

Eric Bana and Olivia Wilde co-star in high body-count crime caper

Written by Kam Williams, Film Review



Siblings Addison (Eric Bana) and Liza (Olivia Wilde) are in the midst of making a break for Canada after pulling a casino heist, when they encounter a blinding blizzard in Michigan. Their car careens down an embankment and flips over, leaving their getaway driver dead the second his head hits the windshield.

Soon, a state trooper arrives at the scene, unaware that the accident victims are actually felons on the run. Without hesitation, itchy-fingered Addison pulls out a gun and callously kills the unsuspecting officer.

Figuring that the cops might now be looking for a man and a woman, the brother and sister decide it might be wise for them to separate and reunite north of the border. He heads into the forest; she thumbs a ride with an ex-con (Charlie Hunnam) headed home for Thanksgiving.

And while Addison continues to create major mayhem with his every encounter with people he meets in the woods, Liza uses her womanly wiles to wrap Jay around her little finger. By pure coincidence, Addison's bloody trail leads to the humble country home of Jay's parents, June (Sissy Spacek) and Chet (Kris Kristofferson). Of course, Jay and Liza eventually arrive there, too, leading to a big showdown during the turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

Directed by Stefan Ruzowitzky, "Deadfall" is a high body-count affair that's every bit a grisly splatterflick as it is a psychological thriller. What makes the film fascinating is the contrasting approach taken by the picture's protagonists.

For, Addison is a psychopath inclined to take no prisoners, while his sister's relatively-subtle style is that of a sultry femme fatale. The question is how long can they keep up the "good perp, bad perp" charade before their luck finally runs out?

An intriguing cat-and-mouse caper featuring both bullets and brains.

Very Good (3 stars)

Rated R for profanity, sexuality and graphic violence

Running time: 95 minutes

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Distributor: Magnolia Pictures

To see a trailer for "Deadfall", visit: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWmyntu12Mk>