

Media Coursework

A blockbuster movie is a film, which has a large budget, wins many awards, has famous actors to play the roles and creates a lot of media attention!

I have chosen to review and analyse the blockbuster movie scream. Scream is a multi-million dollar film made back in 1996. Since it was released in October of that year it has made \$86 million dollars and two sequels have been made and released. The director of scream is Wes Craven, he has also written many other movie blockbusters. E.g. 'I know what you did last summer', 'Scream 2 and 3', 'I still know what you did last summer' and 'The mind ripper'. Craven has in each maintained a gripping dedication to the genre that made him big in the first place. Horror! The main ingredients of a horror movie are a serial killer, victims, a motive and of course fear! Horror movies in the past have been pretty predictable. So far as to say there are simple techniques to keep to in order to stay alive, for example saying things such as "who's there?" and "be right back" are a death wish, coincidentally if a person says them they will inevitably die! Also in order to survive a horror movie you have to remain a virgin and not drink or take drugs. Wes craven abandons this when Sydney Prescott, the main character loses her virginity to her boyfriend and makes it into the sequel.

Scream although rated 18 because of its violent content and adult language is aimed at teenagers and young adults. It is a typical teen horror movie, set in an American High School with characters that teenagers could easily relate to.

Scream won a lot of awards. It picked up 'best movie' in 1996 MTV movie awards, 'Top box office film' in the 1998 ASCAP film and television music awards, 'best actress', 'best horror film' and 'best writer' in the academy of sci fi, horror and fantasy films in 1997, and 'best movie' in MTV movie awards 1997. It was also nominated for many more.

The casting director Lisa Beach specifically picked the cast. Casey Becker, a teenager who loves horror movies and dumped Stu for her rugby player boyfriend Steve. She was played by Drew Barrymore. Sydney Prescott, the lead role, played by Neve Campbell. Sydney's mother was "last years greatest news story" when she was raped and brutally murdered. So she'd been through a lot as it was. She was never

the typical victim. Each time she was attacked she put up a good fight, and although she lost her virginity to her boyfriend Billy she managed to break the rules of a horror movie and survive, also saving the day. Billy Loomis, Sydney's boyfriend, and one of the murderers. Played by Skeet Ulrich. Tatum Riley, Sydney's best friend and fun loving girlfriend of Stu. Played by Rose McGowan. Stuart Macher (Stu), Tatum's out going boyfriend and party lover. The other murderer. Randy Meeks, horror movie freak, obsessed by the horror genre. Often during the film you are fooled to believe that it could be he who is the murderer, especially as he has the hots for Sydney. Played by Jamie Kennedy. Deputy Dwight Riley (Dewey) very caring and sweet, trying to look out for everyone and protect the town from the horror it's facing. He's Tatum's big brother and has the hots for reporter Gail Weathers. Played by David Arquette. Neil Prescott, Sydney's father and the guy who Stu and Billy try to frame for all the murders. Played by Lawrence Hecht. Gail Weathers, the annoying reporter for Top Story. She covered the story on Sydney's mother. Played by Courtney Cox. Most of the main parts in scream were either famous before hand like Courtney Cox from the famous sit com. Friends, and Henry Winkler from Happy Days. Or went on to further their careers in other blockbuster movies like Drew Barrymore and David Arquette in Never been Kissed and Matthew Lillard in She's all that.

Other important people in the making of Scream include the writer Kevin Williamson, the producers Carly Woods and Cathy Conrad, the production designer Bruce Alan-Miller, the editor Patrick Lussier and of course Marco Beltrami, the guy who chose the music. Songs used in a film are very important because they help add to the atmosphere. Each and every one of these people has a very important job to do each crucial in the making of a blockbuster.