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FILM & SCREENPLAY CONTEST - HORROR ANTHOLOGY SERIES - INDEPENDENT MOVIE DISTRIBUTION

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THAT'S TORMENTERTAINMENT!



Director

Ryan Glista

Film

Let's Be Friends

Date

August 10th 2018

Judge's comments

I don't make a habit of throwing around "Wows" but "Wow!" This was an absolute gem.

It's such a strange mix of really well observed human emotions, a death scene straight from the best of the eighties (*The Hitcher*, *A Nightmare on Elm Street* and *Dream Warriors* all sprang to mind for various reasons) and probably the most bizarre vessel to serve up the horror that I have seen in a long time... but it all works! I'm not sure how you've got away with it but you really have, and bravo.

What really stood out the most was how remarkably straight the whole film was played. The father's concern for his son... Connor's awkwardness on the bus... Will's sympathy and concern from his peer - all brilliant. Special mention to Akash Abhilash for his acting, by the way. His reaction to Connor after Beadie had done his thing in the corridor jolted me back from rooting for Beadie to a position of "Yeah, maybe a slap would have been a bit more appropriate!"

As with any good short, you create a sense that this is a slice of a much larger world. The father's concern and the "SOLD" sign made me think that this maybe wasn't the first time Beadie had been bad.

With my English Literature decking-things-with-meanings-that-might-not-be-there tendency, I saw the burial as very symbolic for Connor and his father, putting their shared demon to rest.

Superbly shot. I trust you must be immensely proud of this and you really ought to be. Massive well done to all involved. It was a pleasure to watch.

Judge - Andrew Hannon, Editor