

ANTIBODIES: BEHIND THE SCENES

Written by

Carrick Bartle and John Bartle

carrickdb@gmail.com
818-983-3668

BLACK SCREEN

A suspenseful orchestral SCORE pounds.

DEEP MALE VOICE (V.O.)
They had no idea it was coming...

NEWS ANCHOR (V.O.)
Reports of infections have risen
over the last week--

DEEP MALE VOICE (V.O.)
It came out of nowhere....

HYSTERICAL WOMAN (V.O.)
Everyone in the town is dead!

Sounds of SCREAMING and CRASHING.

REPORTER 1 (V.O.)
New York City has been quarantined--

REPORTER 2
...looting is on the rise--

NEWS ANCHOR 2
The death toll has risen to one
million--

The sound of MACHINE GUN FIRE, more SCREAMING--which then
cuts out to silence.

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.)
Dr. Harris... You're the only one
who can save us.

SMASH CUT TO:

THE "ANTIBODIES" LOGO

The CGI logo explodes onto the screen.

TALKING HEAD

SUBTITLE: "Max Holdman - Director"

DIRECTOR
Antibodies is THE most realistic
horror movie ever made.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Some MOS EPK footage of Max on set, giving direction to a group of EXTRAS.

DIRECTOR (V.O.)

A plague starts sweeping across the world. If you get infected, you die within days.

INT. LABORATORY

A few SCIENTISTS, including MICHAEL LARSON (distinguished-looking, 40s) stand next to high tech equipment, discussing something intensely.

DIRECTOR (V.O.)

And the only hope of the fate of the world is a small group of scientists, who have to create a vaccine.

TALKING HEAD

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

To create a sense of realism, we decided on a revolutionary method of filmmaking: we set up the camera on one side of the room and just let it go.

INT. LABORATORY

A couple of the scientists walk about, doing tests.

DIRECTOR (V.O.)

I mean, you feel like you're right in the room with those guys, right in the thick of the action. And those aren't just props they're walking around with. They're actually conducting real tests, in real time.

A scientist waits for a test to finish, a timer on the machine counting down.

TALKING HEAD

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
(laughing)
One guy even forgot that the camera
was there, and stood right where it
was...

INT. LABORATORY

One of the scientists looms into view. All we can see is the
back of his lab coat.

DIRECTOR
...so all you can see is his back
for about 10 minutes. I mean, it
feels SO REAL.

TALKING HEAD

SUBTITLE: "Jay Biani - Producer"

PRODUCER
We had a fantastic opening weekend.
One hundred million domestic,
another hundred million worldwide.

EXT. MOVIE THEATER

A huge line of fans wait in front of the theater, cheering,
excited as hell.

PRODUCER (O.S.)
I gotta hand it to the marketing
team: they created such a sense of
mystery. We had the whole country
going, what is this movie about??

TALKING HEAD

PRODUCER (CONT'D)
The second weekend dropped a little
more than we hoped. To about one
million. We didn't quite get the
word of mouth we expected.

DIRECTOR
But it was a HUGE, enormous,
unprecedented hit with biologists.

INT. MOVIE THEATER

The packed audience--some wearing lab coats--watches the film, rapt.

On screen, two scientists work together.

BIOLOGIST 1
Wait a second...

He turns to the other scientist.

BIOLOGIST 1 (CONT'D)
If the anti-PAV antibodies show a poly-specificity for non-neutralizing, linear epitopes, then they'll increase the plasma viremia.

AUDIENCE
Oohhhh.

Two audience members--clearly the only two NON-SCIENTISTS in the theater--look around at everyone else, totally confused.

TALKING HEAD

DIRECTOR
It's now required viewing for microbiology students at universities all over the world. We even got Best Picture of the Year from Biologist International.

BIOLOGIST INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE

On the cover is a photo of the Director, holding an award and looking ecstatic.

TALKING HEAD

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
And we didn't want to cast a bunch of movie stars, either, you know, we felt like that would take you out of it--like you were watching a movie, not real life, so we used a lot of unknowns...

INT. LABORATORY

On set, the Director gives direction to Michael Larson.

DIRECTOR
...like Michael Larson, who turned
in, just, an incredible
performance.

SUBTITLE: "Michael Larson - Dr. Harris"

MICHAEL
Max set such a high bar for realism
that I did more research for this
role than anything else I've ever
done.

INT. LABORATORY

Michael expertly works a bunsen burner.

MICHAEL (V.O.)
I worked in a real lab for almost a
year, getting into character.

TALKING HEAD

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
I actually ended up publishing a
paper on what I'd been working on:
"Immunogenicity of Receptor 9
Agonist Vaccine for Postherpetic
Neuralgia."

TALKING HEAD

DIRECTOR
There is so much suspense in this
movie, but there are actually some
funny moments, too.

INT. MOVIE THEATER

On screen, a scientist carefully uses a pipette to put a few
drops of liquid into another.

He accidentally puts a little too much in, and the solution
fizzes a little.

The audience BURSTS OUT LAUGHING. A couple of them turn to each other, nodding as if that happens to them all the time.

The two non-scientists just look annoyed.

BLACK SCREEN

The sound of an EXPLOSION as the logo for "Antibodies" flashes and the score SWELLS.

DEEP MALE VOICE (V.O.)
See the movie that everyone is
talking about....

TALKING HEADS

MICHAEL
This movie has revolutionized the
horror genre.

DIRECTOR
Movies are continually trying to
enhance the cinematic experience,
to make it feel more and more
realistic. We got IMAX. We got 3-
D. And now we got *Antibodies*.

CREDITS

INT. MOVIE THEATER

On screen, a YOUNG SCIENTIST comes up to Dr. Harris, holding a piece of paper.

YOUNG SCIENTIST
Dr. Harris? I couldn't do that
test you asked for...

DR. HARRIS
Why not?

YOUNG SCIENTIST

(anxiously)

Well, when I started the stochastic activation of CD4 T cells, the latency was overcome by the Tat-mediated transactivation of the LTR, so the virus gene transcription and production of infection-competent viral particles reconstituted the viral reservoir.

The audience GASPS!! Dr. Harris pales.

AUDIENCE MEMBER

(to the guy sitting next to him)

Oh man, they totally left it open for a sequel.

The two non-scientists finally leave, disgruntled.