

A Night In With POSSESSION



When people think about Horror as a genre of just about anything, the same old connotations come to mind: lack of plot, unnecessary gore and stupid characters. Possession is anything but.

Horror for the past couple of decades has been sadly riddled with cliché after cliché and the genre as a whole could be considered to be going stale. The lack of end to the seemingly infinite amount of pointless sequels SAW is producing is making horror fans the world over tremble at the mere thought that the cash cow that is the SAW series would never end.

Luckily for us at the Radio Times, we managed to grab ourselves VIP badges to a premiere hearing of BBC Radio 4's new take on the horror genre in the form of Radio Drama, Possession. Being the sceptical person that I am, I didn't expect a lot from it, and my mind filled with all the clichés once I was informed it was aimed at a target audience that could be considered 'somewhat' out of my age range, and yes, I mean the lovely adolescents of our modern society.

However, much to my luck again, this was not so much the case. From the little 5 minute segment we were treated to at BBC Towers was rather interesting, including the seemingly well acted characters who appeared

to have developed personalities and not actually be gullible enough to wander out into the forest alone armed with nothing more than a flashlight. Admittedly, this horror itself isn't much like the others, as there is no supervillain or monster to prey upon the bones of our hapless foursome.

Funnily enough, even though this radio drama doesn't follow any of the stereotypical conventions of a radio drama, it still has its flaws, like a

rather confusing storyline, as backgrounds of some characters can be a little unknown until the consequences actually occur, like the death of key characters and the like. Not to throw in any spoilers of course, as that would make you tuning in and listening to Possession rather irrelevant.

We caught up to the man who voiced the legendary character Zane, and asked him a few questions about his experience acting as Zane, and whether his acting was legitimately acting and there aren't as many similarities between him and the character he claims to be acting as. These are the words of the man behind the persona, you have been warned.



Radio Times: So, they asked you to act as a psychopath, how did that work for you?

Aleks: Well, it was interesting to say the least, seeing as I'd like to think I'm not actually like that in real life. -Chuckled nervously- But I did really get into the acting, probably a lot more than I should have.

RT: Is it true that you actually had to have a cool-off session after each scene, because you got so into the act?

A: Yeah, they had a little room that took place as my trailer, that I sat in

to cool down after every scene I acted out, because I'd get so into the zone I'd actually put myself into a bad mood. -Laughed- So I was made to sit back there by the producers and made to drink cold coffee! I don't know why that worked...but it did.

RT: I guess that's one way to work around it.

A: Haha yeah, I did give a husky effect to my throat though, so if you hear my voice deteriorate towards the end of the drama, it wasn't my fault!

RT: What was it like working with

the other actors on the drama?

A: They were all great people to work with, there were barely any issues that were brought up, and the actual recording of the drama went really quickly because nobody messed up that much.

RT: Final question, do you see yourself doing radio drama again?

A: Definitely, because you don't actually have to sit through 5 hours of make-up like the Hollywood stars do, you can literally look like a hobo and no one will care, all that matters is your voice!

Possession will air on the 24th April at 11pm on BBC Radio 4 Extra - RT

