



TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

The Greatest Zombie Movie Ever By Jeff Strand Reviewed by Alexander Miller

Name: Alexander Miller

Grade: 10

Book Title: The Greatest Zombie Movie Ever

Author: Jeff Strand

Number of Pages: 265

Rating (on a scale of 1-5): 3/5

Character List:

- **Justin:** Justin is the main character who decides to create a zombie movie with his best friends and eventually becomes the director of the movie.
- **Bobby:** Bobby is one of Justin's best friends who becomes the producer, and provides many outrageous ideas for the movie.
- **Gabe:** Gabe is one of Justin's best friends and is the voice of reason in the group.
- **Alicia:** Alicia is the lead actress in Justin's zombie movie.
- **Christopher:** Christopher is the lead actor in Justin's zombie movie.

Review:

Justin decides to embark on creating the greatest zombie movie ever with his best friends Bobby and Gabe! The crew needs to clear quite a few hurdles to reach their goal, such as writing a full feature film movie script, raising enough money, and finding the right cast - all in four weeks. They barely have enough time to work on the project due to school and work. Justin's grandmother provides \$5,000 to help with the production, but now they must make sure they can gross in that much money to pay it back, plus 12 percent. They hold auditions after school to cast the actors. Justin also tries to get closer with the lead actress, Alicia, but is thwarted by her boyfriend, Christopher, who is the lead actor in the film. He begins to wonder if he has made a mistake casting them. The movie production is very stressful on Justin and he is losing a great amount of sleep over it. Although Justin's parents are supportive of his goal for the movie, he gets in trouble with his parents over his grades and behavior in school, and is temporarily grounded from working on the movie. Justin has a tremendously difficult time overcoming these hurdles to finish the movie on time and worries if he will let everyone down who had such high expectations of him and his movie!

The Greatest Zombie Movie Ever is told in the third person. Author Gary Paulsen's writing style is casual in the selection of language, as the story is mostly told through the choppy dialogue of the high school characters. The plot moves along through dialogue and the insertion of portions of the script. There are a few flaws in the plot that outweigh the strengths of the content of the book: the author often gets off-track in the story plot, and the humor is not very witty, so the story gets boring in several places. This book is best suited for a middle school audience, considering the mild, sarcastic humor. Although the story takes place in a high school setting, this book may not appeal to older audiences;

high school students may not find the story very entertaining due to the immature humor and the lack of excitement in the plot.