

October 1, 2019 · Ryan Larson

## [Fantastic Fest '19] Reviews: Short Films of Fantastic Fest 2019

The following films were screened at this years Fantastic Fest one of the nations leading genre film festivals.



### 3 Days

Julie Sharbutt

A taut twelve minute thriller that uses masterful sound design to craft tension and three actresses share a witty banter that turns into a melancholic anxiousness that keep things light before a frightening stinger at the end. Actress turned writer/director Julie Sharbutt aids in acting duties but proves that she can bounce around between levity and heart-race inducing pressure cooking. Beautifully shot with a lot of promise amid the light shades of blue and James Craft has a string lead score that sounds bigger than it should.



### 9:40

Jorge Morrell

Kristyan Ferrer of *Sin Nombre* fame stars in this Mexican short about a bus trip gone awry. With a heavy focus on sound and repetitive action, Morrell does a great job at making something horrific out of the mundane. It's a quick journey into Hell but will have you squirming in your seat with an acute attention to the chaotic echo of everyday din.



### Butt Fantasia

Mohit Jaswal

Using music from *Fantasia*, most notably "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," this absurdist comedy bit has an old man become a maestro to six minutes of bare asses dancing around and performing non-sequitur pieces that would fit perfectly into an episode of *South Park*. Perfect for any fans of the Adult Swim brand of humor.



### Ding Dong

Suki-Rose

Essentially the most surreal episode of *Real Housewives* never seen. Suki-Rose uses stark whites, minimalism and a reverb heavy score to create a highly uncomfortable situation. Entirely off-putting and fractionally disturbing, a satisfying little short with its tongue in cheek.



### Wakey Wakey

Mary Dauterman

Bouncy dream logic that does some neat inventive stuff using lighting and setting. Does a lot with a little, brings a chuckle or two as the couple brings to life a moment we've all had with significant others. Surprise ending that never loses sight of the levity while managing to punch a little extra wallop.



### Base Camp

Anthony Collamati

A woman with near crippling social anxiety has her world go topsy turvy after she finds a frozen mountain climber dead on her front lawn...smack dab in the middle of suburbia. This leads to a nighttime haunting and the short continues to amp up the weird with spoof-like incidents, an odd duck detective and a reoccurring crew of hikers who persistently appear to camp out in Elise's backyard. Stunningly prestige television format style plotting that takes equal parts *campfire lit nights* and wide angle shots. Holds the charm of a Neil Gaiman with a *Jefferson's Body* movie *Evil Dead*. A zany fun ride



### Bathroom Troll

Aaron Immediato

Immediato takes a stab at *Carrie* through a modern lens. With commentary on transphobia and gender stereotyping, *Bathroom Troll* takes the classic King tale and flips it on its head. Imagine if Carrie White's mother embraced the power of Carrie instead of spurned it, throw in a little bit of occultism, then take any semblance of allusion and throw it out the window. Starts like Stephen but quickly curtails into a wild ride of *Jennifer's Body* meets *Evil Dead*. A zany fun ride

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