dormer Carla Jackson

Naomi Harris Heather

Dominic Allburn Simon

Evelyn Temple Ruth

my suggestion is to watch the movie before reading

Theme: Reactive Abuse

Style: This movie is primarily a two person dialogue between old chums Heather and Carla

Our writer and director have given us a psychological, mystery laden plot which unravels slowly as the main character, Heather, unleashes her internal turmoil and mental state using unsuspected twist for movie viewers and seemly her selfish costar Carla. Writer, Malcolm, slowly whines us into the storyline after he introduces us to our characters home lives and prior relationship which we learn serves as the trigger for her constant evolved anger.

The Wasps

The buzz of wasp captures our attention as we observe Heather capture the insect under a clear glass and grow in annoyance to the urgency of a deathly smash. We know she is aware of her best times for fertilization which is somewhere down the list beyond an impending dinner party for her husbands work life and that there is a tension between them.....this is what we know.

At first glance we see a husband who has chosen to decorate the stairwell with framed images of wasps, spiders, and other vile insects. His favorite is the 'tarantula hawk' which has the potential of sting and paralyze especially spiders as it implants its egg inside to feed off of it while it is alive until death.

As the dinner party emerges we see Heather, with great intention, climb onto of a chair and smash in the kitchen ceiling to reveal a 'wasp' nest from which the continuous out pour of wasp she's gathered and killed were coming. This is an outcry against her husbands neglect in having it properly exterminated prior to his big night.

As the kitchen is overcome with wasp, the party abruptly ends, she's chastised, and he leaves for a hotel in shear anger as tribal music plays in the background.

The next days in Heathers life are spent coaxing her old school pregnant chum into killing her husband. This is after she has weighed her own ability to murder using the numerous wasp she slaughtered in her kitchen. She's knows that Carla is in need of money which she has learned reading her online posts. After days of consideration, Carla agrees she is best suited for the task at hand of murder.

To perfect this murder, Carla comes to visit Heather, as anticipated, to discuss the method, the money, and their troubled past. First rule, that nothing of hers, Heathers home, be utilized for the kill is seemingly sensible. Secondly, she refuses to pay the remaining $65 thousand until he is deceased as Carla is pushing her for more cash. Thirdly, the plan is the rid of the body and suggest to the officials that he has left the country with his mistress.

Plot Twist That Thicken

The friendship between Heather and Carla spirals into something unanticipated, dynamically abusive and insulting. The writer takes us through the relationship trauma from home life which replicates into the external environment to do no more than shut down young life. This is then become reflective in both their adulthoods. As honesty prevails, our characters disclose their wounds one out of envy with revolting distain and the other dormant revenge which resurfaces unexpectantly. The two must resolve their inner most issues or plummet together.

Yet, this seemingly easy fix for one is a deep seeded psychological unfixable problem for the other who feels tormented and damaged. The pain provides unexpected bravery from Heather who has decided proved Carla is the one with guts, a survivor mentality that will perfectly outplay her ultimate plan of exposure. Exposure of her husbands mistress which has driven her insane enough to entice a murder from which no one will escape nor go unpunished.

Primary Characters: 

Carla Jackson

Carla isn't in denial of her lifelong actions toward family, Heather, or anyone else. She has a knack for surviving obstacles and works hard to care for her children no matter how much of a task it is. She's on overload even offering re-acquaintance Heather opportunity to adopt her expected baby. However, the need for financial reward purpose her pregnant ability to kill. As she gains momentum for murder we see her sudden will onto properly examining her young life, adult situation, grip inside the sex trade, regrets she hoped she never have to harbor again. This is since she concluded she'd seemingly been forgiven the night taken overlooking the city in thought.

Her abrasive, unapologetic manner is calmed as she is drugged and held hostage in retaliation for her sins and as a means to coax her onto the murder as planned through Heathers ingenuous. Carla later says, "disappointment, nothing in life is going to happen the way it was

supposed to" and then suggests she and Heather are no different. Both comments are almost prophetic inside of Malcom's storyline.

What makes the ending so affective? The fact that Carla loves her kids, yet wishes as she thinks, "mothers die after birth and babies go out and fend for themselves." As we learn of her crimes in youth, bullying and tormenting mentality forming from her 'shit' family's image against other peoples 'goody' ones. A selfish survival mentality formed through which hurting or abusing others outside of her kids come easy. Especially, indirectly using other women's men. In the end, she gets her just due for all the inescapable suffrage she inflicted.

Heather

Heathers primary objective is to punish Simon for his careless philandering and their lack of intimacy. For once in her life, she is going to take back the dignity and respect she lost over her lifetime. As the aggressor, she taps into her cunning whit, practices restraint, and manages her detailed plot for murder. Though she has nothing but 'intention' it is shielded behind an historical weakness she uses to blind her target. The same target which references her as a "cunt".

There is inference to her growth over years as she is crafty through therapy at predicting behavior and understanding what makes others tic. It begins with the precise positioning of each dish upon their dining table (order). Releasing the wasp nest at their dinner party would bring out Simons anger, yet feed her resentment for his lack of in-home care and abuse as both cast a dark cloud over his image.

Friendly neighboring protects her 'good' girl image inside trust. Friendly conniving gets old chum Carla, who has the internal chemistry, anger and nerve, to kill as when they were kids. Both segments represent the onset of Heathers predictable intellect. And, the(her) weak side lures in, isolates, and captures her bug in concert with the wasp preserved under glass for a later kill. A kill she has no courage to perform.

For each thing she wanted and does not have, she offers an unthinkable act and insane sacrifice which in the end terminates the abysmal sense of their conjoined lives.

Sets Are Story Boards

1. The Wasps

Wasps buzzing their annoying sound at length draws proper attention their intended use outside of Simons affinity for insects. These are the bugs tormenting Heather and which she

directly uses to ruin his dinner party in protest of his mounting in-home offenses. Especially, leaving at home and going to a hotel as they flew around the kitchen.

These wasps were documented slow killers doling out a tormenting death to those spiders it induce with venom elevating a fight.

2. The Meeting Place

The Architect restaurant at which the women rekindle their relationship as if no barriers presented. It is the place where Heather captures her tiara and begins to assume the throne she crafted for herself with her design.

3. Her Home

The home, the place of solace, refuge, peace, and comfort with all the things she gathered and collected over the extent of her marriage. The place where a real adult life is suppose to play out over time. Here, she has value and pleasure in knowing it is sacred territory. This place she since taken in as a cage of evil through which she's gained the guts to fight back for once. As we so things, we know there is a problem, a deathly energy within her that inspires her to let evil in and exorcise its spirit or it will kill.

4. The View of The City

It is freedom in the air up there overlooking the gleaming nightlife of a city were one lives, grows, sacrifices, and takes from others as a means of salvaging. Out there was a convincing forgiveness against the uncertainty that it was actually possible in truth. Yet, it was the illumination of regret and atonement for sins through becoming a help and not the hindrance.

5. Grocery Workplace

Financial means is the sole path to living. It is the place that occupies time but giveth in return for things one desire. When confronted with an exceptional amount of cash, it reflects the plausibility of less work and more play. In the back of the building there old crates and a 'red' board with an intentional X across it. I believe this letter is reflective of 'x marking the spot'

as Carla in the middle of a mess confronted with cash, committing a crime, lessening her workload and saving her family.

6. The Neighbor

The film enables us to see Heather intentionally use Ruby as she shares concern for her safety in bike riding which later turns into an exchange of friendly aligning with the mysterious note she's delivered to the neighbors mailbox. There also reflection onto Ruby and her importance as we watch Heather during the climax of the movie. Her final action bare witness to implication of the devil in the details of her plans.

The Psychology of It All

If it was once said that the world we live in small then one must figure that there isn't a citywide distance which at length is lengthy enough to escape the presence of those we know at some unsuspecting time over the years. This too is true of our spouses and associations we make during work, play, or vacations. However, the "when" is at times surprising.

It is evidence this chance happening as we find that Simons mistress is no stranger to his wife having crossed paths makes it much harder for her to process his infidelity and battle inside her mind how best to contend with. Though must of us would go as far as she in her thoughts, she is certain, that when it's over they will both get their 'just' due.

It is the typical lore of revenge as most people seek to equate the hurt and impact of the problem or condition they've found themselves in because of the person or peoples behavior and actions.

In Heather we clearly see the echo of ODD (oppositional defiant disorder), a result of repetitive, irritating, angering pattern of arguing, misconduct, towards her. Simon did exhibit his destructive nature in support of her decision to have him murdered. Yet, we find that she has buried a boat load of memories which destroy her happiness and give way for this final break in wisdom and her truth in ending their marriage with the same vile his projected wasp secret.

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