



Beer Drinkers In Space

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Beer Drinkers in Space was a low budget spoof film from 1983. It was shot entirely on VHS using the slow speed. It was made in a garage on a budget that was used mostly for beer. Somehow, against all odds this became some sort of cult favorite. Me, myself had never heard of this. But it must have a rather large audience for them to release this disk. This disk contains the original feature as well as a making-of documentary.

The movie itself is cheesy at best. The plot follows Commander Slosh, Tank, and Tippy as they try to bring beer to places that have been affected by drought. They are specifically heading for Nebula 7/11 to restock. The commanders all wear Star Trek Halloween costumes and the crew all wears Evel Knievel jackets. The first mate, Tippy, is a flamboyant gay man who is never at a loss for words.

Along the way our heroes run into a couple different kinds of alien races. First off, they come across the evil Probes. They're a humanoid race that completely despises beer and wants to see all beer destroyed. While dealing with the Probes, they also encounter the Leshinboons, which are in essence little green Muppets. It's not entirely clear what these Muppets want, but they hole up inside the ship's vents and spring out at the most inconvenient times.

Eventually they meet up with an old timer space adventurer, who seems to want to do nothing but whine and bellyache about every situation. The Probes come back with more force than ever, and it is up to our heroes to stop them and deliver beer across the galaxy. The movie itself really isn't bad. I had expected to hate it, but I can easily see how this turned into a cult favorite.

The making-of feature was rather satisfying in itself. We learn that this piece was made by former members of Disney. I guess that explains the watchability of it. It was shot in only nine days, using a rental house. Most of the props were carved out of Styrofoam. The special effects actually look good for what it is. The fact they were able to have special effects at all is truly an accomplishment.

The acting was actually decent. It got a little farfetched here and there and the actors are definitely guilty of overacting through parts, but all in all it wasn't bad. The people involved with this film are borderline obsessed with it. Through the documentary we learn just how passionate these people actually were. They looked at it as a lot more than just a simple movie. They put so much effort into it, and strained themselves so much to make it work, that it has occupied these peoples lives for over 30 years now.

What gets me really excited about this film is that I can clearly see its potential use in drinking games. Hell, the actors were even playing a drinking game while they were shooting it. There are so many quotable one liners and repetitive catchphrases that you clearly use this as a tool to get sloshed.

The movie by itself warrants 2.5 cans. However in this package, coupled with the documentary it goes up by at least a can due to the fact the documentary was just so darn interesting. There is something about that elixir they call beer...it grabs my attention every time. This movie would go well with either your finest Pabst Blue Ribbon or Old Milwaukee. Garnish and enjoy.



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