**Silent Hill**

Silent Hill is film adaptation of videogame series of the same name published by Konami in 1999. Roger Avary wrote script in 2004 and the movie was released in April 2006. Silent Hill falls into horror genre, from which it takes atmosphere and tension but it is not really that scary. The movie is set in a small abandoned mining town named Silent Hill which was decimated by underground fires of large coal deposits. Small girl Alessa lived there but she was having hard time with local people as she was illegitimate child with unknown father. Situation escalated to the point that she was sexually assaulted. Local cult decided that Alessa had to be cleansed by fire. In accident during the attempt to burn Alessa, church caught fire and the underground fires started. The fires lead to permanent thick fog and falling ashes covered whole town, which became abandoned ever since. Story evolves around Rose, Christopher and their adopted daughter Sharon, thirty years after the events in Silent Hill.

Rose and her husband Christopher were increasingly more worried about their daughter Sharon, because she was suffering from sleepwalking and drawn to Silent Hill in her nightmares. Sharon’s mental state was getting worse every day and after a while Rose agreed to take Sharon to Silent Hill, behind Christopher’s back, in belief it could help their daughter.As they were driving to Silent Hill girl appeared ahead and Rose crashed the car and lost her consciousness. When Rose finally waked up she was alone, ashes were falling down from the sky and thick fog covered surroundings. She quickly discovered that going back for help was just not possible because of seemingly endless ravine cuts off the road behind her so she decided to continue to Silent Hill to find Sharon. While wandering through streets loud siren winded up and town transformed into somewhat more darker and rotten version of itself. In distance distorted figures appeared walking towards Rose. After a while of hiding from those creatures everything turned back to previous state. Meanwhile Christopher find out about about their trip and went looking for them, but there was not any ashes or fog and his wife and daughter were nowhere to be found. Then she met woman which mistook photo of Sharon for her daughter Alessa. Rose is then led to church where met cult leader who told her about a demon in local hospital who knew where Sharon is. The cult leader also found Rose’s photo of Sharon and recognize her likeness as Alessa. Rose was then forced to run from the cultists into hospital basement, where she found burned, but alive Alessa lying on the bed. Rose then discovered that as Alessa suffered in pain her soul splitted into two persons. Alessa as the dark part and Sharon is actually good side of her. Rose is told that the cult leader was going to try to sacrifice Sharon by burning too.

Only way to save Sharon, from all of the cultists, was help Alessa in her revenge, so Rose gave consent to merge with Alessa’s soul with her and get inside the church. When Rose got to the church Sharon is already tied at the stake. Rose then tried to reason with cultist, but unsuccessfully. Alessa emerged from Rose and brought darkness into church killing everyone thus completing her revenge against cultists. Sharon afterwards merged with Alessa becoming one person and left with Rose. When they got to the car ravine was no longer there so they headed home. Christopher was back home sitting on a sofa, but when Sharon with Rose finally got there Christopher did not acknowledge their presence in the slightest. It was sunny day with clear sky, however for Rose and Sharon there were no sun outside, only thick fog and falling ashes.

End leaves us with options how to interpret ending by viewer’s own taste and I really appreciate that. There is sequel SIlent Hill 2 which I can not recommend in any way. This sequel is targeted at three-dimensional stereoscopic production with flashy effects, but is lacking in every other way.

*A3 Wednesday 9:20*

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