

HURRICANE FLAG – TMFF Review

Through cinematic (and humankind) history, we have been exposed to countless interpretations of hell and the apocalypse. Regardless of our actual beliefs, the concept itself is quite an engaging one. The end of everything and the punishment of all of our sins. It's just impossible not to wonder what would happen if we happened to face the root of all evil, the evil within ourselves, and the end of everything. With the way things are going, we might not be so far from this last aspect... and as terrifying as that might be, it nevertheless is a subject we can't help but be curious about. What would happen if all those prophecies came true?

Such is the question that *Hurricane Flag* raises. Our final confrontation with evil at the end of all things... and that is a very appealing idea. Granted, we might have seen similar movies or series tackling such a subject, but one of the few aspects that make humankind a fascinating species is how vastly different we can interpret anything. What might seem like a terrible nightmare for some might be a fun ride for others, and that is what this script manages to explore.

Hurricane Flag follows a veteran whose apocalyptic nightmares about Satan begin to turn real, and while the concept itself might sound too intense, the truth is that the writer manages to make it a rather enjoyable experience through its unique approach to the subject and its witty, dark humor.

It has to be said, of course, that the script is anything but typical. Even with a concept as crazy as the one it features, the execution itself is absolutely mind-blowing as the writer combines reality with dream sequences that feel like a combination of *Rick and Morty* and the works of Lars Von Trier. It sure would be a project a little difficult for the general audiences to take in, and a lot would depend on the approach of the director and the way the nightmare sequences are done, but with the right cast and crew, the script could perform quite well as a unique experience.

It could even go beyond the live-action format and work as an animated movie. Actually, this might even help to further play with the visual aspects of the script and the characterization of the characters. Again, it would be an animated experience unique of its kind... but given the writer's craft when describing places and the horrors its protagonist, Zajax, goes through, it might be the best option for its concept to come alive. Besides having such characters as Dr. Sicily, Oscar the Cat, or Luzifer, the animated format feels like the right fit for all of its kookiness.

That's not to say that the script doesn't explore serious subjects. It actually goes quite deep on mental health and the way veterans are treated by society, and it even brings a satirical comment on political and social themes such as migration and the way leaders manipulate people. But instead of making an "on the nose" speech as many other movies do nowadays, the writer manages to play with said subjects to engage us with its characters and plot. While Zajax is quite a compelling protagonist who becomes someone easy to root for as we get to care for him and the way people treat him,

Luzifer and his group provide enough humor to keep us reading about them, thus making the interactions between Zajax and Luzifer some of the most entertaining moments in the script.

Now, the script itself might be a little difficult to read. It does require a very particular mode to connect with it, and the writer could benefit from providing a little more description when it comes to its characters and a less hectic structure, especially because this would help to increase its chances with producers. But, in the end, this is a terrific experience that knows how to entertain by providing one of the most original approaches to hell and the apocalypse we have seen in recent years and is such an engaging one that it wouldn't hurt if it was a little longer. Ninety-four pages is a decent length, but it could add five or six additional pages to make us connect easier with its concept.