

## = Resident Evil : Apocalypse =

Resident Evil : Apocalypse is a 2004 apocalyptic fiction action horror film directed by Alexander Witt , from a screenplay written by producer Paul W. S. Anderson . It is the second installment in the Resident Evil film series , which is based on the Capcom survival horror video game series Resident Evil .

Borrowing elements from the video games Resident Evil 2 , 3 : Nemesis , and Code : Veronica , Resident Evil : Apocalypse follows heroine Alice , who has escaped the underground Umbrella facility and must band with other survivors including Jill Valentine and escape Raccoon City alive .

The film opened to theaters on September 10 , 2004 . On a budget of \$ 40 million , the film grossed \$ 51 million domestically and \$ 129 million worldwide , surpassing the box office gross of the previous installment . Resident Evil : Apocalypse received mostly negative reviews from critics , who praised the action sequences but criticized the plot . The film was released to DVD on December 28 , 2004 .

## = = Plot = =

A month after the contamination of The Hive seen in Resident Evil , the Umbrella Corporation unwisely sends in a research team to reopen the complex and investigate the incident , since no one survived except Alice and Matt Addison , and as Alice was experimented on , Matt was put into a mysterious " Nemesis Program " . When the team reprograms and opens the sealed blast doors , they are slaughtered by the massive crowd of infected .

With the infected released outside , they reach Raccoon City , spreading the infection among the general populace . Two days after the infection has spread to the surface , Umbrella , worried about possible worldwide contamination , quarantines Raccoon City and establishes a security perimeter around it , also evacuating all important Umbrella personnel out of the city . However , a girl named Angela Ashford ( Sophie Vavasseur ) , daughter of the Level 6 Umbrella researcher Dr. Charles Ashford ( Jared Harris ) , who is also the T @-@ virus creator , goes missing , after an Umbrella security car transporting her out of Raccoon City suffers a traffic accident .

Alice awakens in the deserted Raccoon City hospital attached to wiring , and after strapping herself out of the wiring , she manages to unlock her room and step outside . Finding no one in the hospital , she wanders outside to find the city a ghost town , infected . She arms herself with a shotgun from a police car and wanders around the city to look for supplies . She is constantly disturbed by a man who keeps showing up in visions , who was revealed to be experimenting on her ; she now has superhuman agility and strength .

While Umbrella is evacuating civilians at the Raven 's Gate Bridge , the only exit out of the town , disgraced police officer Jill Valentine ( Sienna Guillory ) , confers with Sargeant Payton Wells ( Razaaq Adoti ) , her old ally , after hearing about the infection being true . However , the T @-@ virus infects a man having a heart attack , turning him into a zombie that bites Payton at the city gates . Umbrella 's supervisor and the head of the Raccoon City contamination operation , Timothy Cain ( Thomas Kretschmann ) , worried that the T @-@ virus has reached the gates , seals the exit and orders his soldiers to fire over the crowd 's heads , scaring them back into the city .

Elsewhere , Carlos Olivera ( Oded Fehr ) and other Umbrella soldiers link up with Special Tactics And Rescue Squad ( S.T.A.R.S. ) units to defend against an onslaught of zombies . Their positions are overrun , causing Carlos and his team to retreat with a bitten Yuri ( Stefen Hayes ) , who turns into a zombie and infects Carlos before being killed . Before Yuri becomes a zombie , however , Jill , Payton , and news reporter Terri Morales ( Sandrine Holt ) lock themselves in a church , where a panicked man is also hiding . Inspecting the church , Jill finds a priest who has been feeding other people to his zombified sister . Later on , they find the church is full of Lickers . The priest and the panicked man are killed , but Jill , Payton , and Terri are saved at the last minute by the heavily @-@ armed Alice .

In the meantime , Umbrella dispatches their Nemesis Program to kill all remaining S.T.A.R.S. operatives to test him . When Nemesis encounters a surviving citizen , L.J. ( Mike Epps ) , and

members of S.T.A.R.S. , the latter two entities open fire on Nemesis . Nemesis guns the team down but spares L.J. ' s life when he drops his weapons . Meanwhile , Dr. Ashford has refused extraction , since Angela is missing , and soon discovers she is hiding in her school dormitory . He hacks into the city ' s CCTV system , uses it to contact Alice and the other survivors , and offers to arrange their evacuation in exchange for their rescuing Angela . Alice , seeing no other escape , accepts the offer .

After Payton , Terri , and Jill hear the offer they relent , intending to seal themselves until backup arrives , but Alice explains her choice ; as the contamination cannot be put under control , a nuclear bomb will be dropped on Raccoon City , completely destroying it , and the media cover story will be a meltdown of the local nuclear power plant . Soon afterward , Payton shows signs of weakness from the T @-@ virus , and as this happens , Nemesis appears and shoots Payton dead . Alice separates and assaults him , but he is invincible to fight . She lures him to a local store , where she tries to fight him , but she is overwhelmed and forced into retreat . Jill and Terri make it to the school , and they pick up L.J. on the way .

Inside the school , they find Carlos and Nicholai ( Zack Ward ) acting on the same offer . After encounters with zombie dogs and infected children who kill Nicholai and Terri , Alice saves the group again , and they find Angela . Angela reveals she was injected with the T @-@ virus ; she was ill with a genetic disease and forced to walk on crutches . Dr. Ashford created the T @-@ virus to allow her to walk , and he created the anti @-@ virus because of the T @-@ virus ' potential for mutations , but the virus was then impounded and weaponized by Umbrella . Alice uses Terri ' s video camera to record her story and injects Carlos with the anti @-@ virus carried by Angela , to keep her infection in check .

Dr. Ashford gives Alice the location of the extraction point at City Hall , where the helicopter waits . The group makes it to the rendezvous but is cornered by Major Cain , who has caught wind of Dr. Ashford ' s intentions and is holding him prisoner . All but Alice are restrained , and seconds later Nemesis appears . The helicopter is actually Nemesis ' extraction before the bomb detonation . Major Cain commands Alice to fight Nemesis . Alice refuses , but when Cain kills Dr. Ashford in cold blood , she relents and fights Nemesis , impaling him on a pole . Defeating Nemesis , she realizes he is Matt Addison , her friend and one of the survivors in The Hive , as he was infected by a Licker , he started to mutate and was placed in the program .

Her stand and refusing to kill him rekindles a trace of Matt ' s former humanity ; he and Alice join forces and attack the Umbrella forces . Meanwhile , Carlos and Jill cut themselves free from their bonds and join the fight . Nemesis is killed , protecting Alice from an exploding helicopter . Alice punished Major Cain by throwing him out of the helicopter to be devoured by a horde of encroaching zombies , including Dr. Ashford . As the survivors escape in the remaining chopper , the nuclear missile detonates over the City Hall . The helicopter is caught in the blast wave and crashes . As the helicopter falls , a metal pole comes loose and is flung towards Angela . Alice moves in front of Angela and is impaled , saving her but killing Alice .

Some hours after the explosion , Umbrella employees locate the helicopter ' s crash site , deep in the Arklay Mountains . There , they find Alice ' s body , badly burned ; the others are nowhere to be found . The media later shows that Terri ' s footage has been shown to the press , but despite Carlos and Jill ' s best efforts , Jill ' s earlier suggestion about Umbrella ' s media power comes true . Umbrella promotes a fake story about a nuclear power plant explosion near the city with ease , the infection is characterized as a hoax , and the media announces that Jill and Carlos are wanted by the police for questioning .

Three weeks later , in Umbrella ' s research facility in Detroit , Alice awakens . Led by Umbrella scientist Dr. Sam Isaacs ( Iain Glen ) , the doctors begin questioning her . Soon , she recalls events from Raccoon City and before . She realizes that the doctor who appeared in her visions is Dr. Isaacs . She attacks him , fights her way out of the facility , and makes her way outside , only to be surrounded by more Umbrella guards holding her at gunpoint . Suddenly , Jill , Carlos , Angela , and L.J. pull up , disguised as Umbrella employees . Carlos shows the guards a written order placing her in his custody . Alice enters the vehicle , and Dr. Isaacs is shown saying , " Let them go " , to an Umbrella guard and then saying , " Program Alice activated " . A close @-@ up of Alice ' s eye

shows a flashing Umbrella logo , and she ignores them . The scene then pulls away from the car they are in and all the way out into space , where an Umbrella satellite is seen .

= = Cast = =

= = Production = =

= = = Pre @-@ production = = =

Resident Evil : Apocalypse was first discussed by Milla Jovovich and Paul W. S. Anderson while promoting Resident Evil ( 2002 ) . Anderson stated that he began writing the screenplay for the second film after completing the first . He revealed an idea to have Jill Valentine meeting up with Alice , however this idea was scrapped as he wanted two separate stories occurring at the same time . Anderson mentioned the film would go ahead if the first film was a success and promised that " the sequel will be even better " , stating that " there is more of the story to be told . " The sequel was officially greenlit by Sony in mid @-@ 2002 , however Anderson chose not to direct but rather stay on as the film 's producer and writer due to commitments to Alien vs. Predator ( 2004 ) .

Alexander Witt was hired by Sony to direct the sequel . Milla Jovovich confirmed her character would return in the sequel if the first film was successful , and when the film was greenlit , Jovovich officially signed on . In March 2002 , Eric Mabius ( who played Matt Addison in the first film ) , confirmed the story would revolve around his character becoming Nemesis . He also revealed he would portray the character and study his movements whilst playing Resident Evil 3 : Nemesis , however before production began he pulled out and Matthew G. Taylor was cast as Nemesis . It was reported that Gina Philips would appear as Claire Redfield and Natasha Henstridge as Jill Valentine , however both actresses left before production began . Sienna Guillory was cast to portray Jill Valentine and Oded Fehr was cast as Carlos Olivera , while Claire Redfield 's role was scrapped after Emily Bergl dropped the role . The role was later offered to Ali Larter in the film 's sequel Extinction ( 2007 ) . Jason Isaacs was originally intended to return and portray Dr. William Birkin , however passed on the role and the character 's name was changed to Dr. Isaacs , with Iain Glen being cast in the role .

Jack Noseworthy was originally rumored to portray Brad Vickers , however , this was later revealed as a rumor . Two weeks before production began , Jared Harris was cast as a new character called Dr. Ashford who developed and produced the T @-@ virus .

= = = Story development = = =

In March 2002 , it was revealed that the film borrowed plot elements from Resident Evil 2 and Resident Evil 3 : Nemesis , as the film 's subtitle was revealed as Resident Evil : Nemesis . It was also revealed that the film included new characters from the video game series , such as Jill Valentine , Claire Redfield , Carlos Olivera , Dr. William Birkin and Nemesis . In April 2003 , it was confirmed that the story began minutes after the end of the first film , where Alice is a survivor amongst the ruins of Raccoon City .

The film borrowed numerous elements from the game series , including re @-@ enactments of certain scenes , such as Alice running through a building with an Umbrella helicopter firing at her , up to the point where she drops her gun , falls , re @-@ grabs it and fires , which is reminiscent of the introductory cutscene of Resident Evil Code : Veronica . Another scene where Raccoon City is overrun by zombies and the police and Umbrella mercenaries are fighting back is reminiscent of the introduction of Resident Evil 3 : Nemesis . Other scenes involve the launching a missile to destroy Raccoon City and the attack at the graveyard .

The film references Resident Evil , with the crash site of the helicopter being located in the Arklay Forest near the Arklay Mountains , where the Resident Evil series began . Other similarities include

Jill 's moves from the first game . The recording of Terri 's death is similar to Kenneth 's death . A white goddess statue can be seen in the church , with artwork of goddesses having a large role in the puzzles of the Resident Evil series . Whilst walking on the Arklay Overpass , Jill speculates that there is no way out , and that Ashford may just be watching them on the cameras , as if the whole thing were some sort of sick game . The games use a fixed camera perspective , which in most of the earlier games resembles a mounted camera 's perspective . Another similarity includes a scene where Jill finds a gun under a pew , mirroring the game when the player finds ammunition or weapons in certain areas .

The film references Resident Evil 2 when Alice visits the gun shop which is similar to Kendo 's Gun Shop . Angela Ashford 's character is based on Sherry Birkin , as they are both children , dressed in school uniforms , and in need of rescue . Both of their fathers are also researchers working for Umbrella . The Ashford name comes from the founders of Umbrella revealed in Resident Evil Code : Veronica . The film also references Resident Evil 3 : Nemesis with Jill wearing the same outfit . Nemesis is a character taken directly from the game , and the " STARS " are mentioned on numerous occasions .

= = = Production = = =

Actors portraying zombies were trained at a zombie " boot camp " where they were coached to act as " zen " zombies and " liquid " zombies . Anderson and other crew members intended to make the zombies move faster but decided that it would be breaking a fundamental element of the games . The design for Nemesis was to include an actor in a suit ( Matthew G. Taylor ) with only special effects applied to certain parts of the character 's body , such as the eye . The Lickers were fully computer @-@ generated , though the use of physical puppets was originally considered . To avert issues faced during production , the CGI work of the Lickers began early . The film was filmed on location in Canada , with the film entering pre @-@ production stages in mid @-@ 2003 . Principal photography was slated to originally begin in July 2003 , before being bumped up to August 6 , 2003 .

The film was shot in Ontario , Canada , with Toronto and its surrounding suburbs being a stand @-@ in for Raccoon City . It was originally feared that production would be shut down due to the 2003 SARS outbreak in Toronto .

= = Marketing and release = =

The film was planned for an October 31 , 2003 release , although was pushed back to September 10 , 2004 due to the 2003 SARS outbreak . In late 2003 , a teaser trailer was released titled Regenerate and was directed by Marcus Nispel . The preview was noted for being reminiscent of the Olay product Regenerist advertisements and can be viewed in RealMedia and Windows Media formats . In May 2004 it was revealed the trailer would actually be part of the film . Milla Jovovich 's official website later released promotional images that showed Alice in several scenes from the film .

The theatrical trailer was released on Yahoo ! Movies on July 7 , 2004 and prior to the film 's release , two albums for Resident Evil : Apocalypse were released . The first was the soundtrack which was released August 31 , 2004 and featured music from the film . The second was the film 's score , which was released in late 2004 and was composed by Jeff Danna and performed by the London Philharmonia Orchestra . A day before the film 's release , numerous props from the film were auctioned on the website Premiere Props . The film opened at number one in North America on September 10 , 2004 and received an estimated \$ 23 @. @ 7 million on its opening weekend and \$ 129 @, @ 394 @, @ 835 worldwide .

A novelization written by Keith R. A. DeCandido was published by Pocket Star on August 31 , 2004 . The novel is 288 pages long . DeCandido also wrote the novelizations for the first and third films .

= = = Critical response = = =

Rotten Tomatoes gives the film a score of 21 % based on 124 reviews . The site 's Critics Consensus reads , " Resident Evil : Apocalypse has lots of action , but not much in terms of plot or creativity . " Metacritic gives the film a score of 35 % based on 26 reviews .

Leonard Maltin rated the film a " BOMB " in his book Leonard Maltin 's Movie Guide , and called it a " Tiresome follow @-@ up to Resident Evil that plays more like a remake . " Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun @-@ Times gave the film a score of half a star out of four , saying : " The movie is an utterly meaningless waste of time . There was no reason to produce it , except to make money , and there is no reason to see it , except to spend money . It is a dead zone , a film without interest , wit , imagination or even entertaining violence and special effects . [ ... ] Parents : If you encounter teenagers who say they liked this movie , do not let them date your children . "

Dave Kehr of The New York Times gave the film a positive review , saying : " Anderson 's screenplay provides a steady series of inventive action situations , and the director , Alexander Witt , makes the most of them . His work is fast , funny , smart and highly satisfying in terms of visceral impact . " M. E. Russell of The Oregonian said : " The bad news ? The movie is monumentally stupid . The good news ? It 's a fun kind of stupid . " Nathan Rabin of A.V. Club said that the film " takes too long to get going to qualify unequivocally as a good movie , but when Jovovich finally starts kicking zombified ass , it becomes good enough . "

Gregory Kirschling of Entertainment Weekly praised Jovovich but felt that " the rest of the cast is strictly straight @-@ to @-@ DVD . " Ben Kenigsberg of The Village Voice said the film is " not without its moments of elemental dread [ but ] also obviously padded , too long on action , and painfully short on irony . The satirical element still packs a minor jolt . " Carrie Rickey of The Philadelphia Inquirer said that " those who want something more substantial from a movie than a vid @-@ game script with centerfold appeal will not find it in this noisy , bone @-@ crushing survivalist flick . "

In 2009 , Time listed the film on their list of top ten worst video game movies . According to the DVD extras of Resident Evil : Extinction ( 2007 ) , Paul W. S. Anderson , the director of the first film and writer of the series , was critical of director Alexander Witt 's work .

= = = Accolades = = =

= = = Home media = = =

The film was released on DVD in North America on December 28 , 2004 . Releases on UMD and Blu @-@ ray Disc formats followed on April 19 , 2005 and January 16 , 2007 , respectively . The film was released in Australia and New Zealand on March 16 , 2005 and February 2005 in UK . The release included an audio commentary by the director Alexander Witt , producer Paul W. S. Anderson , and actress Milla Jovovich . The release included 20 deleted scenes with numerous outtakes and a featurette titled " Game Over : Resident Evil Reanimated " . 6 other featurettes were included which covered behind the scenes of the film 's production . The blooper reel included on the DVD edition is not included on the Blu @-@ ray edition of the film .

Special " Resurrection Editions " of both Resident Evil ( 2002 ) and Resident Evil : Apocalypse were released in a two @-@ disc set on September 4 , 2007 . An exclusive sneak peek scene for Resident Evil : Extinction ( 2007 ) was included , along with several other bonus features including " Diary of an Apocalypse " and " The Evolution of Resident Evil : Bridge to Extinction " .

In 2013 , Sony Pictures Home Entertainment released a two @-@ disc set containing the first four films in the series . It was called The 4 Movie Resident Evil Collection .